



Including people with disabilities in the review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



**Easy
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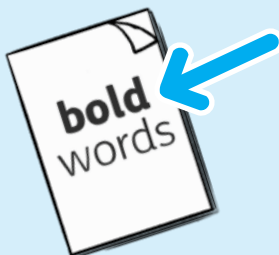
Easy Read



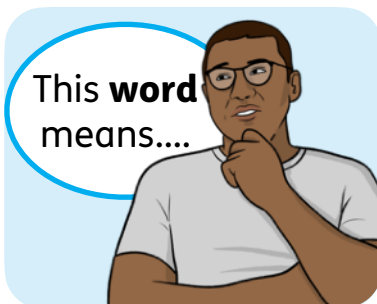
This is an Easy Read version of some information. It may not include all of the information in the report but it will tell you about the important parts.



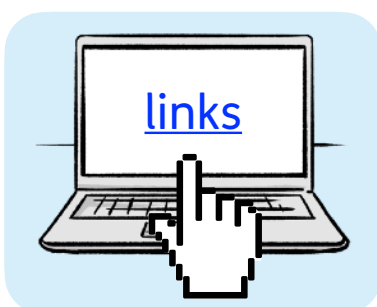
This Easy Read booklet uses easier words and pictures. Some people may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker. These are important words in the booklet.



Sometimes if a bold word is hard to understand, we will explain what it means.



Blue and underlined words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

What is in this booklet

About this report.....	4
The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	5
The Convention	6
How the 2030 Agenda is going	7
Checking how countries are doing with the 2030 Agenda...	8
The High-Level Political Forum	14
Barriers	19
What the Special Rapporteur thinks should happen	21

About this report



The United Nations (UN) is an organisation made up of many countries from all over the world. It works to make the world a safer and better place.



A **Special Rapporteur** writes reports for the United Nations.



This booklet is an Easy Read copy of a report from Heba Hagrass. She is the Special Rapporteur on the rights of people with disabilities.



She has written this report about the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

We explain what this is on the next page.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



**2030
Agenda**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a plan to make the world a better place by the year 2030.



Rights

The **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** helps countries to implement the 2030 Agenda for people with disabilities.

This is an agreement to protect and respect the rights of people with disabilities. In this report, we will call it '**the Convention**'.



But the 2030 Agenda plan is not happening quickly enough, especially for people with disabilities.



This means that people with disabilities are being left behind.

The Convention

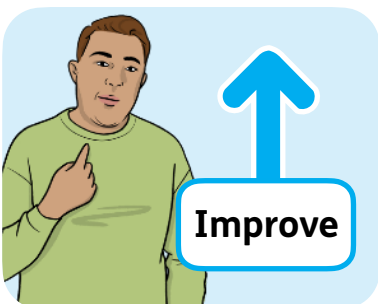


The Convention says that it is important for governments and organisations to include and listen to people with disabilities.



Countries that have agreed to the Convention must include and listen to people with disabilities.

This means that they must involve people with disabilities when they work on their 2030 Agenda plans.



The 2030 Agenda gives countries ways to improve the lives of people with disabilities.



The Convention explains how they can include and listen to people with disabilities when they do this.

How the 2030 Agenda is going



The 2030 Agenda is a plan to help everyone in the world, including people with disabilities.



It has many **goals** for countries to achieve and they all apply to people with disabilities.

There are also goals which apply specifically to people with disabilities.



But people with disabilities are being left behind. Countries are only achieving a few of their goals for people with disabilities.

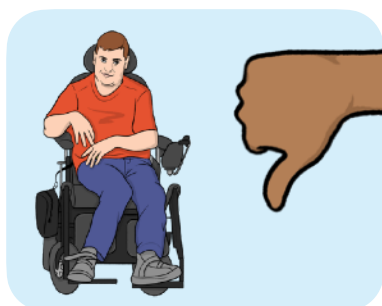


This means that many people with disabilities have harder lives than other people.

Checking how countries are doing with the 2030 Agenda



Some countries have included and listened to people with disabilities when they check they are following the 2030 Agenda.



But some countries have not included people with disabilities in these checks.



Countries also need to make sure that they are collecting information about people with disabilities.



If countries do not have information about people with disabilities, then they might not know what those people need.



Many countries are writing reports about whether they are achieving their goals and following the 2030 Agenda.



In some countries, people with disabilities have helped to make these reports.



In other countries, groups of people with disabilities have made their own reports.



These reports show where the countries are doing well and where they need to improve.

Voluntary National Reviews



Most countries have shared reports with other countries in the UN, about how they are doing with their goals.

We call these reports **Voluntary National Reviews**.



Most of the reports mention people with disabilities. But most reports do not say much about what everyday life is like for people with disabilities.



Countries are starting to include and listen to more people with disabilities in making these reports.



All Voluntary National Reviews should say who was involved in making them.



Some goals are just about people with disabilities.



Most Voluntary National Reviews talk about what countries are doing to achieve these goals.



But there are many other goals. These goals affect people with disabilities too.



The reports often do not mention people with disabilities when they talk about these other goals.

Support from the UN



The UN has written guidelines to help countries include people with disabilities in their work for the 2030 Agenda.



It has also written a new plan called the **United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy**.



This plan says that the UN will work harder to make sure people with disabilities are included and listened to.



They will also help countries to reach their goals by 2030, and include and listen to more people with disabilities in reaching the goals.



The UN has started to do better at including people with disabilities. But there is still more to be done.



They want to make sure people with disabilities are included in everything and not just in disability issues.



The UN works with countries to see how they are doing with their plans for the 2030 Agenda.



They will work to make sure people with disabilities are included and listened to in these plans.

The High-Level Political Forum

The Forum



The **High-Level Political Forum** is a meeting that happens every year to look at Voluntary National Reviews from countries around the world.

In this report, we will call it the **Forum**.



The Forum looks at what different countries are doing to achieve their goals.



This helps countries to share ideas and work together to achieve the goals.

Taking part in the Forum



Many different groups can take part in the forum.

This includes people with disabilities.



An organisation called the **Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities** helps people with disabilities to take part.



They have made sure that people with disabilities have a say in the Forum.



They made a guide and a toolkit to help people understand the 2030 Agenda and the rights of people with disabilities.

Getting ready for the Forum

People and organisations get ready for the Forum in different ways:



- **Regional Forums:** These are meetings in different parts of the world.



- **Expert group meetings:** These are meetings about the goals that are being looked at.

There should always be people with disabilities in these meetings.



- **Background notes:** these are notes that help people to understand different issues.



- Voluntary National Reviews.

Summits



Every 4 years, the leaders of governments around the world meet to talk about the 2030 Agenda.

These meetings are called **summits**.

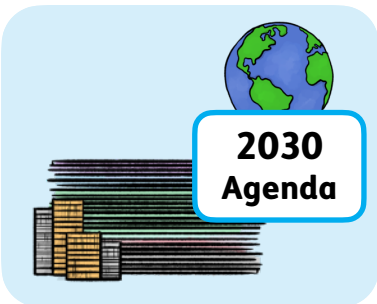


At these meetings, leaders talk about:

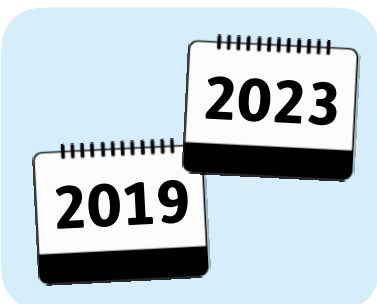
- How well the 2030 Agenda is going.



- What needs to be done differently.



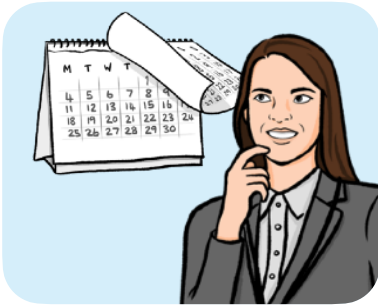
- How to make sure there is enough money to make the 2030 Agenda happen.



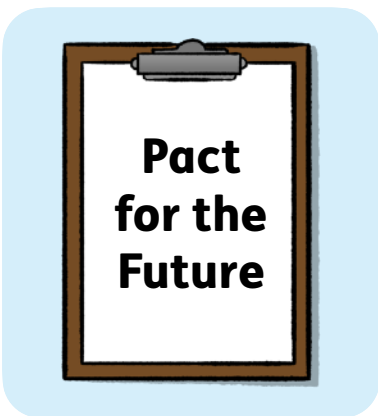
2 of these meetings happened in 2019 and 2023.



In 2024, there will be a meeting called the **Summit for the Future**.



At this meeting, leaders will talk about how to make the 2030 Agenda happen faster.



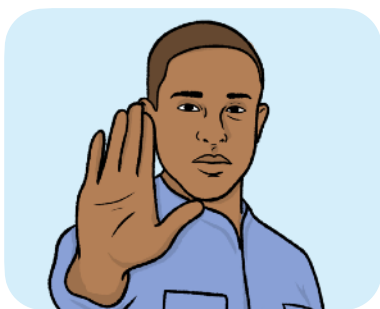
This meeting will make a plan called the **Pact for the Future**.

The **Pact for the Future** will talk about how to make the 2030 Agenda happen faster.



The Pact for the Future should include information about people with disabilities so they are not left behind.

Barriers



Barriers are things that stop people with disabilities from taking part.



The Special Rapporteur looked at the barriers that stop people with disabilities from taking part in the review of the 2030 Agenda. They included:



- Information and ways for people with disabilities to take part in the review of the 2030 Agenda are hard to find.

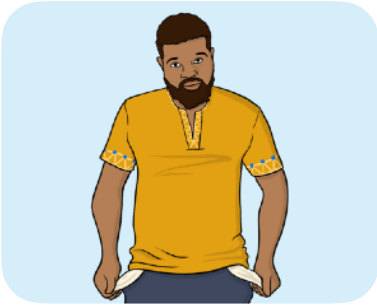


- Meetings about the 2030 Agenda do not always help people with disabilities to take part.



For example, online or in-person meetings do not always have sign language.

Barriers also include:



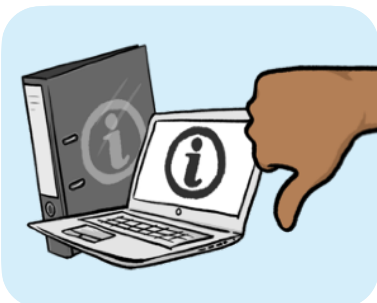
- People with disabilities, and organisations of people with disabilities, do not always have enough money to go to meetings about the 2030 Agenda.



- People with disabilities do not always know how to take part in the review of the 2030 Agenda.



- Some groups of people with disabilities, like women or older people, find it harder than others to take part in the 2030 Agenda.

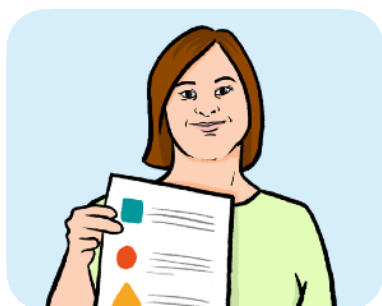


- There is not enough information about the lives of people with disabilities, or about what is being done to support them.

What the Special Rapporteur thinks should happen



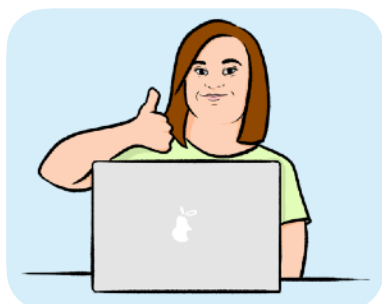
Here are some recommendations for countries to make sure that people with disabilities can be part of the review and follow up of the 2030 Agenda:



- Create easy and accessible ways for people to get information about the 2030 Agenda.



- Make sure there are easy ways for people with disabilities to share their ideas about the 2030 Agenda.



- Make sure that online information can be used by all people with disabilities.

Here are some more recommendations for countries:



- Include information about what people with disabilities say in Voluntary National Reviews.



- Make sure that people with disabilities are part of groups that check if countries are achieving their goals.



- Give money to people with disabilities and their organizations to take part in meetings and events on the 2030 Agenda.



- Give people with disabilities the support and technology they need to be part of the 2030 Agenda.



- Collect specific information about people with disabilities, to learn more about what they need.

Here are some more recommendations for countries:



- Work together with groups of people with disabilities to make the 2030 Agenda happen.



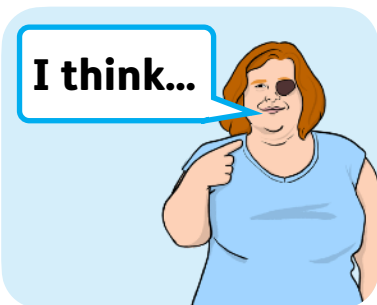
- Make sure that people with disabilities are asked about plans and laws to do with the 2030 Agenda.



Here are some ideas for the UN to make sure that people with disabilities can be part of the 2030 Agenda:



- Make sure that the UN listens to groups of people with disabilities.



- Make sure that all people with disabilities are able to speak up about the 2030 Agenda.

Here are some more recommendations for the UN:



- Make sure that people with disabilities can take part in meetings about the 2030 Agenda.



- Make sure that Regional Forums talk about people with disabilities.



The UN should also make sure that people with disabilities can take part in these Regional Forums.

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