



Seventh Pacific Regional Conference on Disability

“Nothing Without us: Deepening partnerships for an inclusive and equitable Blue Pacific Continent for persons with disabilities.”

OUTCOME DOCUMENT

Persons with Psychosocial with Disabilities

We all have a role to play to create the paradigm shift and to change mindsets to consider persons with psychosocial disabilities as rights holders.

1. “Nothing without us” - Establish and dialogue directly with subgroups/OPDs of persons with psychosocial disabilities.
 - Government, OPDs, development partners, donors need to go hand in hand with OPDs/subgroups of persons with psychosocial disabilities to realise the rights of persons with psychosocial disabilities.
 - Link with and use partners with expertise in the region, (e.g., PSA and in Asia) to collaborate and get know how to advance rights of and support persons with psychosocial disabilities.
 - Recognise that capacity building is a 2-way exchange between OPDs and government/development partners/donors – we all must learn from each other.
 - National OPDs to continue movement building to include persons with psychosocial disabilities and support them to develop their own group.
2. Get your data from persons with psychosocial disabilities - Existing national census data does not include persons with psychosocial disabilities, limiting what we know and limiting evidence for decision making.
 - We must include, learn from the lived experience of and work with persons with psychosocial disabilities as key informants and decision-makers in government policy making.
3. Make necessary CRPD compliant structural changes - realise the right to legal capacity and move away from the medical model towards rights based non-medicinal community support mechanisms.
 - Move away from medical model towards rights-based model by making non-medicinal community support mechanisms available.
 - While it may take years to create the structural changes we want to see, to create support models, and to build capacity to advocate, we need to start now to improve current systems and challenge the medical model.
 - People have the right to choose the type of support that suits them best.
 - Recognise and realise the right to legal capacity:
 - Remove “unsound mind” from legislation and policies immediately so people with psychosocial disabilities can live to fullest.

- Work with and build capacity of law enforcers and other stakeholders to comply with the CRPD and to recognize legal capacity of persons with psychosocial disabilities.
 - Ensure access to economic empowerment activities, education services, SRHR services, political participation, social protection, assistive technologies, and support services.
4. Government and other development and donor partners (including PDF, PIFS, UN agencies, regional organisations) to allocate budget and make funding available to realise the rights of persons with psychosocial disabilities (including direct funding to subgroups/OPDs representing persons with psychosocial disabilities)
- Resource development of community support models - It will take time and money to develop community support models so start the process now.
 - Directly Fund persons with psychosocial disabilities to:
 - Establish and grow as representative OPDs and organisations in their own right (e.g., core funding, build capacity of boards, staff, and members to fulfil their roles, increase and support membership, including youth, developing constitutions, registering under relevant Acts etc.)
 - carry out their advocacy, outreach and activities.
 - come together to Talanoa and build peer to peer connections.
 - Provide support through coalitions and national OPDs to include persons with psychosocial disabilities as a complement to, and not instead, of funding to persons with psychosocial disabilities and their representative organisations.