



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Call for submissions:

New International
Disability Equity and
Rights Strategy

Easy Read



About This Document



This document is written for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. We are also called DFAT.

When you see the word 'we' it means DFAT.



This document is written in an easy to read way.

We call it **Easy Read**.



You might not know some words.

The first time we use those words they are **blue**.

We tell you what they mean.



They are also [at the back of this document](#).



We are making a new International Disability Equity and Rights **Strategy**.

In this document we will call it the Strategy.



A strategy says how we will change things.

We want to know what people think should be in the strategy.

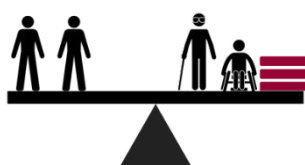


The document tells you how to make a **submission** about the strategy.

A submission is when you:

- Tell us what you think
- Send your thoughts to us.

About the Strategy



Disability **equity** and **rights** are **essential** to our work across the world.



Equity means everyone gets exactly what they need to succeed.

Equity makes things equal.



We want people with disabilities to have their **rights**.

:



Rights are things every person should have.

They include:

- enough food and clean water.
- fair and equal treatment.
- a place to live.
- allowed to make your own decisions.



Essential is when something is very important.

It is so important it must be included.

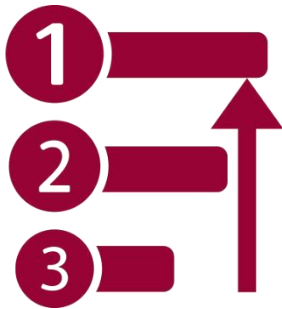


The Strategy will:

- Guide us when we help other countries



- Help us **prioritise** disability equity and rights when working with other countries



Priority is something that is the most important.



- Help us measure success. This will keep us **accountable**.



Accountable means doing what you say you will do.

It includes:

- Explaining what you are doing
- Fixing mistakes
- Answering questions.

Other strategies



We are also working on other national and international strategies.

These include gender and other strategies.



We want to make sure our Strategy works well with these other strategies.

We are listening

1. We are listening to different people



It is important that we hear from different people about the Strategy.



We want everyone to have a say.

We are listening to people from:

- **Diverse backgrounds**

Diverse backgrounds means people who grow up with different experiences.



This could be people with different:

- Ages
- Beliefs
- Educations
- Genders or sexualities.



It also means people:

- From different cultures
- From different countries
- Who have parents born in different countries
- Who speak another language.



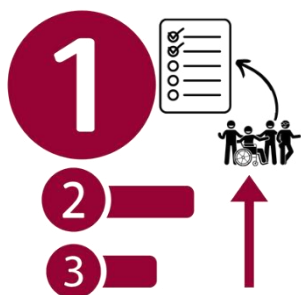
We are also listening to organisations who work with these people.

2. We are listening to people with disabilities

We want to make sure that people with disabilities have a say on the Strategy.



This is a priority for us.



We are listening to disability leaders.



We are also listening to organisations working with people with disabilities.



3. We are listening to what we already know



The Strategy will also be guided by other **evidence**.

Evidence is information that shows that something is true.

Making a submission



We want submissions from people.

This includes people with disabilities.

What to think and write about



We want to have a Strategy to:

- Prioritise disability equity and rights
- Help us work across the world.



We have 4 questions we want you to think and write about.



Some of the questions have more than 1 part.



Question 1:

What are the most important things we should work on for disability equity and rights?



Question 2:

What are the best ways we can do this?



Question 3 Part 1:

How can we support people with disabilities to do this work?



Question 3 Part 2:

How can we support organisations working with people with disabilities to do this work?



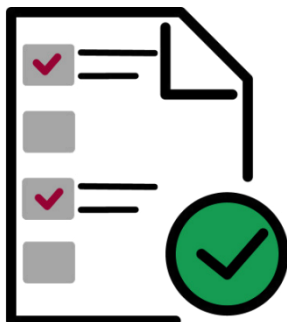
Question 4 Part 1:

What could stop us improving disability equity and rights?



Question 4 Part 2:

What could help us to improve disability equity and rights?



You do not need to answer every question.



You might also share your thoughts about:

- Better ways of working
- How to help one country
- Treating people fairly
- Keeping people with disabilities safe and free from harm
- How the climate is changing.



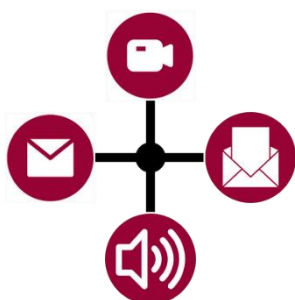
How to make a submission



Send your submission to us by
December 15 2023.



People with disabilities want to be able to make submissions to government in different ways.



So we have made **accommodations** around submissions.



Accommodations are changes made so something is more accessible.



Your submission can be:

- An email
- A letter



- A video
- Audio or a recording of your voice
- A message on WhatsApp.



Please send us a link to your video or audio file.

You can send the link by WhatsApp or email or letter.

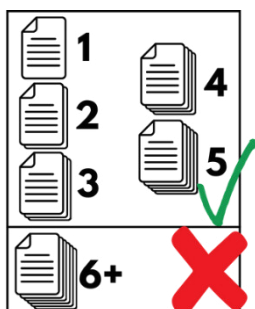


[Read more](#) about sharing video and audio files with us [later in this document](#).



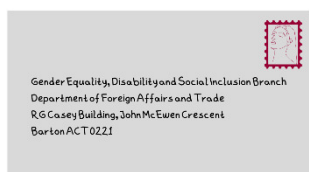
Send your email to:

disability.equity@dfat.gov.au



If you write a letter it must be 5 pages or less.

Send your letter to:



Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion
Branch

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

RG Casey Building, John McEwen Crescent

Barton ACT 0221

Australia



We want everyone to be able to make a
submission. You can email us if you:

- Have questions about your submission
- Have any **accessibility** needs or accommodations



Accessibility is when everyone can use and
understand something.

Privacy of your submission



Privacy is when something is private.

That means only some people can know it.



Submissions are **public**.

That means anyone can read your submission.

Everyone can know what you say.



It will be on [our website](#).



This includes any personal information you include.



You can ask us to keep parts of your submission **confidential**.



Confidential means that we will keep it more private:



- People working in our team can see it



- People in the public cannot see it.
- It is not on our website.



If you want to include confidential information you should:

- Put it in a different document
- Make it easy to see which document is confidential.



When you send your submission you are agreeing we can use it.



We will not change your submission.

Do not include in your submission

We will not publish submissions which include:

- Anything **offensive**

This means it might upset someone else.



- Any **discrimination**

Discrimination is when you are treated badly because of something different about you.



This might be because of your gender, disability, religion or more.





- Anything **illegal**

Illegal is when something breaks the law.



- Any **defamation**

When you include information, photos or more that might hurt someone's **reputation**.



Your reputation is what other people think about you.



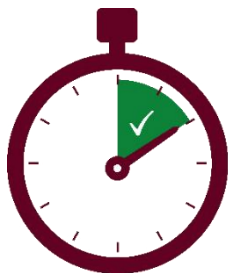
- Any **threatening or aggressive language**

This includes abuse, talking about hurting others, swearing and more.

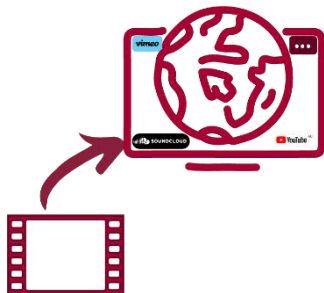


Read more about this [on our website](#).

Using and Sending Video and Audio



Video and audio must be 10 minutes or shorter.

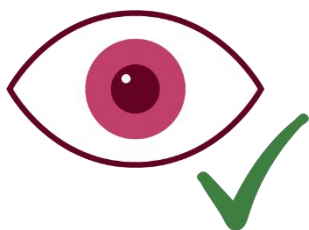


Upload your video or audio to a site like:

- YouTube
- Vimeo
- SoundCloud



Use your first and last name in the name of the file.



Make sure your file:

- Is public
- Can be seen by anyone.



You can add a password to your file.

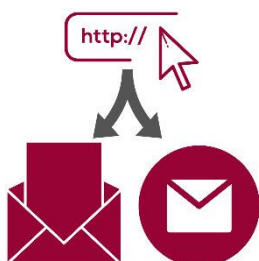
That will make it more private.

The password must be: IDERS.



Click on 'Share' to get the right link to send to us.

Do not use the link in the address bar.



Send the link to us [by email](#), letter, or WhatsApp.

Let us know if you have added a password.



You can send the link via WhatsApp to

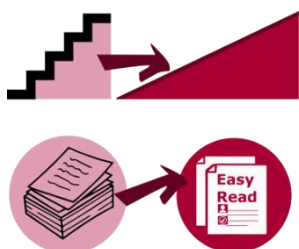
+61 403 736 681

Word List



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Discrimination

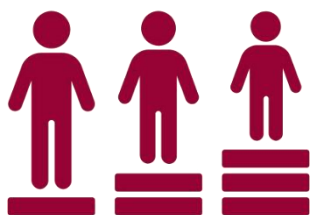
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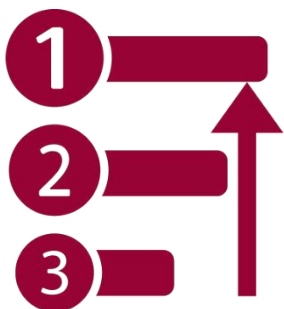
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Easy Read document written by Jacqueline Gibb, [The Easy Read Toolbox](#) for DFAT including images and text. Cover image provided.

