



Australian Government

AusAID

The Australian Government's  
Overseas Aid Program

# Development For All: Disability and the Australian Aid Program

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# Disability Strategy for Australia's Aid Program

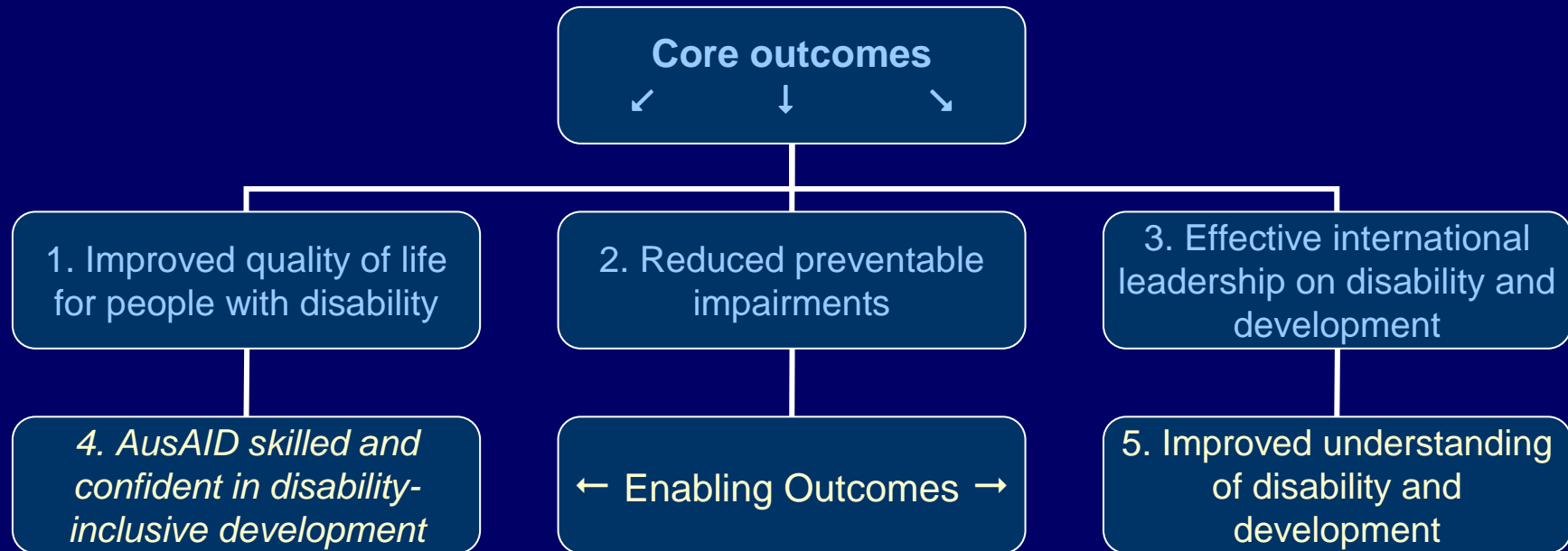
- a comprehensive strategy to guide Australia's aid program towards disability-inclusive development
- currently in its final stages of development
- in line with Australian Government's national social inclusion agenda

# Development of the Disability Strategy

## *The consultation process*

- central to process was the active participation of people with disability, their families, carers and representative organisations
- consultations were conducted by AusAID and partners in all countries across Asia and the Pacific in which we deliver aid
- public meetings were held in Sydney and Melbourne for Australian based stakeholders
- a Disability Strategy Consultation Paper was widely distributed and was available on AusAID's website in accessible formats
- we received nearly 500 written responses from NGO's, PWD and DPOs, service providers, government agencies, other aid agencies, multilateral donors, academics and research institutions
- level of interest is great and shows no signs of abating

# Development for All: A Disability Strategy for the Australian Aid Program 2009-2014



## Guiding Principles

1. Active central role by people with disability
2. Recognise and respect rights
3. Respect and understand diversity
4. Recognise and take account of gender influences on participation in disability inclusive development
5. Focus on children
6. Support people-people links and promote partnerships



# Outcome 1: Improved quality of life for people with disability

- **Focussed & targeted:**

- *support partner government's efforts toward disability-inclusive development in two countries [initially]*

- **Targeted sectoral focus across all country programs:**

- *education & infrastructure*

- **Disability-specific Initiatives:**

- *Capacity Development of Disabled Person's Organisations*

- **Flexible support mechanisms for all countries:**

- *NGO agreements, Volunteers, Scholarships, Leadership Awards, Small Grants*

# Outcome 2: Reduced preventable impairments

- Impairment-specific initiatives:
  - **Avoidable Blindness**
  - **Road Safety**
- *Reducing the demand on existing health care and rehabilitation services*
- *Improving development outcomes for the most vulnerable*

# Outcome 3: Effective international leadership on disability and development

- *support leadership of people with disability*
- *build AusAID leadership in regional and international forums*
- *model good practice in disability inclusive development*
- *forge strategic partnerships to leverage action*

# Outcome 4: *AusAID skilled and confident in disability-inclusive development*

- ❖ *strengthen AusAID's capacity to successfully promote, manage and monitor disability as a central aspect of Australia's aid program*
- ❖ *ensure AusAID is an open and accessible organisation*

# Outcome 5. Improved understanding of disability and development

- ❖ *build strategic partnerships to strengthen efforts to capture robust quantitative and qualitative data on disability, poverty and development - with a strong focus on the lived experiences of people with disability*
- ❖ *strengthen knowledge management, coordination, dissemination, accessibility and application*

# Disability Strategy for Australia's Aid Program

## *Next steps:*

- The consultation process came to a close with the International Conference on Disability, Disadvantage and Development in the Pacific and Asia at the end September
- the strategy is due to be launched end November 2008.
- beyond this strategy development phase, AusAID will seek to build on the approach taken during the consultations, to ensure people with disability continue to play a central and active role in development policies and programs that impact on their lives.
- grateful for the inputs and perspectives of so many people in the region and look forward to working with you in future