

Including Women and Girls with Disabilities

in World Bank Operations



This toolkit is a knowledge product for Task Team Leaders (TTLs) to support the advancement of World Bank corporate commitments on gender equality and disability inclusion.

Building on the [World Bank's 10 commitments on disability-inclusive development](#) and [data gathered by Women, Business and the Law](#), the toolkit provides information from an extensive literature review and interviews with World Bank staff, a project cycle checklist, and sector-specific key questions and indicators for TTLs.

Expanding *all* women's agency is critical to increase their socioeconomic inclusion. **Rates of employment, health care outcomes, and access to property of women with disabilities are lowest compared with men with disabilities and nondisabled men and women. Rates of violence are up to 10 times higher.** A focus on women and girls with disabilities is critical to the development of resilient, cohesive societies that thrive in the long-term. This includes women and girls with different types of physical, mental, intellectual, and sensory impairments and with multiple identities, including Indigenous women; refugee or migrant women; women of diverse ethnicity, race, religion, or sexual orientation and gender identity.

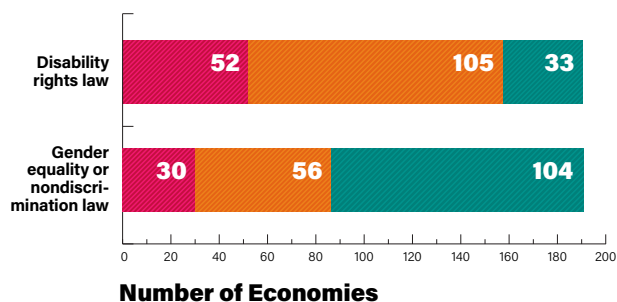
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Women with disabilities are:

1 in 5 women

- ✦ Affected by gender and disability discrimination in law and practice
- ✦ Facing multiple environmental and attitudinal barriers due to their gender and disability status
- ✦ Not a homogeneous group

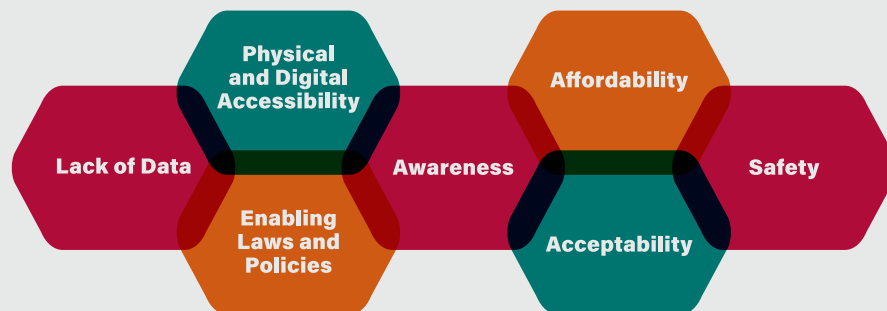
Only 30 out of 86 economies with gender equality laws protect the rights of women with disabilities. Only 52 out of 157 economies with disability laws mention women with disabilities.



■ Mentions women with disabilities | ■ No mention of women with disabilities | ■ No law

Understanding the Barriers and Ways to Overcome Them

When designing and implementing projects, task teams should consider these 7 key issues through both gender and disability lenses. (Chapter 3)



Sector Deep Dive & World Bank Project Examples

For example, in preparing for the **Vietnam Quality Improvement of Primary Education for Deaf Children Project (QIPEDC)**, the World Bank task team uncovered data about the large number of girls with disabilities who had been victims of sexual harassment and violence. This led the team to work with the client in addressing gender gaps in the proposed project. As a result, new signs were developed in Vietnamese Sign Language to talk about sexual violence in the education curriculum and an age-appropriate sign language video was produced and integrated into the Ministry of Education and Training's curriculum to help Deaf children recognize and report sexual harassment and abuse.

Increasing disability inclusion in one sector can have implications for other sectors. E.g., improving access of girls with disabilities to school can impact the need for safe and accessible transport. Cross-sectoral collaboration is key.

 [SEE OUR SAMPLE SOLUTIONS](#)



The World Bank is Committed to Gender and Disability Inclusion

Using the toolkit can grow awareness about the intersection of gender and disability.

Help us disseminate it!

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