

# Chapter 1

## International Commitments and Frameworks

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# Chapter 1

## International Commitments and Frameworks

The following frameworks anchor and guide national policymakers in promoting sustainable and long-term development. The frameworks reveal a commitment to dialogue, strategic planning and goal setting, and accountability.

### **Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals**

As part of Agenda 2030, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent areas of interrelated development that, combined, can lead to social, economic, and environmental accord. Five goals refer to persons with disabilities revealing cross-sectoral mechanisms of inclusive societies:

1. SDG 4: Quality Education
2. SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
3. SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities
4. SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
5. SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

SDG 4 is the clearest link to inclusive education: ‘ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all’ (UN General Assembly, 2015). To achieve SDG 4, UN member states must ensure that persons with disabilities must have access not only to educational facilities but also to public spaces, public transport, and information and communication technology (UNESCAP, 2018). Disaggregation of data by disability will help track progress in achieving the SDGs.

### **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030**

The Sendai Framework was adopted at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan, in March 2015. It outlines seven targets and four priorities for action to prevent new and limit existing disaster risks such as loss of life, health, and assets. The four priorities are (i) understand disaster risk, (ii) strengthen disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk, (iii) invest in disaster reduction for resilience, and (iv) enhance disaster preparedness for effective response. The Sendai Framework incorporates disability-related terms such as accessibility, inclusion. The use of the framework’s language and recommendations to ensure a disability-accessible and inclusive environment is a significant step towards global understanding of inclusion (UNDRR, 2015).

## United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The UNCRPD describes the rights of persons with disabilities and establishes a code of implementation. The following articles are relevant to the report.

**Figure 1.1: Three United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Articles Referring to Inclusive Education**



Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2006).

All 10 ASEAN countries have ratified the UNCRPD, as well as several countries in East Asia. The following table presents the year of ratification to this international human rights instrument.

**Table 1.1. Countries in ASEAN and East Asia that Have Ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

Ratification of Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities			
Region		Country	Date Ratified
ASEAN	1.	Brunei Darussalam	11 April 2016
	2.	Cambodia	20 December 2012
	3.	Indonesia	30 November 2011
	4.	Lao People's Democratic Republic	25 September 2009
	5.	Malaysia	19 July 2010
	6.	Myanmar	7 December 2011
	7.	Philippines	15 April 2008
	8.	Singapore	18 July 2013
	9.	Thailand	29 July 2008
	10.	Viet Nam	5 February 2015
Ratification of Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities			
Region		Country	Year Ratified
East Asia	1.	China	1 August 2008
	2.	Hong Kong	1 August 2008
	3.	Macau	1 August 2008
	4.	Japan	20 January 2014
	5.	Mongolia	13 May 2009
	6.	North Korea	6 December 2006
	7.	South Korea	11 December 2008
	8.	Taiwan <sup>b</sup>	2016 <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> OHCHR, 2022.

<sup>b</sup> Government of Taiwan, Social and Family Affairs Administration, Ministry of Health and Welfare.

Source: United Nations Human Rights Treaty Bodies (2022).