QUICK REFERENCE SHEET

Funding Disability Inclusion through Commune Budgets



KEY DETAILS COMMUNES NEED TO KNOW

What is disability inclusion?

Disability inclusion means all people can take part in community life on an equal basis.

Exclusion comes from barriers in physical environments, systems and attitudes, not from a person's impairment. These barriers can be removed.

Mainstreamed vs targeted activities

Mainstreamed disability inclusion activities make ordinary investments, services or infrastructure inclusive, such as an accessible water well.

Targeted disability inclusion activities remove barriers only persons with disabilities face, such as support to obtain a disability identification card.

A strong Commune Investment Programme includes both mainstreamed and targeted disability inclusion activities. This is called the twin-track approach.

- The Social Services and Hygiene Environment (SSHE) budget is the commune's main funding channel for disability inclusion activities.
- Disability inclusion activities are already eligible expenditure items with budget codes. Details of the items and codes are in Inter-Ministerial Circular No. 007 on the Management, Allocation, and Assigning Budget Expenditure Items for Social Services and Environmental Hygiene Budget of District/Municipality Fund and Commune/Sangkat Fund, Ministry of Economy and Finance and Ministry of Interior, 25 April 2025.
- Communes should identify barriers with, not for, persons with disabilities. Use the Commune Database and the Village Social Services Map to find out where persons with disabilities live, then meet them to find out what barriers they face in daily life.
- Hold your consultation meetings somewhere everyone can access and take part.
- Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) can help you reach households, run consultations well and understand which barriers matter most. Invite them early rather than after the plan is drafted.
- Watch the calendar. Priorities raised in the early-year planning meetings can be costed into the June budget proposal. A barrier raised later will usually have to wait until next year's planning cycle.
- Make sure accessibility measures (e.g. handrails, ramps, sign language support for meetings) are included in costings for budgeted activities.
- Invite users with disabilities to test physical accessibility works (e.g. ramps) before acceptance and final payment.
- Record and report through the ordinary systems, and name the barrier addressed in the activity description in the budget document so the purpose stays visible in reports and the Commune/Sangkat Budget Monitoring System.

The Australia–Cambodia Cooperation for Equitable Sustainable Services - Phase 2 program is supported by the Australian Government and managed by Abt Global.

ENTRY POINTS FOR ORGANISATIONS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

1. Attend the Commune Investment Programme planning meetings from January to April and raise specific local disability inclusion barriers there.

2. Issues can be raised at any time of year through the Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC), a channel also open to individual persons with disabilities.

3. Submit a simple written proposal to the commune chief or through the CCWC, ideally before the costing months of May and June. A proposal with a named disability inclusion barrier, a suggested activity and an estimated cost is more likely to succeed than a general request.

4. After discussing or submitting a proposed disability inclusion activity, ask the commune clerk whether the activity entered the draft budget.

5. Ask district authorities to raise disability inclusion activities at the District Integration Workshop, and follow up on the outcomes, including any provisional agreements with development partners.

6. Check the posted citizen budget against what was discussed during planning and raise any dropped activities at the consultation before adoption. This citizen budget consultation is open to all residents.

CIP DISABILITY INCLUSION CHECKLIST

Check	Yes / No
Were persons with disabilities (particularly Organisations of Persons with Disabilities) present in the meetings that identified needs?	☐ ☐
Were meetings held in venues persons with disabilities could reach and use?	☐ ☐
Does the situation analysis identify barriers affecting persons with disabilities?	☐ ☐
Does the draft program include at least one mainstreamed and one targeted disability inclusion activity?	☐ ☐
Does every proposed infrastructure project include accessibility in its design and cost estimate?	☐ ☐
Does each disability inclusion activity map to an eligible item and code?	☐ ☐
Is each activity costed, with an implementer and a maintenance arrangement identified?	☐ ☐
Has the commune budgeted for its role in supporting access to disability identification under Sub-Decree 202?	☐ ☐

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