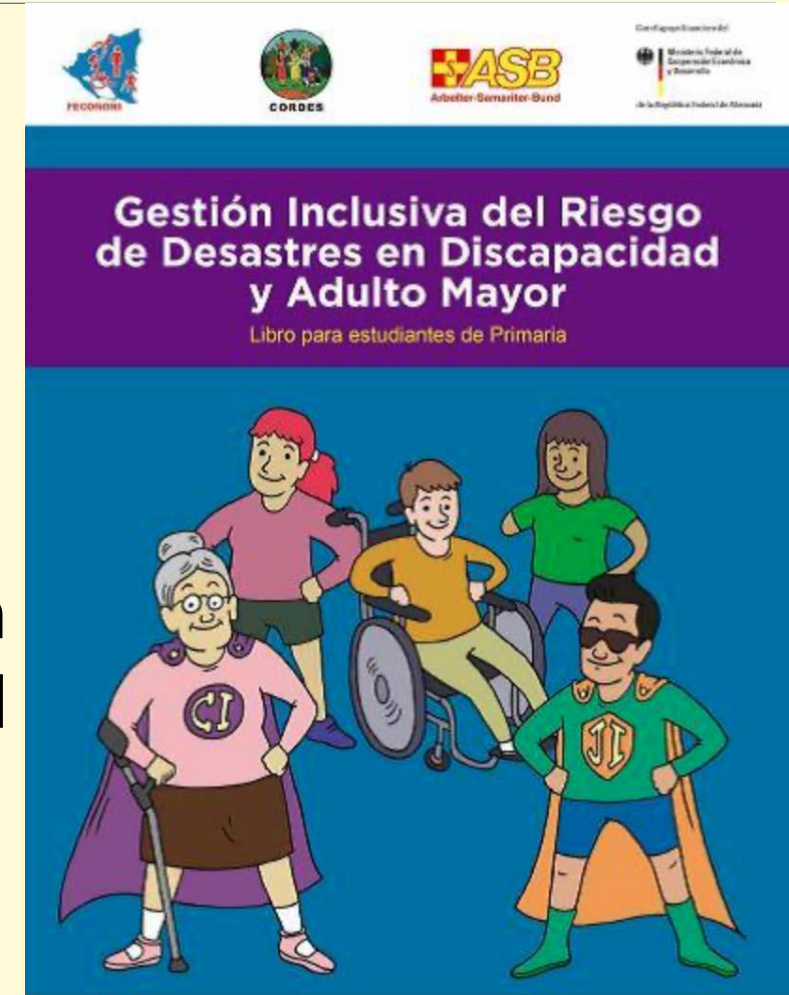


**Ensuring the
safety and
protection of
persons with
disabilities
including mine
survivors
in situations of
risk**

**Initiatives in
Uganda,
Afghanistan
and Colombia**

Introduction

- What are the risks faced by **persons with disabilities including mine survivors**?
- The additional risks for **women and girls with disabilities**
- The policies of **three countries**, women and men with disabilities including **mine survivors**, and existing documentation.
- Focus on **Disaster Risk Management**: pre, during, and post disaster



Source: *Red Discapacidad y Desastres*

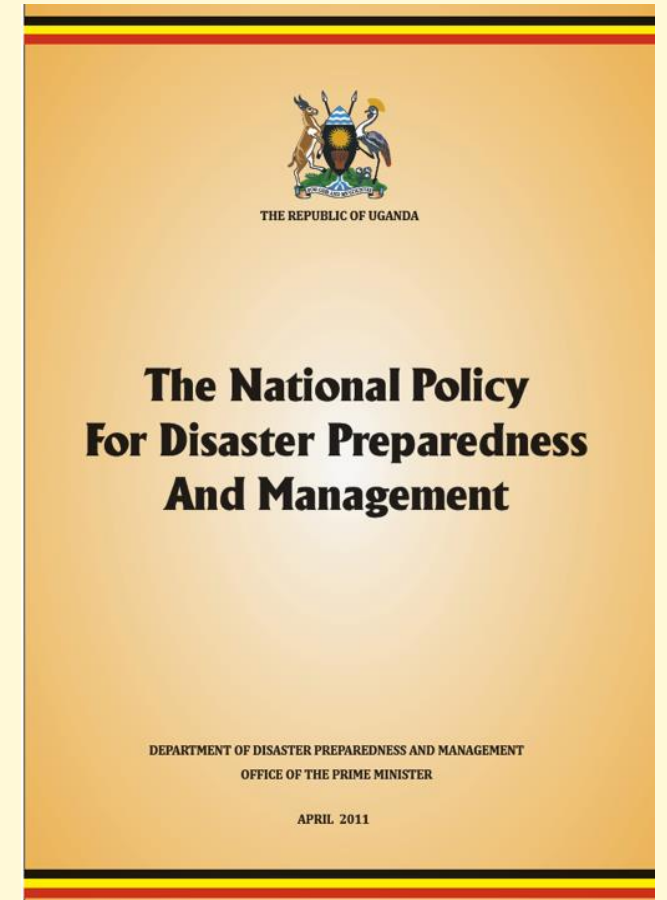
<http://desastresydiscapacidad.net>

In the words of mine survivors...

- *“The main risks we face are violence from armed conflict, flooding and landslides. But those most at risk are the ones who live close to the river, who are also those displaced by conflict, and many of them are persons with disabilities. They live in irregular settlements.”*
 - *“Women and girls with disabilities are at higher risk of sexual abuse, including in shelters. They also face sexual harassment in exchange of food.”*
- *Mine survivors in rural areas face additional barriers because of lack of accessible transportation, poor services and insufficient attention from local authorities to facilitate our protection in the many situations of emergency we face.”*

Uganda

- **National Policy for Disaster Preparedness and Management 2011:** community awareness, food and non-food items, ensuring all government instances and local governments are equipped for disaster preparedness and response.
- **Gender and disability in cross-cutting principles:** gender analysis, inclusion in disaster preparedness and decision-making processes.



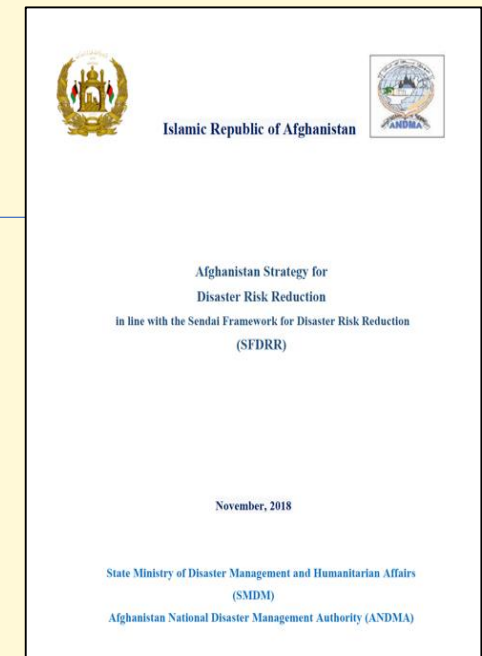
Uganda

- **Examples of measures that contribute to the safety and protection of persons with disabilities including survivors**
 - Accessible communications.
 - Immediate evacuations for persons with disabilities.
 - Consultations of organisations of persons with disabilities.



Picture 3: The facilitator holding an FGD at Nametsi in Bukalasi Sub – county

Afghanistan



- **Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy 2018:** mentions the need to include persons with disabilities
- **National Disability Action Plan:** Area of work on Humanitarian Assistance, to ensure clear actions and engage mainstream stakeholders. **Examples:**
 - Improve efforts to **collect data** on existing barriers,
 - Encourage stakeholders in DRM and humanitarian assistance to **incorporate accessibility** throughout their actions,
 - Facilitate coordination.

Afghanistan

- **Examples of measures taken by stakeholders**
 - Support victims of floods, including those with disabilities.
 - Community-based disaster risk management.
 - Facilitate the participation of persons with disabilities including mine survivors in the Disability Strategy.

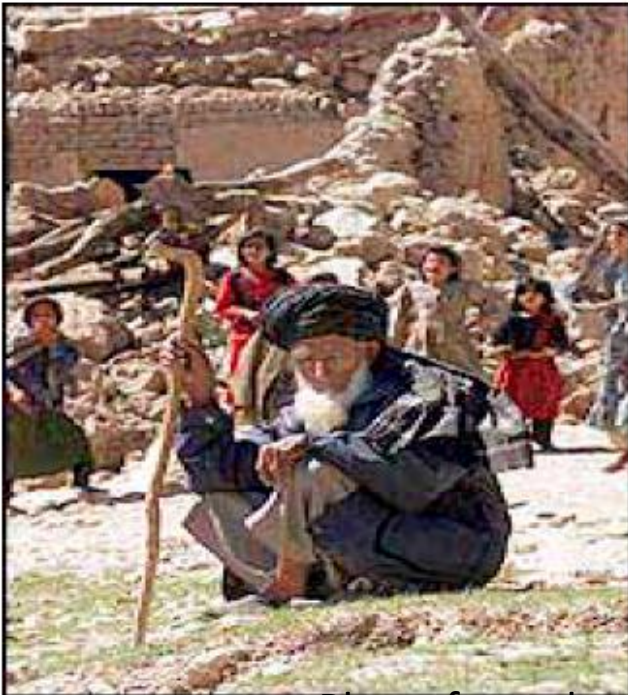
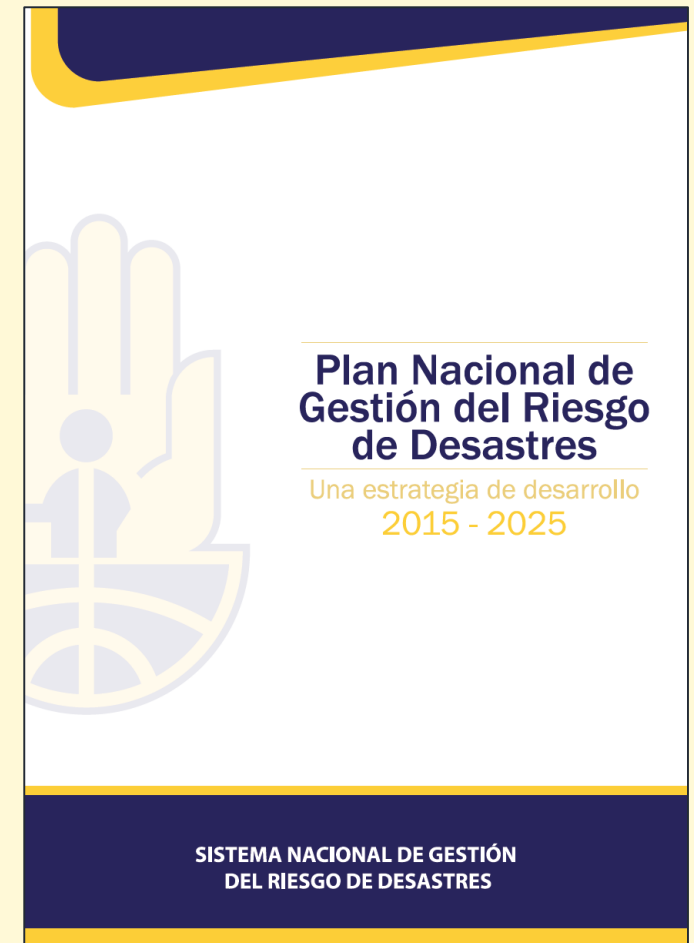


Photo from the National Mitigation Policy 210

Colombia

- **National Disaster Risk Management** that incorporates an intersectional approach recognizing diversity.
- **Specific law** recognizes certain groups as subjects of special protection
- **Examples of measures**
 - Mine survivors receive information on how to access their rights in the framework of the *Comprehensive Referral System*
 - In situations of emergencies, OACP provides information and referral services for mine survivors (ex. COVID-19 and landslide)



Actions that contribute to the safety and protection of persons with disabilities including mine survivors

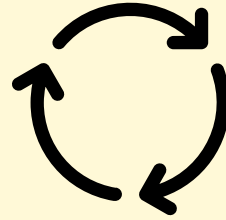
1. **Mention disability and some accessibility measures** in Risk Management Policies and Strategies.
2. **Include Humanitarian Assistance and DRM** in the **National Disability Plan**, with clear objectives and actions.
3. **Victim Assistance Unit** as a referral service for mine survivors.

To reach more persons with disabilities including survivors...

- **Involve** persons with disabilities and mine survivors.
- Ensure the availability of **sufficient data**.
- Allocate a specific **budget for accessibility**.
- **Train stakeholders** at community level and ensure the relevant knowledge and resources are available in high risk areas.
- Create **accessible tools** to raise awareness on risks.
- **Monitor and evaluate** provincial and district level activities on disaster risk management and humanitarian assistance.

Twin track approach applied to Action 40

Specific initiatives to ensure persons with disabilities including mine survivors know their rights and are empowered to participate in safety and protection policies and programmes



Mainstream safety and protection policies and programmes that ensure the inclusion of persons with disabilities including mine survivors

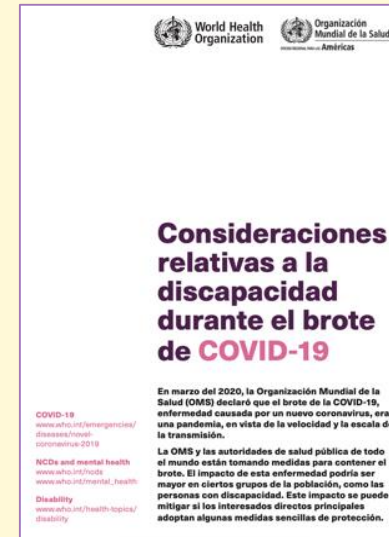
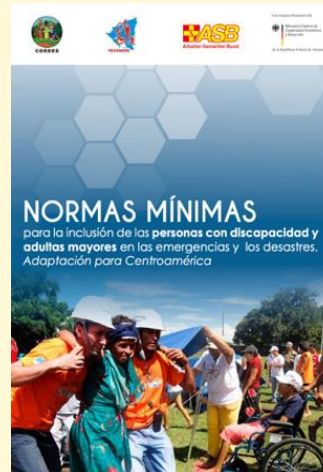
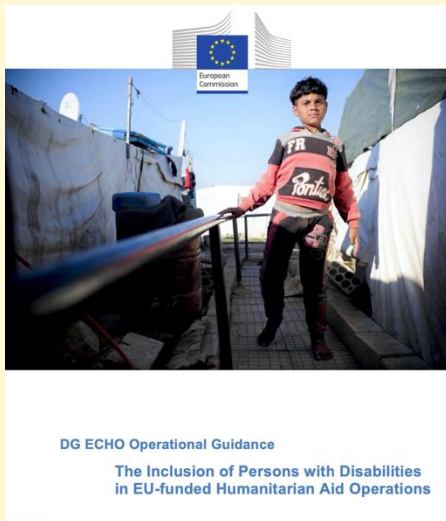
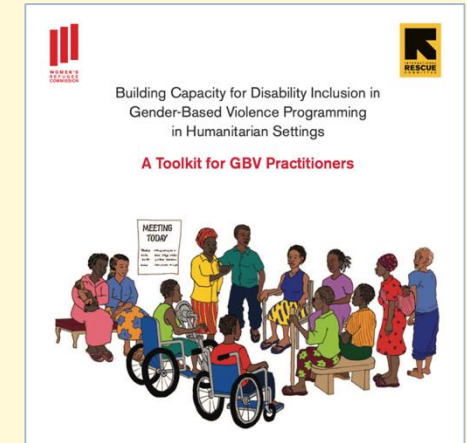
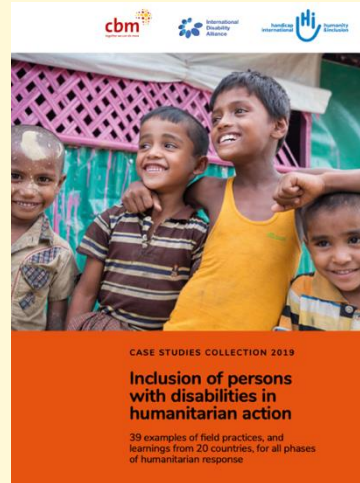
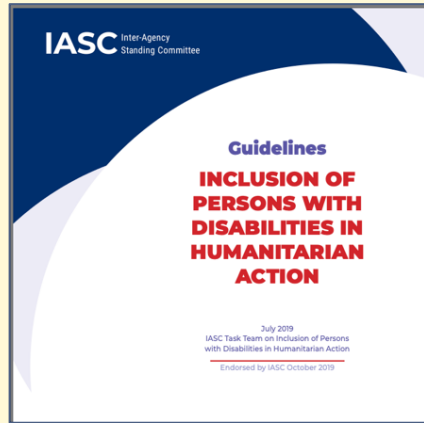


Photo of video by CBM India, available in the website of the *Disability and Disaster Risk Reduction Network* at <https://www.didrrn.net>

Considerations on the role of VA experts and coordination mechanisms

1. Encourage the **disaggregation of data** and assess the current **situation** and the **needs** of persons with disabilities.
2. Facilitate the **participation of persons with disabilities**, including mine survivors, in all stages on DRM and humanitarian assistance.
3. Raise awareness on **existing accessibility** and **gender guidelines** and coordinate with relevant authorities and main stakeholders working in DRM and humanitarian assistance.
4. Include DRM and Humanitarian Assistance in **National Disability Plans**
5. **Monitor and report** on progress and challenges.

Spotlight on key publications





Dialogue and discuss with persons with disabilities including mine survivors !



Photo by CBM India, from the video available in the website of the Disability and Disaster Risk Reduction Network at <https://www.didrrn.net>