

## People with disabilities

People with disabilities are “entitled to exercise their civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights on an equal basis with others *under all the international treaties*” as guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In reality, the rights of the *people* with disabilities are grossly violated. FAIRMED’s Disability Inclusive Development (DID) Strategy is in line with The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD, 2008) that was ratified in Nepal in 2010.

FAIRMED Nepal’s interventions are tailor-made to respond to poverty, gender gaps and geographic conditions as the organization attempts to narrow the existing gap between the people with disabilities and their able counterparts, thus averting frequent violations of the rights of the disabled. FAIRMED Nepal’s DID Strategy acknowledges strategic interventions are necessary to reach out to one of the important target groups that is, people with disabilities.

FAIRMED follows a twin track approach, which is one of the four principles of DID: simultaneous focus on disability-inclusive mainstreaming and on disability specific interventions. In doing so, FAIRMED also acknowledges gender differences and adopts its interventions accordingly. To effectively ensure disability-inclusive development and ascertain optimal results, FAIRMED actively networks with national and international organizations, scientific researchers, implementing partners, respective government agencies, and relevant stakeholders.

As disability is often overlooked, the DID Strategy will contribute to add new dimensions to health and development paradigm. FAIRMED has identified the following challenges while implementing DID Strategy as a crosscutting theme:

### **Challenges**

Gap between the government policy and its implementation

Random distribution of disability  
Identity cards

Lack of disability friendly infrastructure

Socio-Cultural Discrimination and exclusion

Lack of awareness among people with disabilities about schemes to support them

People with disability less forthcoming about organizing themselves

FAIRMED Nepal will implement interventions related to disability by aligning its global strategy (DID) with National Health Policy 2014 and NHSS III. Following are some examples of interventions:

Piloting at least one model disability-friendly health facility in project districts to deliver basic health services for people with disability

- *Launching advocacy campaigns*
- *Providing disability accessible services*

Supporting people with disabilities for independent living

Developing mechanisms to collect and disseminate disability related information through health facilities