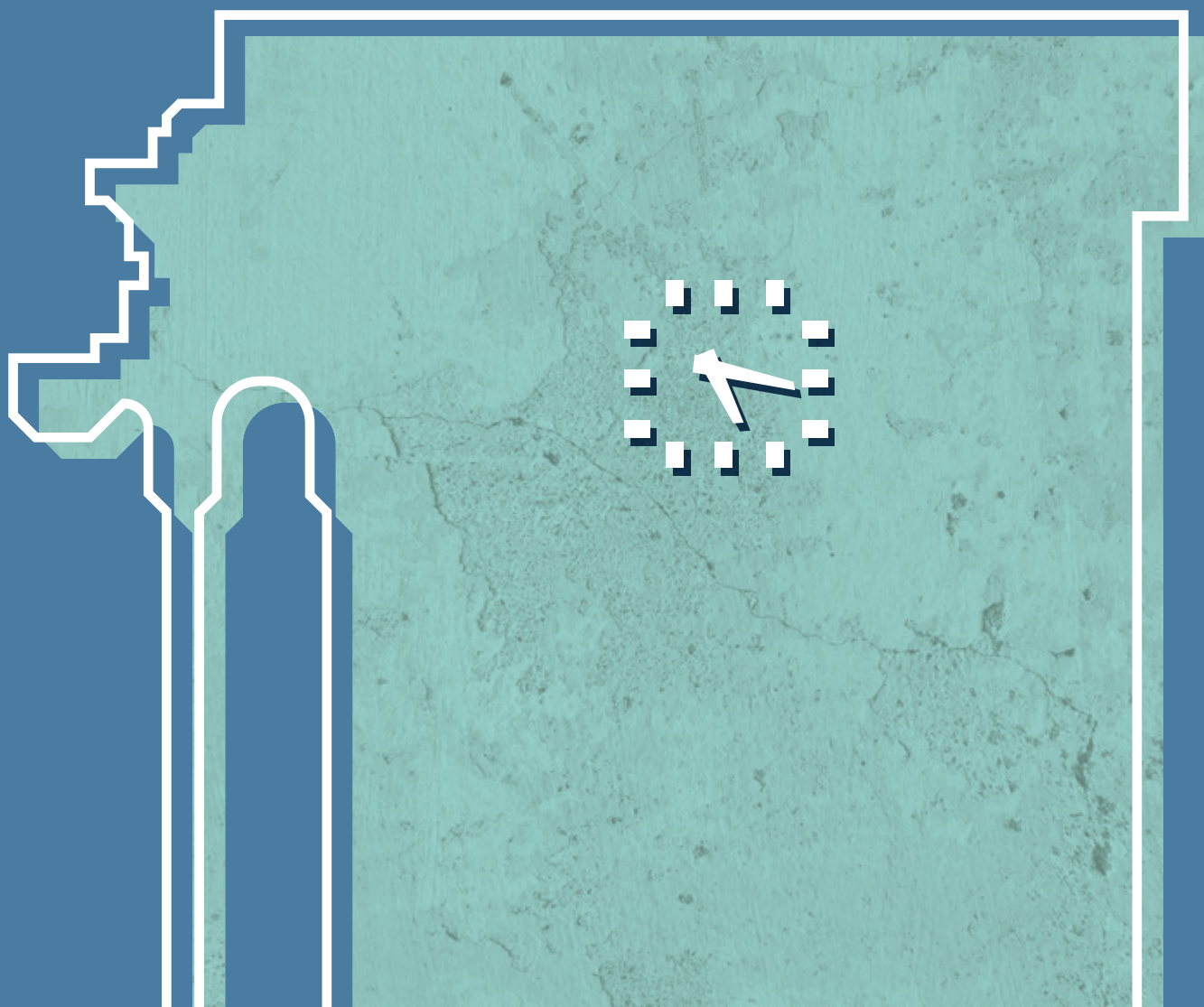


POLICIES FOR DISABILITY-INCLUSIVE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

■ POLICY BRIEF ■



IMPRESSUM

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1. Introduction

1.1. Hazards Profile of North Macedonia

The hazard profile of North Macedonia is characterized by the impact of a range of natural and human-made hazards and is dominated by floods, earthquakes, extreme temperatures, storms, landslides, droughts, epidemics and technical–technological incidents. Based on the availability of data on past disasters during the past two decades, in 14 disasters there were 79 human casualties, approx. 1.3 million inhabitants were affected and only eight disasters had a price tag of half a billion USD. Most human casualties were registered during the Skopje August 2016 torrential flood (22), wildfires in July 2007 affected almost half of the population (1,000,000 inhabitants) and the floods in 1995 had the highest damages of 245 million USD. Additionally, numerous small-scale disaster events throughout the year are chronically pressuring the resilience of society and communities by utilizing their finite resources and capacities. This trend is expected to grow further at an increased pace given the increase of the average temperature, the expected impact of climate change and extreme events¹, the degradation of the environment, increased urbanization, etc. Furthermore, in recent years we have been facing new and emerging risks and threats, such are the migrant and refugee crisis dating from 2015, enormous air pollution in the bigger cities in the country or the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, which affected the society, communities and citizens in an unprecedented way, both on a global and national level.

1.2. Who is most exposed to risk in the country?

The UNDPs' *Human Development Report 2016 - Risk-Proofing the Western Balkans: Empowering People to Prevent Disasters*² identifies the essential group of seven archetypal vulnerable populations: poor people, women, children and the elderly, persons with disabilities, minorities, migrants, returnees and Internally Displaced persons (IDPs) and farmers. People with some form of disabilities make up at least 15% of the global population, of whom 2 – 4% experience significant difficulties in functioning. Regard-

“Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.”

Source: Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Article 1)
<https://tinyurl.com/4znzhshd>

¹ Gjurgjevik, Vladimir. *Climate projection report changes and for changes in the extreme climate events in the Republic of North Macedonia*. UNDP. 2020. p. 4. [online] Available at <https://tinyurl.com/yc3r4yaa>

² <https://tinyurl.com/yc548e2v>

ing the number of persons with disabilities, there is no official register in the country, and the data from the 2021 Census are not fully representative, i.e. only 94,412 persons with disabilities were registered, which represents 5% of the total population in the country³, but if the figure of 15% is applied, then at the national level in North Macedonia can be estimated that around 276,000⁴ citizens experience some form of disability.

*„Persons with disabilities are vulnerable because of physical challenges, dependency on others and dwindling public assistance. While persons with disabilities are often a most vulnerable population group, different levels and types of disabilities (physical, intellectual, mental, sensory, combined) generalize their vulnerability to disaster risks difficultly.“*⁵ Persons with disabilities are bearing the hardest consequences from the impacts of crises and disasters, due to their characteristics and prevailing vulnerabilities and due to the very frequent exclusion from disaster risk reduction policies and the insufficient existence of inclusive risk reduction practices. There are many examples globally that point out this situation. For example, research shows that the mortality rate among persons with disabilities tends to be two to four times higher than that of the rest of the population, as demonstrated during the 2011 Japan earthquake and tsunami, and Hurricane Katrina in the USA⁶. In the United Kingdom, persons with disabilities accounted for six in ten COVID-19-related deaths⁷ and in the floods in Serbia in 2014, the ineffective response of the protection and rescue services⁸ or the absence of procedures and measures⁹ endangered persons with disabilities. In North Macedonia, there have been several disaster events where the victims were persons with disabilities, as well as other vulnerable categories, such as women, youth, and the elderly. Considering PwDs, the flash floods in December 2008 in Radovich and Konche accounted for the losses of two persons with disabilities, while in the flash floods in Tetovo in August 2015 and in Skopje, a year later, many of the victims were from vulnerable groups of citizens.

The exclusion from the risk reduction mainstreamed narrative, i.e. from policies, processes and practices, additionally contributes to this inexistence of inclusiveness in building the resilience of the society, communities and people. In general, many disaster risk management systems, globally and regionally, are “blind” to inclusive and responsible risk reduction, without providing opportunities for meaningful participation and building the resilience of persons with disabilities based on their needs, knowledge and capacities.

³ Ministry of Labour and Social Policy. *Draft National Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2023 - 2030 with Action Plans 2023 - 2026*. 2023. p. 15. Available at: <https://ener.gov.mk/Default.aspx?item=newdocumentdetails&detailid=61>

⁴ This number is calculated based on the results of the 2021 Census, where the resident population was 1,836,713 citizens. <https://www.stat.gov.mk/PrikaziSoopstenie.aspx?brtxt=146>

⁵ UNDP. *Human Development Report 2016 Risk-Proofing the Western Balkans: Empowering People to Prevent Disasters*. 2016. p. 66. Available at: <https://tinyurl.com/2ex2vx2f>

⁶ *Panel Discussion on Disaster resilience and disability: ensuring equality and inclusion*. ECOSOC Chamber, UN (2013). Available at: https://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/reports/iddr2013_%20panelreport.pdf

⁷ European Human Rights Report. *Impact of COVID-19 on persons with disabilities*. European Disability Forum (2021). Available at: <https://tinyurl.com/2t8xvtxs>

⁸ OSCE. *Rodna analiza uticaja poplava u Srbiji u 2014 godini*. p. 19. Available at: <https://tinyurl.com/2m3vht8b>

⁹ UNICEF. *Analiza Klimatske Situacije i Njenih Uticaja Na Decu U Srbiji*. UNICEF. Septembar 2021. p. 31. Available at: <https://www.unicef.org/serbia/media/18356/file/CLAC%20izvestaj.pdf>

2. Key findings

The key findings from the review of disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction identify that disability mainstreaming and, conversely, the inclusion of disaster risk reduction into the disability area is at a very rudimentary stage and is not recognized as an area of importance for the lives, well-being and building resilience of persons with disabilities. Also, they point to the need to include disability in the disaster risk management system, enabling the creation of policies, normative frameworks and measures and activities through inclusive empowerment and with greater participation of persons with disabilities in all these processes and procedures, strengthening thus, resilience to existing and new risks and threats. Among other things, this can be done through the implementation of global mechanisms for sustainable and resilient development and disability mainstreaming, where the most important can be listed as follows: Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 - 2030¹⁰, Sustainable Development Goals¹¹, the Paris Agreement¹², Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities¹³.

- The approach to *terminological determination of risk and disaster reduction and disability* is different and various definitions and understandings can be found in related policy documents or normative acts in these areas. In the country, there is no standardized terminology for disaster risk reduction as per the terminology of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction¹⁴, crisis management and protection and rescue systems have a different approach to this issue and, in terms of disability, only the Law on prevention and protection against discrimination is regulated in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, while in the other legislations, there is a different terminological identification of persons with disabilities.
- *The existing policy and legislative framework* can be identified as “blind” to the inclusion of disability in disaster risk management. The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and in particular Article 4, which requires national legislation on emergencies and disaster risk reduction and their respective policies to comply with the Convention, has not been mainstreamed into disaster risk reduction in the country. In that context, “the legal framework for humanitarian crises and emergencies is not following the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. During the pandemic situation, persons with disabilities were once again marginalized, as their specific needs were not adequately addressed.”¹⁵ On the

¹⁰ https://www.unisdr.org/files/43291_sendaiframeworkfordren.pdf

¹¹ <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

¹² https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf

¹³ <https://tinyurl.com/2p8pr4py>

¹⁴ UNDRR. *Sendai Framework Terminology on Disaster Risk Reduction*. Available at: <https://www.undrr.org/terminology#>

¹⁵ United Nations North Macedonia, UNPRPD. *Situational Analysis of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the Republic of North Macedonia – 2021*. 2022. p. 6. Available at: <https://tinyurl.com/mry7bf3j>

other hand, an important challenge is the issue of accessibility to most of the official documents, such as laws, policies and circulars that cannot be used by persons with disabilities because they are not provided in understandable formats for them, there is a lack of policy and regulatory framework, as well as a database where all these documents would be contained and which could be accessed by all categories of persons with disabilities.

- In terms of *institutional architecture* for building resilience with disability inclusion, most government ministries and departments do not have focal points for disability coordination, key policy- and decision-makers and practitioners lack awareness and understanding of the importance of disability inclusion and the Convention, while the internal knowledge and expertise for the integration of these two areas is lacking. Furthermore, insufficient coordination among institutions for building resilience of persons with disabilities has been detected, and the existing coordination mechanisms are weak due to low level of awareness and understanding of the needs and capabilities of persons with disabilities.
- *Inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities* - In the national context of North Macedonia, persons with disabilities and their organizations are insufficiently involved in the policy-making process in almost all areas and this was especially visible during the pandemic crisis.¹⁶ This situation arises both from the inadequate policy, regulatory and institutional frameworks, as well as from the “*invisibility*” of persons with disabilities and the dominant narrative that they are considered within the wider group of the vulnerable population. This lack of inclusiveness and inclusion of persons with disabilities is detected in all phases of the disaster risk management cycle, i.e. prevention, preparedness, response and recovery, and this exclusion results in the adoption of policies and measures that are not fully in line with their specific needs and capabilities.
- *Disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction practices* have been identified as primarily stand-alone project interventions funded by external entities or donors with poor sustainability and rarely any practice or implemented action continued to exist beyond the project finalization date or was subsequently replicated or scaled up with new and more complex activities. The approach to identifying and prioritizing risk reduction measures and activities is one-dimensional, meaning that it is guided by the needs of the entire population and available resources instead of being guided by the needs and opportunities of different groups of citizens, including persons with disabilities. Risk and hazard assessment processes and operational planning for various natural and human-made hazards, including protection and rescue plans are not inclusive and the results are not publicly available. Additionally, the existing educational and vocational curricula for both emergency responder professionals and citizens do not include sections on disability and disaster risk reduction.
- *Disability-related disaggregated data collection and analysis* is in a very basic form without data being systematically collected and uniformly shared between all competent institutions. Concerning the field of disaster risk reduction, the collection and analysis of disaggregated data are limited to some of the institutions, and there are dif-

¹⁶ Ibid. p.11.

ferences in the types and uniformity of data sets, the tools to support information and communication technology, their exchange and sharing between institutions, as well as the update intervals. In most cases, data on climate and disaster risks are generalized to vulnerable populations including persons with disabilities without distinguishing between types of disabilities. The most advanced approach can be identified in the practices of the Crisis Management Centre for collection of disaggregated data and the creation of databases for the risk and hazard assessment process.

- *Access to climate and disaster risk information and communication* is limited for persons with disabilities, as not all information reaches them, and those that do are not in a format that would be comprehensible to persons with disabilities, e.g. interpretive language, braille, simplified language, etc. Existing risk information, including early warning and alerting notifications, is not provided in accessible formats that would reach persons with disabilities through the media and communication networks. Except for some media events or daily news when sign language interpretation is provided, the media is not prepared to communicate information about emergencies to persons with disabilities.
- Regarding *investments in disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction*, the current financial and practice frameworks are *reactive* (funding of personnel and organizational costs and preparedness rather than prevention and mitigation) and *ex-post* (after-disaster events). A budgeting mechanism for climate and disaster risk reduction that is sensitive to disability (disability-based budgeting) has not been established, and persons with disabilities and their organizations are not directly involved in budgeting and the implementation of social inclusion-related policies and measures, neither nationally nor locally.
- From the review of existing frameworks, a *framework for resilient recovery of persons with disabilities* cannot be identified or post-disaster needs assessment of persons with disabilities, as the existing practices are informal and implemented supporting project activities fragmented without significant sustainability.

3. Follow-up recommendations

Based on the above analysis, as well as existing global and regional frameworks and mechanisms for sustainable and resilient development and social inclusion that call for greater inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities in the creation and adoption of policies and regulations, this document provides the following set of recommendations for the following period:

■ General recommendations:

- *A paradigm shift in the resilience-building of persons with disabilities* – They need to become “visible” and be at the forefront of transformative disability inclusion through participation in the designing and implementing disability-inclusive policies, regulations and measures and actions. In doing so, it should be ensured that persons with disabilities would be actively included, as entities that contribute to building resilience. At the same time, in these endeavours, the organizations of persons with disabilities should be actively involved and specify the needs and abilities of all persons with disabilities.
- *Improving disaster risk management in the country through strengthening the inclusive climate and disaster risk governance* – Due to the existing profile of risks and hazards, emerging threats and uncertainties, it is recommended to strengthen the current climate and disaster risk governance with the adoption and implementation of policies, measures and actions with the inclusion of disability and respecting the rights and capabilities of persons with disabilities. Concurrently, according to their profile, they will be aimed at mitigating the existing and anticipating any new and potential risks and threats, will contribute to greater adaptation thereto, and at the same time, they will enable a transformation of society and communities. The enhanced awareness of the obligations and rights under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the subsequent formulation and adoption of disability-informed policies, regulations, plans and actions will contribute to the above as well as to strengthening the overall resilience building of the society, communities and persons with disabilities.
- *Building strategic partnerships for disability-inclusive risk reduction* – This type of partnership is extremely important for achieving the “Whole of the Government” and “All of the Society” approaches, which are characteristic of contemporary and inclusive disaster risk reduction. That way, the needs and capabilities of persons with disabilities will come to the fore and they will be a link in the chain of building the resilience of society and communities. Partnerships need to be developed in both the public and private domains, i.e. with national and local authorities, institutions and organizations, as well as with the private sector, research and development centres, academia, the non-gov-

ernmental sector, and organizations of persons with disabilities. In this segment, it is recommended to promote international cooperation, both for sharing technical support and expertise, as well as for establishing the possibility of implementing measures and activities in which standards and procedures will be shared and improved, including good practices and lessons learned.

- *Efficient and effective collaboration for improved data* – The collection, sharing and analysis of data constitute one of the pillars of resilience, as well as of disability inclusion in comprehensive disaster risk reduction. Therefore, in addition to the improvement of processes, the application of tools and solutions related to data, especially in the context of risk understanding, it is necessary to improve the cooperation with national, regional and global entities regarding data, be it the State Statistical Office or the Washington Task Force on Disability Statistics¹⁷.

■ **Specific recommendations:**

■ **Creation of policies and normative frameworks to reduce climate and disaster risks**

- *Standardization of a terminological framework* that would reflect the essentials of contemporary inclusive climate and disaster risk reduction and integrate the current terminological definitions according to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the national framework.
- *Ensuring that climate and disaster risk reduction-related policies, strategic frameworks and action plans are disability-inclusive and in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and related policies* – In the context of this recommendation, it is necessary to develop a technical checklist to determine the presence or absence of disability inclusiveness according to these global frameworks and mechanisms.
- *Revision, modification of the existing and adoption of new policies and legislative acts within the area of disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction* - In this context, the adoption of a national strategy for disaster risk reduction is primarily emphasized, as a framework document that will adequately include disability, the continuation of the adoption of local strategic plans for disaster risk reduction and the creation of specific policy documents for the involvement of persons with disabilities in various aspects of understanding and managing risks. The same applies to laws and by-laws, operational procedures, etc. from the areas discussed above and their modernization, both in the context of the global framework for sustainable and resilient development and given the Convention and other global and national mechanisms for disability inclusion and achieving standards (e.g. standards for accessible infrastructure by the International Standardization Organization or early warning and alerting of persons with disabilities, etc.). This way, a vision and foundations for the inclusion of persons with disabilities within the framework of building the resilience of society and communities will be provided by defining the roles and responsibilities, mandatory measures and activities, enabling continuous and significant participation of persons with disabilities and their

¹⁷ <https://www.washingtongroup-disability.com/>

organizations, as well as by defining stable and sustainable financial and other necessary resources. These documents and acts need to be accompanied by action plans that will ensure that disability is included.

- *Ensuring wide accessibility of official policy documents, strategies, laws, by-laws and procedures to persons with disabilities* through alternate and assistive formats and versions that would be understandable to different groups of persons with disabilities.
- **Building the institutional architecture for disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction**
 - *Preparation of a guidebook on the concept of resilience i.e. disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction* in different accessible forms and languages and implementation of training on contemporary mechanisms for persons with disabilities.
 - *Sensitization and raising awareness of key policy- and decision-makers* within the disaster risk reduction and disability-inclusion areas to break the “silos approach”, to understand and recognize the resilience-building needs and to lead the mainstreaming processes.
 - *Building the awareness and professional capacities of officials and practitioners* on integration, prioritization and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and related disability-inclusive policies and measures in the overall climate and disaster risk reduction in the whole cycle of disaster risk management, i.e. in all four phases: prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.
 - *Appointment of focal points or disability inclusion officers in the institutions* (preferably persons with disabilities) that would ensure meaningful leadership and advocacy aimed at advancing the disability-inclusive resilience-building agenda within the frameworks of policies and competencies of the institutions and facilitated exercising of rights and obligations of persons with disabilities.
 - *Improving the institutional framework and mechanisms to ensure multi-hazard, multi-risk and multi-sector coordination for inclusion of disability in climate and disaster risk reduction*, vertically across all levels and horizontally across different sectors, e.g. through establishment of coordination bodies, working groups, or inclusion of persons with disabilities in existing bodies and organs, etc. It is also necessary to include disability within the work and priorities of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, as a forum where opinions, experiences and information are met and exchanged, which would contribute to recommendations and good practices. On the other hand, a partnership with the private sector is also necessary, as it could significantly improve the state of disability inclusion, through the exchange of information, knowledge, technical expertise and providing different kinds of resources.
 - *Localization of disability inclusion* by strengthening the capacities of municipalities, advisory municipal bodies, municipal councils, centres for the development of planning regions, associations, etc. on the application of the Convention on the Rights of Per-

sons with Disabilities and the Sendai Framework and the national mechanisms in policy-making and provision of services at the local level, including climate and disaster risk reduction.

■ **Inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities and their organizations**

- *Raising awareness and increasing the knowledge of persons with disabilities and their organizations* on the contemporary sustainable and resilient mechanisms including the key documents on global, regional and national level.
- *Creation of a mechanism for full involvement of persons with disabilities in all phases of the disaster risk management cycle in order to provide significant contribution to the realization of the needs and capabilities of persons with disabilities before, during and after a disaster*, i.e. participation in inclusive and participatory preparation of risk and hazard assessments, preparation of protection and rescue plans and other operational plans, dissemination of information on risks and hazards, implementation of training exercises, organization of adequate preparedness for timely, effective and insufficient response and designing a framework for the recovery of persons with special needs, etc.
- *Formulation of policies, measures and activities for the inclusion of families or communities, caregivers and service animals* in risk and hazard assessments and planning documents with the aim of improved readiness for a timely, effective and efficient response.

■ **Disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction practices**

- *Ensuring that all information, tools and methods for understanding climate and disaster risks are available and accessible to persons with disabilities*. This is the only way that they would be able to be efficiently and effectively involved in the assessment of risks and hazards and the subsequent activities of managing the reduction of disaster risks.
- *Integrating disability-inclusive risk and hazard assessments* into operational plans and risk scenarios, as well as into national and local policies and sector strategies, programs and plans.
- *Updating the protection and rescue plans for the areas of the municipalities, the City of Skopje, the state and the entities of the protection and rescue system by inclusion of disability*, especially in the implementation of protection and rescue measures, e.g. evacuation, sheltering, mapping of public shelters and accessibility, processes and procedures for responding to natural and human-made hazards.
- *Investing in and developing disability-inclusive resilient infrastructure which is consistent with disaster risk reduction* through policy-making, designing measures and implementing activities, for example: ensuring accessibility by applying universal design for buildings, structures, critical infrastructure, support for modification of existing infrastructure according to the needs of persons with disabilities and standards for reducing disaster risks, etc.

- *Ensuring that school facilities are resistant to disaster risks, adapting to climate change and accessible to students with disabilities through the implementation of relevant measures and activities, as well as joining the global initiative for safe and resilient schools*¹⁸.
 - *Ensuring that search and rescue activities are disability-inclusive and take into account the needs of people with disabilities.*
 - *Preparation of an educational professional curriculum for professional education and training of professional resources of the entities of the disaster risk management system, both at the national and local level, including “organizing regular annual training for the Crisis Management Centre, the Protection and Rescue Directorate and entities in the system of protection in risks at the national and local level to ensure protection and safety of persons with disabilities”.*¹⁹
 - *Adaptation of the European number for emergencies – 112 for persons with disabilities through the development of an appropriate application and communication with various groups of persons with disabilities.*
 - *Preparation of a manual for the protection and self-protection of persons with disabilities from natural and human-made hazards present in the territory of the state.*
 - *Strengthening the knowledge and capacities of caregivers/service providers, as well as other persons, such as experts, assistants and support staff involved in the delivery of services to persons with disabilities (health, social, educational, etc.) for the protection and self-protection of persons with disabilities and during the provision of services through the development of a manual and realization of focused education and training.*
 - *Organizing training for preparation and response to health crises, including epidemics and pandemics, for entities of the system, persons with disabilities and their organizations, based on the lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic.*
 - *Procurement and maintenance of the necessary material and technical resources for preparedness and response of persons with disabilities.*
 - *Designing and implementing technical-technological innovative solutions for resilience according to the needs of persons with disabilities.*
- **Disaggregated disability-related data collection and analysis**
- *Revising the existing administrative/electronic bases/forms of the institutions for statistical operations to provide disaggregated data for persons with disabilities*²⁰, as well as linking them with the aim of better understanding and analysing climate and disaster risks.

¹⁸ <https://gadrrres.net/>

¹⁹ Ministry of Labour and Social Policy. *Draft National Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2023 - 2030 with Action Plans 2023 - 2026*. 2023. p. 77. Available at: <https://ener.gov.mk/Default.aspx?item=newdocumentdetails&detailid=61>

²⁰ Ibid. p.78.

- *Prioritizing, collecting, analysing and sharing data on disability, gender and age based on the agreed methodological framework and indicators.*
 - *Provision of data, statistical reviews and materials from the State Statistical Office in an accessible format and language.*²¹
 - *Training of staff of key institutions and collection and analysis of data related to disability for risk and hazard assessments, loss and damage assessments, completing the Sendai Framework module, etc.*
- **Access to climate and disaster risk information and communication**
 - *Provision of information and communication about climate and disaster risks in all accessible forms, appropriate to the needs of persons with disabilities.*
 - *Adaptation of key institutions' web pages and content to be available and accessible to different groups of persons with disabilities, e.g. introduction of easy-to-read format, audio description or video content with interpretation into sign language.*
 - *Provision of accessible information and materials in accessible formats for protection in risks situations.*
 - *Sensitization of the media and media professionals on climate and disaster risk reduction and disability inclusion.*
 - *Designing disability-inclusive Multi-hazard Early Warning and Alerting Systems in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and ensuring no one is left behind i.e. the notifications and information should reach every person with a disability in the affected area in a form understandable to them.*
 - **Investing in disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction**
 - *Introducing budgeting for climate and disaster risk reduction that is sensitive to disability (disability-based budgeting) to ensure stable and sustainable financing of measures for prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery of persons with disabilities.*
 - *Designing and implementing social safety nets for persons with disabilities as part of the adaptation to the stresses and shocks of climate change and disasters.*
 - *Financing and implementation of structural and non-structural investments in measures and operations for enhancing the resilience of persons with disabilities.*
 - **Recovery and needs of persons with disabilities**
 - *Identifying the needs of persons with disabilities after a disaster and formulating the relevant framework of measures and activities for their resilient recovery.*
 - *Involvement of persons with disabilities and their organizations in the assessment of damages and losses, as well as needs after a disaster.*

²¹ Ibid. p.79.

