

# Accessibility Guidelines

for  
Making Barrier Free Environment



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# **Need of Accessible Environment**

## **For**

- **Personal Mobility**
- **Perform Daily Activities**
- **Social Participations**
- **Taking opportunities**
- **Feeling Equity and Dignity**
- **Enjoying services and Rights**

# Current Legal Mandates

- **UNCRPD(Article 2)**
- “Communication” includes languages, display of text, Braille, tactile communication, large print, accessible multimedia as well as written, audio, plain-language, human-reader and augmentative and alternative modes, means and formats of communication, including accessible information and communication technology;
- “Language” includes spoken and signed languages and other forms of non spoken languages;

## Current Legal Mandates ...

- “Reasonable accommodation” means necessary and appropriate modification and adjustments not imposing a disproportionate or undue burden, where needed in a particular case, to ensure to persons with disabilities the enjoyment or exercise on an equal basis with others of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- “Universal design” means the design of products, environments, programmes and services to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design. “Universal design” shall not exclude assistive devices for particular groups of persons with disabilities where this is needed.

# Current Legal Mandates

- **UNCRPD – Article 9 :**

**.....States Parties shall take appropriate measures to ensure to persons with disabilities access, on an equal basis with others, to the physical environment, to transportation, to information and communications, including information and communications technologies and systems, and to other facilities and services open or provided to the public, both in urban and in rural areas.....**

## Nepal National Building Code 2060, NBC 206 :

- 5.1: At least one ***primary entrance*** to a building shall be ***useable by the physically disabled*** and be on the level that would provide ***access to elevators*** where provided.
- 5.2: Access ramps for wheelchairs shall not have gradients in excess of 1:12 level platforms shall be provided at max 1800 mm flight. Level platform shall also be provided at tops and changes of direction. The minimum widths of wheelchair accessible ramps shall be 900 mm for apartments and residential use and 1000 mm for all other building types. Handrails are required when the total rise exceeds 600 mm
- 5.3 : The areas accessible by wheelchair shall have a flush threshold and openings with minimum clear width of 775 mm. If double leaf entrance door are provided the single leaf opening shall meet the above clear width.

- **Special Education Policies 2053:** Make special schools with special physical facilities for the mobility of persons with disabilities.
- **SSRP 2009 – 2015 :** 100 schools will be made meeting the needs of students with disabilities.
- **Program Implementation Manual 2067/068 of Department of Education :** has provided some compulsory standards for the physical structures of new school buildings and classrooms in line with national building code such as compulsory provision of ramp for wheelchair to have access to the door of classroom and toilet.
- **Alternative Type Design for Classroom Construction for Terai and Hilly region separately with detail engineering sketch.**

## **National Policy and Plan of Action on Disability, 2063 :**

### **Priority 6 for "Access"**

**6.4.1. A policy will be adopted to make disability friendly physical infrastructures that provide access to people with disability during design (mapping) and approval for construction of physical places of public importance (tall and large building, cinema buildings, banks, schools, hospitals, offices, streets, sidewalks etc.)**

**6.4.2. Management of public transportation (streets, sidewalks, traffic signs, bus, rail, air services etc.) will be prepared in a way that is favorable to disability.**



## **Government circulations :**

- **Circulation of NPC to MoE and other Ministries dated 2063-7-10**
- **Circulation of DoE to its local line agencies dated 2063-7-14**

# Current gaps

- **Lack of similar understanding about accessibility /physical accessibility**
- **Low awareness level**
- **Lack of uniform standard and quality in practices.**
- **No comprehensive policies and laws to address the all requirements of physical accessibility.**
- **No comprehensive guide/manual to help for making accessible environment in universal design.**

# Need of Accessibility Guideline

## For

- **Maintaining Universal Standard**
- **Addressing actual requirements of Rights holders**
- **Bringing Uniformity**
- **Quality control**
- **Awareness Raising**

# **The Proposed guideline includes**

- **Detail requirements of accessible physical environment in universal design.**
- **Technical details with sketch and measurements**
- **Alternative Choices**
- **Pictures of model works**
- **Existing Legal provisions regarding accessibility matter in Nepal.**

# How are we going to develop it ?

- **Setting mechanism for the task**
- **Study of International practices, policies and laws.**
- **Study of national research, assessment, and studies made on accessibility issues.**
- **Study of national policies and laws**
- **Study of universal design.**
- **Collection of accessibility requirement**
- **Translation and interpretation**
- **Engineering consultations**
- **Drafting, finalizing and printing**

# MAKE THE RIGHT REAL



# Thank you

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