

## **Concept Note Side Event – CRPD COSP 2025**

**Title:** Measuring and Addressing Disability-Related Costs: Data, Methods, and Policy Implications

### **Co-sponsors:**

World Bank, UNICEF

### **In partnership with:**

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), Center for Inclusive Policy (CIP)

### **Background**

Persons with disabilities and their households often incur additional costs related to disability—such as expenses for assistive devices, personal assistance, transport, healthcare, and education. These disability-related costs significantly affect their actual standard of living, deepen poverty, and limit equal participation in society.

Measuring and understanding these costs is therefore essential to:

- Accurately assess poverty and inequality faced by persons with disabilities;
- Design and implement inclusive social protection systems;
- Guide public investment toward policies and services that effectively promote inclusion and reduce inequalities.

This side event will present practical examples of how data on disability-related costs is being collected and used across countries. It will present the methodological guidelines developed collaboratively by international experts with UNICEF and the World Bank, and showcase results from country studies applying diverse methodologies. These include countries from different regions and income levels: Georgia, Peru, Nepal, Fiji, Namibia, India, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, and others.

### **Objectives of the side event**

- Introduce the concept of disability-related costs and explain why measuring them is essential for inclusive policy and poverty analysis;
- Present the joint methodological guidelines developed by UNICEF and the World Bank to measure disability-related costs;
- Share experiences from country-level studies using different approaches;
- Highlight how data on disability-related costs is being used to design social protection systems and support packages tailored to the needs of persons with disabilities;
- Foster dialogue on how such evidence can inform broader efforts to advance CRPD implementation and disability-inclusive social development.

### **Tentative agenda (1 hour 15 minutes)**

#### **Opening and introduction (5 min)**

*Charlotte McClain-Nhlapo, World Bank*

- What are disability-related costs and why do they matter?

**Part 1: Why and how to measure disability-related costs? (30 min)**

*Speakers: Ludovico Carraro (Consultant), Daniel Mont (CIP), Monica Pinilla (CIP)*

- Overview of methodological approaches and guidelines:
  - Standard of Living (SoL) Method – Applied in Malaysia, the Philippines, Moldova, Peru, and EU countries among others
  - Goods and Services Required for equal participation – Applied in Georgia, Peru, Namibia, Fiji among others
- How these approaches help assess actual poverty levels and material deprivation among persons with disabilities and their households.

**Part 2: Using disability related costs data to inform policy and investment (30 min)**

*Speakers: Alexandre Côte (UNICEF), Andrey Tretyak (World Bank)*

- Guiding inclusive investment and inclusive social protection
- Development of support packages for persons with disabilities: Armenia and Saudi Arabia

**Q&A and Discussion (10 min)**

Open floor for reflections and questions from COSP participants

**Closing Remarks (5 min)**

*Gopal Mitra, UNICEF*