



FACT SHEET: #6 -2020

Accessible Health Care Facilities For inclusive health care

Why accessible health care facilities?

- In order to comply with UNCRPD (Article 9) and with the Cambodia disability law (Chapter 5, Article 21).
- In order to allow persons with all type of disabilities to access, on an equal basis with others, to health care services.

Accessible to whom?

- To ensure access to health care facilities for all people: persons with physical, sensorial or intellectual impairments, but also children, pregnant women, elderly persons, persons who have a temporary impairment or injury e.g. broken leg.

How to make health care facilities accessible?

- For existing health care facilities, it is not practical to make the whole building accessible, but it is important that people with disabilities can access at least the spaces open to the public, like reception areas, patients' rooms, health staff' offices, waiting rooms and toilets/ bathrooms.

Principle of accessibility

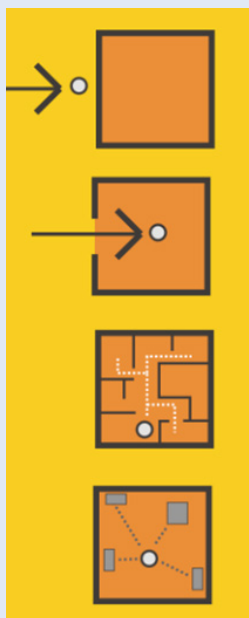
- It is about not breaking the chain of movement that allows people to access all places and services through the RECU principle [Reach, Enter, Circulate, Use] without encountering obstacles or barriers.

Humanity & Inclusion (HI) is working in partnership with government, Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs), physical rehabilitation centers (PRCs), and health facilities to contribute to the implementation of the National Disability Strategic Plan 2019-2023 (NDSP2). The project aims to improve access to quality and inclusive services for all, including women and men with disabilities. This project is funded by the Australian Government through Australia-Cambodia Cooperation for Equitable Sustainable Services (ACCESS) Program.

Accessible Health Care Facilities

How to ensure that health care facilities are accessible?

Ensuring that health care facilities are accessible for all is not just a question of building access ramps. It's about facilitating the use of the building for all throughout the whole chain of movement. The RECU steps can help in doing this:



- **Reach** – All persons should be able to get to the health care places from their home: we should think about accessibility of pathways, ramps, transport systems, signage, tactile floor surface, etc.
- **Enter** – All persons should be able to get inside the building: we should think about accessibility of steps, ramps, handrails, entrance doors, door handles and locks, reception desks, communication panels, etc.
- **Circulate** – All persons should be able to move around the building: we should think about accessibility of corridors, thresholds, internal doors, resting places, staircases, elevators, signage, dimensions, etc. (e.g. you need a minimum internal space of 150cm x 150cm to enable a person using a wheelchair to turn or maneuver).
- **Use** – All persons should be able to use the services and facilities in the building: we should think about accessibility of internal furniture, wayfinding, type and height of light switches, taps, toilet seats/bath seat, washbasins, height of windows, etc.

Example: Analyze the patient's room through the RECU steps



Figure 1: Inside the patients' room

- Doors should be large enough for persons who use a wheelchair to enter. Door locks and handles should be convenient in using with single hand without the need to use fingers, for persons with grabbing difficulties. **(Enter)**
- Ensure there is enough space in the room for the patients to transfer or move from bed to wheelchair. **(Circulate)**
- Ensure cleaning facilities (washbasin, tap, soap dispensers, toilet paper, cloth hook, shower, mirror, waste disposal, sanitary pad...) are easy to reach and use. **(Use)**
- Toilet/bathroom should have enough space for wheelchair and should be equipped with grab bars at both sides of toilet seat/bath seat. **(Use)**
- Surfaces, wall, door, sanitary facilities, grab rails, light switches and other facilities should be easy to clean and to see for people with visual impairments. **(Use)**

Reference: Technical Standard of Physical Infrastructure Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities (2018) highlights the technical standard to use for making your health care facilities accessible or if you want to build a new building.

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