

# HIGHLIGHTS OF MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CRPD TO DATE



women, children &  
people with disabilities  
Department  
Women, Children and People with Disabilities  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



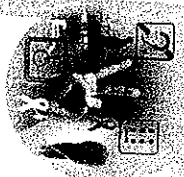
## HIGHLIGHTS OF FIRST 4 YEARS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CRPD

### Article 29 focuses on Participation in Political and Public Life

South Africa is a world leader in terms of representation of public representatives with disabilities, as well representation of people with disabilities on key public entities:

- Political self-representation by people with disabilities, with 16 MPs (including 1 Deputy Minister), 8 MPLs (including 3 MECs) and 72 councillors.
- Persons with disabilities represent the interests of the disability sector on a number of other public institutions such as the SA Human Rights Commission, the Commission on Gender Equality, the National Youth Development Agency, the Public Service Commission, the National Economic Development and Labour Council (NEDLAC), the National Lotteries Board and its Distributing Agencies, the Unemployment Insurance Fund, the Commission on Employment Equity, the National Development Agency, the Pan South African Language Board, the National Skills Authority and the South African National Aids Council (SANAC).





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**Reasonable Accommodation** measures unlock opportunities for people with disabilities as it removes barriers to participation. The Country Report highlights a number of examples where the country has done well in laying the foundation:

- Taxpayers are able to claim tax benefits for all disability-related costs incurred.
- Indigent students at institutions of higher education have access to reasonable accommodation measures, which includes acquisition of assistive devices as well as personal assistance, through a NSFAS grant.
- The Services SETA has made available a reasonable accommodation top-up grant to enrolled persons with disabilities in learnerships offered by the Athena FET Private College.
- Voters with visual impairment were able to vote in secret (unassisted) in the last elections following the development of a universal ballot template (UBT).
- Bank notes have special features to ensure accessibility for people with visual impairment.





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### **Article 30 promotes participation in, among others, sport.**

South Africa is one of the top performers at the Paralympics and Special Olympic Games as a result of an extensive school-based sport programme followed through with scientific sport support services for our top athletes.

The number of schools participating in mass-based school sport increased from 74 (2009/10) to 268 (2011/12), and 307 young athletes with disabilities have received scientific sport support services since 2009.



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The medium to long-term vision is for people with disabilities to be enabled to compete for decent work in the open labour market, and where this is not possible, to ensure that they are able to earn sufficient household income to maintain an adequate standard of living.

Within the current situation of high unemployment rates in general, and where high numbers of people with disabilities lack education qualification, skills and experience high levels of attitudinal, physical and communication barriers, social protection measures become critical.

- 293 protective workshops received subsidies in 2012, compared to 260 in 2010. This provided 14,212 people with disabilities with some additional household income.
- More than a million South Africans with disabilities access monthly disability grants;
- 114,993 children with severe disabilities access care dependency grants, constituting a 44% growth since 1996/97.
- 536,747 persons accessed a grant-in aid 2011/12, constituting a 95% growth since 2008/9.
- 129,121 adults with disabilities enrolled in adult literacy programmes between 2008 and 2011.
- 54% of young people with disabilities enrolled in learnership programmes between 2008-2011 successfully completed their learnerships, with 46% gaining employment after the completion of their learnerships.

