



YOUTH & DISABILITY

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Australian
Cross
Disability
Alliance

The Australian Cross Disability Alliance (ACDA)

- New, **innovative model** of representation of people with disability in Australia and internationally.
- Conceived and **developed by DPOs** to reflect the CRPD.
- Made up of **four DPOs**: Women With Disabilities Australia; People with Disability Australia; First Peoples Disability Network Australia; and, National Ethnic Disability Alliance.
- The four organisations are independent, but come together as the ACDA to **work collaboratively** to advance the human rights of people with disability.
- ACDA is **recognised by Government** as the primary mechanism to advance the human rights of all people with disability in Australia.

Human Rights Based Framework

- ACDA embeds and recognises that the **international human rights treaties and mechanisms** provide the framework to advance the rights of people with disability.
- ACDA recognises that the international human rights treaties must be implemented as **complementary mechanisms** to advance the human rights of people with disability.
- ACDA is **'cross-disability'** and rights based. Focuses on the prohibition of discrimination and the promotion of equality, rather than on the categorisation of various disabilities based on impairments.
- ACDA focuses on and addresses **'intersectionality'** – with particular focus on women with disability, Indigenous peoples with disability, people with disability from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and children and young people with disability.

ACDA Focus on Youth with Disability

- Prioritises the active and **meaningful participation** of youth with disability at all levels of decision-making.
- Youth with disability are **represented** and meaningfully engaged as partners in the work of ACDA member organisations, including at governance level.
- ACDA is working with youth with disability to **build capacity** to establish their own DPO.





Case Study: WWDA Youth Network

- Young women with disability identify **lack of information** about their rights – particularly sexual & reproductive rights, and the right to freedom from all forms of violence - as barriers to their participation and decision-making power.
- Young women and girls with disability want to **work together** to build their capacity to realise their human rights – this builds individual autonomy and agency and the formation of a collective identity.
- In recognition of these facts, and in **response to calls from young women** and girls with disability, just over a year ago, WWDA facilitated the establishment and development of the WWDA Youth Network. .



WOMEN
WITH
DISABILITIES
AUSTRALIA
(WWDA)

Case Study: WWDA Youth Network

- WWDA Youth Network has been **created by and for** girls and young women with disability. Is new and embryonic.
- WWDA Youth Network model is scaffolded by a **human rights framework**.
- Targeted at girls and young women with disability **aged 13-30 years**, but has a strong focus on adolescent girls.
- **Key functions** include: providing peer education, learning and participation opportunities for girls and young women with disability around issues such as: sexual and reproductive health rights; gender identity, gender expression, sexuality; freedom from all forms of violence; decision-making processes; inclusive education; access to justice and meaningful employment.
- Is **organic, interactive** and distributed across a range of platforms including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and the flagship WWDA Youth Network website (www.youth.wwda.org.au).

WWDA Youth Network Website

<http://youth.wwda.org.au>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the WWDA Youth Network website. At the top, the logo 'WWDA youth network' is displayed in a colorful, stylized font. To the right of the logo are navigation links: 'HOME', 'ABOUT', 'TOPICS', and 'CONNECT'. Below the navigation is a search bar with the placeholder text 'Search' and a magnifying glass icon. To the right of the search bar is a 'Filter by topic' dropdown menu. The main content area features three featured articles and a social media section. The first article is titled 'INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY 2015!!' and includes the subtext 'RIGHTS · SCHOOL AND WORK'. The second article is titled 'INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES 2015' and includes the subtext 'HEALTH AND WELLBEING'. The third article is titled 'JOIN THE #MIRRORLOVE CAMPAIGN' and includes the subtext 'HEALTH AND WELLBEING'. The social media section is titled 'WE'RE ON TWITTER' and features two tweets.

WWDA youth network HOME ABOUT TOPICS CONNECT

Search

Filter by topic

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY 2015!!
RIGHTS · SCHOOL AND WORK
Last year, the United

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES 2015
The Big Issue: Youth Suicide
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females in the 20 to 24 age group commit suicide at a rate 5 times higher than non-Aboriginal females in that age group.
HEALTH AND WELLBEING

JOIN THE #MIRRORLOVE CAMPAIGN
HEALTH AND WELLBEING

WE'RE ON TWITTER

RT @bluntshovels:
Today I'm starting #cripcroakey - so I can do a...

Happy #YouthDay! It's time to empower ALL #YouthNow!
<http://t.co/...>

WWDA Youth Network Website: Infographics

I have the
RIGHT

**to be treated equally and
without any discrimination**

I have the **RIGHT**

**to be FREE from
all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse**

WWDA Youth Network Website: Articles

15 THINGS ALL GIRLS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THEIR VAGINA

May 10, 2015



SHARE



WE'RE ON TWITTER

RT @bluntshovels:
Today I'm starting
#cripcroakey - so I can
do a...



Happy #YouthDay! It's
time to empower ALL
#YouthNow!
<http://t.co/...>



"Investing in #girls is
the single most
powerful investment"
@UN ...



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

WWDA Youth Network Website: Articles

10 FACTS ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS WITH DISABILITIES

May 7, 2015

TRIGGER WARNING This article, or pages it links to, contain information about sexual assault and/or violence which may be triggering to survivors.

Women and girls with disabilities make up approximately 20% of the population of Australian women, which is about two million people. These facts show how women and girls with a disability are affected out of proportion when it comes to violence and abuse.

1. Forms of violence committed against women and girls with disabilities are much more wide-ranging and more severe than for women in general. ^[1]
2. Compared to women in general, women and girls with disabilities are subjected to varied forms of violence by a larger number of perpetrators. ^[4]
3. Women with disabilities are 40% more likely to be the victims of domestic violence than women without disabilities. ^[10]
4. More than 70% of women with disabilities



SHARE



WE'RE ON TWITTER

RT @bluntshovels:
Today I'm starting
#cripcroakey - so I can
do a...



Happy #YouthDay! It's
time to empower ALL
#YouthNow!
<http://t.co/...>



"Investing in #girls is
the single most
powerful investment"
@UN ...



WWDA Youth Network on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/WWDAyouth>

WWDA Youth Network
Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)

Timeline About Photos Likes Videos

885 people like this
Dame-Sir Rayna Lamb and 21 other friends

Invite friends to like this Page

Post Photo / Video

Write something...

Post

https://twitter.com/wwda_youth

The image shows a screenshot of a web browser displaying the Twitter profile for WWDA Youth Network. The browser's address bar shows the URL https://twitter.com/wwda_youth. The browser's toolbar includes various search engines and social media links. The Twitter interface shows the profile header with the WWDA Youth Network logo, a banner image of silhouettes, and statistics: 110 tweets, 98 following, 72 followers, and 8 favorites. A 'Following' button is visible. The bio states: '@WWDA_Youth is the initiative of @WWDA_AU (the peak NGO for women with disabilities in Australia) to focus on empowering young women & girls with disabilities.' The location is Australia, and a Facebook link is provided. A pinned tweet from July 30 reads: 'Great pic from this morning's #WWDAYouth network launch. Thanks to all for supporting. @WWDA_AU'. Below the tweet is a photo of a group of women at a launch event.

Twitter, Inc. [US] https://twitter.com/wwda_youth

Apps Bookmarks TinyURL WWDA FB Apple iCloud Yahoo Bing Google Wikipedia Facebook Twitter LinkedIn

Home Notifications Messages Search Twitter

WWDA youth network

TWEETS 110 FOLLOWING 98 FOLLOWERS 72 FAVORITES 8

Following

WWDA Youth Network
@WWDA_Youth FOLLOWS YOU

@WWDA_Youth is the initiative of @WWDA_AU (the peak NGO for women with disabilities in Australia) to focus on empowering young women & girls with disabilities.

Australia
facebook.com/WWDAYouth


Tweets Tweets & replies Photos & videos

Pinned Tweet

WWDA Youth Network @WWDA_Youth · Jul 30

Great pic from this morning's #WWDAYouth network launch. Thanks to all for supporting. @WWDA_AU

You, Michaelia Cash, Cashelle Dunn and 3 others



Case Study: Emerging young leaders with disability



- **Partnership project** between PWDA and the Australian Human Rights Commission.
- Focused on **building skills**, knowledge and direct experience of the international human rights system.
- Involved **active participation** of a youth delegation in the 7th session of the Conference of States Parties (COSPP) to the CRPD (June 2014).
- Key theme of 7th session – **Youth with disability**: critical that young people with disability were involved, as stipulated in article 4(3).

NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US!

Building the future of the disability rights movement

- Youth with **disability delegation to COSP** selected after an application process – DPOs nominated emerging leaders.
- **7 young people** with disability selected: 5 young women with disability and 2 young men with disability.
- **2 mentors** with disability coordinated and supported the delegation throughout the process.



Capacity building Activities - COSP

Pre-COSP:

- Training on international human rights, the COSP and preparations for delegation activities; Meeting with members of the Australian Govt delegation; Meeting with Vice Chair of the CRPD Committee; Meeting with Chair of the International Disability Alliance.

COSP:

- Formal meetings and side-events; Prepared and delivered side-event; Delivered formal statement to the meeting; UNICEF Youth program; Networking opportunities; Communications (daily reports, social media)

Post-COSP:

- Reflected on activities and learnings
- Identified personal action plan for future



Tangible Outcomes - COSP

All members of the youth delegation are now **actively engaged** in the disability rights movement:

- elected to the boards of their DPOs
- employment in a human rights and disability advocacy organisations
- active in the youth parliament
- mentoring young people with disability
- advocating on issues for people with disability



Key Summary Points

Participation at **all levels of decision-making** is a fundamental human right.

Participation is one of the most **critical principles** underpinning any and all efforts to promote the human rights of young people with disability.

Participation of young people is **1 of the 5 thematic areas** in the UN System-wide Action Plan on Youth (Youth-SWAP) - the blueprint that identifies the UN's major priorities for youth.

Participation of young people with disability **must be central** to the development and implementation of policies of social inclusion, gender equality, non-discrimination and prevention of sexual violence.