Country Profile on Disability
Republic of Angola

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Abbreviations

ARPAL	Association for the Reintegration of People Affected by Leprosy	
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child	
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	
IIMS	Inquérito de Indicadores Múltiplos e de Saúde	Multiple Indicator and Health Survey
INEE	Instituto Nacional de Educação Especial	National Institute for Special Education
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency	
LARDEF	Liga de Apoio à Integração dos Deficientes	Support League for the Integration of the Disabled
MASFAMU	Ministério da Acção Social, Família e Promoção da Mulher	Ministry of Social Action, Family and Promotion of Women
OPD	Organizations of Persons with Disabilities	
PLANIAPED	Plano de Inclusão e Apoio às Pessoas com Deficiência	Plan for the Inclusion and Support of Persons with Disabilities
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals	
SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health	
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme	
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund	
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund	

1. Basic Profile

1-1. Basic Indicators[1]

GDP[2] per capita	USD 2,665.9	2024

Government Expenditures by Sector

Healthcare (% of GDP)	2.93 %	2022
Education (% of GDP)	2.5 %	2023
Social protection (% of GDP)[3]	1.4 %	2019

Population

Total Population	37,885,849	2024
Male (% of total population)	49.5 %	
Female (% of total population)	50.5 %	
Urban population (% of total population)	70.7 %	
Rural population (% of total population)	29.3 %	
Life expectancy (Total)	64.6 years	2023
Male	62.1 years	
Female	67.1 years	

Healthcare

Prevalence of undernourishment (% of population)	22.5 %	2023
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	38.3	2023

Education

Education system[4]		
Primary education	6 Years	
Compulsory education	10 Years	
Adult literacy rate(total)	66.2 %	2015
Male	83.7 %	
Female	51.9 %	

[1] https://data.worldbank.org/indicator（Accessed: 17 January 2026)

[2] Gross Domestic Product (hereinafter referred to as 'GDP')

[3] https://www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/2024-09/WSPR_2024_EN_WEB_1.pdf (Accessed: 17 January 2026)

[4] Angola's education system consists of primary education (6 years), lower secondary (3 years), upper secondary (3 years), and university (6 years). Students begin school at age 6. Compulsory education consists of 10 years, including classes for 5-year-olds, primary education, and lower secondary education. Source: UNESCO Country Profiles "Angola" https://download.uis.unesco.org/SDG4/SDG4-Profile-Angola.pdf (Accessed: 27 May 2026).

Gross Enrolment Rate		
Primary Education (total)	86.7 %	2023
Male	86.3 %	
Female	87.0 %	
Secondary Education (total)	51.4 %	2023
Male	54.8 %	
Female	48.1 %	
Tertiary Education (total)	9.9 %	2024
Male	10.0 %	
Female	9.8 %	

Employment

Unemployment rate (total)	14.4 %	2024
Male (% of male labour force)	14.3 %	
Female (% of female labour force)	14.6 %	

1-2. Definition of Disability and Indicators on Disability

1-2-1. Definition of Disability

In the Republic of Angola (hereinafter referred to as 'Angola'), the definition of disability is stipulated in the Law on Persons with Disabilities enacted in 2012. Article 20 of the Law defines persons with disabilities as follows:

"Persons with disabilities are defined as all persons who, whether congenitally or acquired, have certain difficulties that, combined with environmental factors, limit or impede their activities and prevent them from participating on an equal footing with others, due to a loss or abnormality of psychological, intellectual, physiological, or anatomical function or body structure, including the following:

Persons with motor disabilities:

All individuals who, due to congenital or acquired changes in physical structure and function, suffer permanent functional impairment of 60 % or more, and whose mobility in social life is severely restricted without assistance from others or assistive devices such as prosthetics, wheelchairs, or crutches in the case of lower limb motor impairment, or who have significant difficulty accessing or using domestic public transportation in the case of upper limb motor impairment.

Persons with severe multiple disabilities:

All persons who, in addition to the circumstances specified in the preceding paragraph, have one or more disabilities resulting in a degree of disability of 90% or more, whose mobility in social life is severely restricted without assistance from others or assistive

devices, or who have significant difficulty accessing and using conventional public transportation, and who are clearly unable to drive a motor vehicle.

Persons with disabilities who use wheelchairs:

Persons with a permanent motor impairment or other disability affecting 60% or more of their body, who can only be moved using a wheelchair.

Persons with visually impairments:

with a permanent visual impairment affecting 95% of their vision."

1-2-2. Indicators on Disability

The 2024 census included a section on disability, using the Washington Group Short Questionnaire for Disability Statistics[5]. The census also included data on the number of persons with albinism (599,028 people, 301,602 men and 297,426 women).

The same questionnaire set was also used in the Multi-Indicator Health Survey (Inquérito de Indicadores Múltiplos e de Saúde: hereinafter referred to as 'IIMS'), conducted from 2023 to 2024 with the support of multiple donors, including the World Bank[6].

Number of Persons with disabilities[7]	656,258	2.5 % of total population	2014
Male	365,858		
Female	290,400		

[5] Instituto Nacional de Estatística (INE) (2025) *Resultados Definitivos do Recenseamento Geral da População e Habitação 2024*, https://censo2024.ine.gov.ao/reports.html (Accessed: 15 January 2026)

[6] Instituto Nacional de Estatística (INE), Ministério da Saúde (MINSA), Ministério do Planeamento (MINPLAN) e ICF (2025) *Inquérito de Indicadores Múltiplos e de Saúde em Angola, 2023–2024*. Luanda, Angola: *INE* https://www.ine.gov.ao/Arquivos/arquivosCarregados//Carregados/Publicacao_638487571879652908.pdf (Accessed: 15 January 2026)

[7] The latest figures for persons with disabilities released by the Angolan government. Source: Government of Angola (2017) CRPD *initial State Party's Report submitted by Angola*. This is the government report submitted by the Angolan government to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Hereinafter referred to as 'The State Party's Report'. The 2024 census and IIMS (2023-2024) only publish the percentage of persons with disabilities. According to the census, the percentage of persons with disabilities (ages 5 and over) is 3.4%. According to the IIMS, the percentage of persons with disabilities (ages 18 and over) is 38 %.

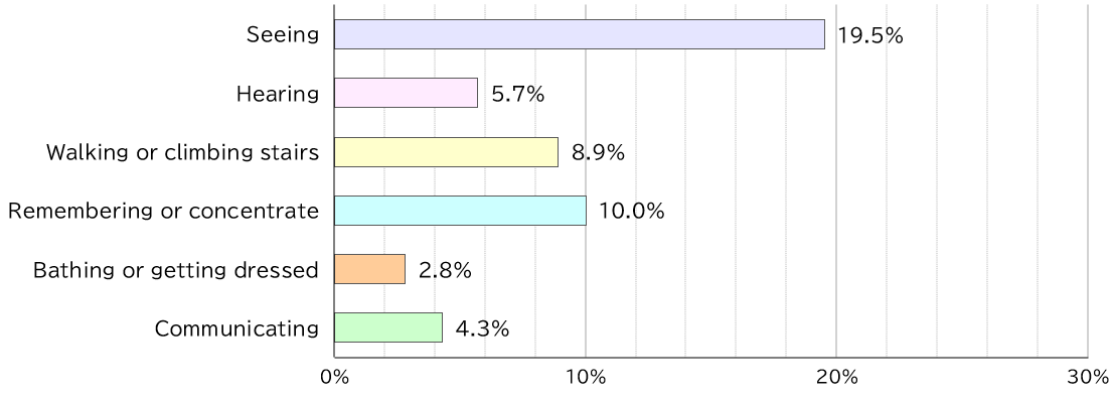


Figure 1 Distribution of Persons with Disabilities by Type of Functional Impairment (Age 18 and above) (2023-2024)

The highest percentage was "Seeing" (19.5%), and the lowest was "Bathing or getting dressed" (2.8%). Other activities included "Hearing" (5.7%), "Communicating" (4.3%), "Remembering or concentrating" (10.0%), and "Walking or climbing stairs" (8.9%).

Source: Prepared by the study team based on IIMS (2025)

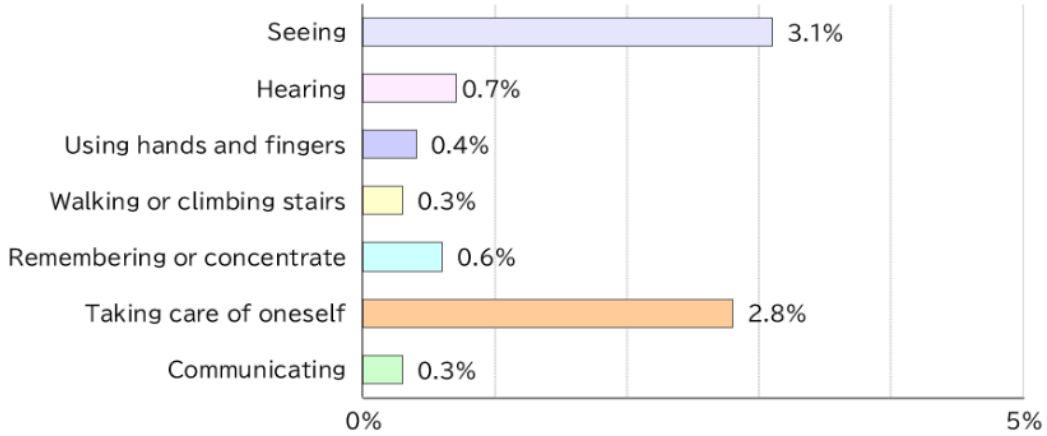


Figure 2 Distribution of Persons with Disabilities by Type of Functional Impairment (Age 5 and above) (2024)

"Seeing" (3.1%) and "Taking care of oneself" (2.8%) showed relatively high percentages, while other functional impairments accounted for less than 1%.

Source: Prepared by the study team based on INE (2025)

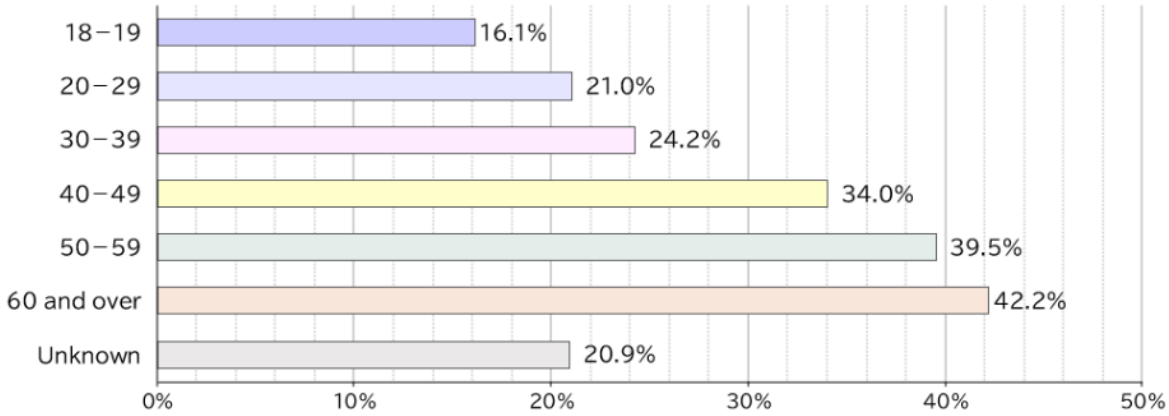


Figure 3 Percentage of persons with at least one functional impairment by age group (Age 18 and above) (2023-2024)

The highest percentage was for those aged 60 and over (42.2%), and the lowest was for those aged 18-19 (16.1%). Other age groups included: 20-29 years old (21.0%), 30-39 years old (24.2 %), 40-49 years old (34.0%), 50-59 years old (39.5%), 60 years and over (42.2%), and unknown (20.9%).

Source: Prepared by the study team based on IIMS (2025)

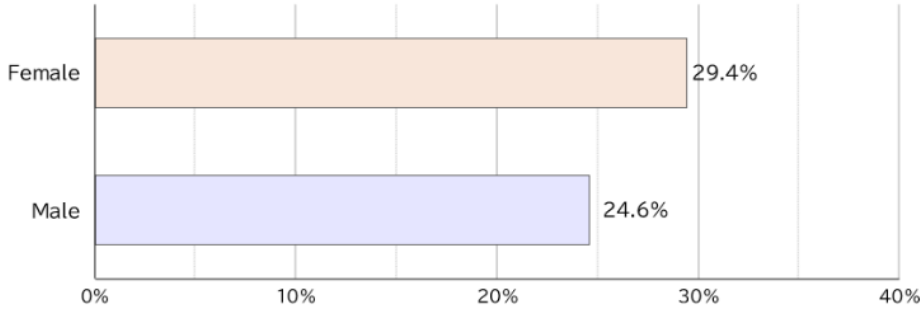


Figure 4 Gender distribution of persons with at least one functional impairment (Age 18 and above) (2023-2024)

The percentage of persons with at least one functional impairment is 29.4% for women and 24.6% for men.

Source: Prepared by the study team based on IIMS (2025)

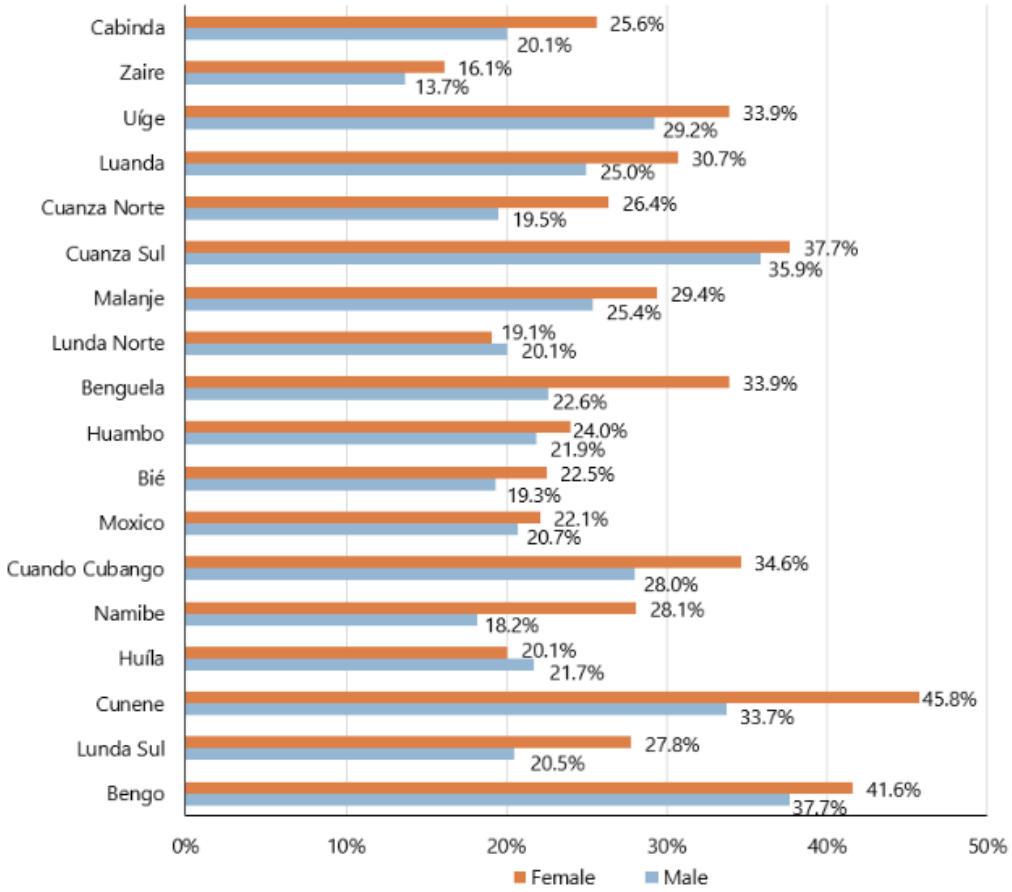


Figure 5 Percentage of persons with disabilities by residential area[8] and gender (Age 18 and above) (2023-2024)

In terms of the average rate for females and males, Cunene Province recorded the highest proportion of persons with disabilities (45.8% for females and 33.7% for males, averaging 39.8%), followed by Bengo Province (41.6% for females and 37.7% for males, averaging 39.7%). In contrast, Zaire Province recorded the lowest rate (16.1% for females and 13.7% for males, averaging 14.9%). In most provinces, the rate was higher among females than among males, with particularly large gender gaps in Cunene (12.1%) and Benguela (11.3%). The smallest gap was observed in Lunda Norte Province, at 1.0%.

Source: Prepared by the study team based on IIMS (2025)

[8] Angola's administrative divisions changed from the 18 provinces listed above to 21 provinces in 2025.

2. Administration and Policy on Disability

2-1. Administration on Disability

In Angola, the 'National Disability Council' (composed of representatives from various ministries, organizations of persons with disabilities, and religious organizations), established in 2001, had been responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (hereinafter referred to as 'CRPD') and for evaluating the implementation status of related policies, programmes, and activities. Subsequently, in 2016, the 'National Social Action Council (Conselho Nacional da Acção Social: CNAS)' was established by Presidential Decree of 17 June 2016, and this Council assumed new responsibility for the protection of persons with disabilities, children, and other vulnerable groups.

<Central Government>

The agencies responsible for disability matters in Angola are as follows.

Table 1 Angolan Agencies Responsible for Disability

Name	Overview
Ministry of Social Action, Family and Promotion of Women (Ministério da Acção Social, Família e Promoção da Mulher; hereinafter referred to as 'MASFAMU')	・Representing government agencies in regional and international organizations, conferences, and seminars, and ensuring compliance with national commitments in the areas of empowerment of children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, families and women, community development, and gender equality. ・Promoting and participating in various multi-departmental collaborative activities in the field of comprehensive rehabilitation for persons with disabilities. ・In cooperation with the Ministry of Law and Human Rights, we will promote the establishment of civil society organizations that support persons with disabilities. The Ministry has established the National Office for the Promotion of Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (Direcção Nacional de Inclusão da Pessoa com Deficiência). This office is the executive body responsible for formulating policies concerning the support, guidance, promotion, and social and economic inclusion of persons with disabilities. It works in cooperation with organizations of persons with disabilities[9] and disability support organizations to draft and implement laws, memoranda, protocols, international treaties, and international agreements.

[9] Organizations of Persons with Disabilities. Hereinafter referred to as 'OPD'.

Ministry of Health	Implementing health management and medical rehabilitation activities for persons with disabilities.
Ministry of Education	Providing inclusive and quality education in educational institutions other than higher education.
Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation	Providing inclusive and quality education in higher education institutions.

Source: Prepared by the study team based on the State Party's Report (2017), the Government of Angola[10](2023a), and Eduardo Kapapelo (2016)[11].

National Coordination Committee[12]

Committee Name	National Social Action Council (CNAS)
Members	Representatives and advisers from various ministries, OPDs, disability support organizations, the Paralympic Committee, and religious organizations
Roles	Takes measures to protect and promote the rights of the most vulnerable households that cannot overcome difficulties on their own due to poverty, rights violations, social exclusion, hunger, abandonment, shocks, and unforeseen events. In addition, in relation to disability, the Council carries out the following functions: • Promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities through education, awareness-raising activities, media, training, and capacity development • Protection of the rights of persons with disabilities through receiving, investigating, and resolving complaints, mediating disputes, monitoring activities, and reporting • Monitoring the implementation of the CRPD
Implementation Status	Responsible for implementing the following activities (partially already implemented): • Formulation of plans to monitor the implementation of the CRPD: two action plans have been formulated since its establishment • Providing legal and policy advice to ensure compliance with the CRPD and other relevant international human rights obligations • Initiating or conducting research on the rights of persons with disabilities

[10] Government of Angola (2023a) *Decreto Presidencial No. 217/23 (Plano de Inclusão e Apoio às Pessoas com Deficiência (PLANIAPED))* https://angolex.com/paginas/decreto-presidencial/plano-de-inclusao-e-apoio-de-pessoas-com-deficiencia-217a-23a.html (Accessed: 15 March 2026)

[11] Eduardo Kapapelo (2016) 'Angola' *African Disability Rights Yearbook 2016*, Volume 4, 213-230 https://www.adry.up.ac.za/images/adry/volume4_2016/adry_2016_4_angola.pdf (Accessed: 15 March 2026)

[12] https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/crpd/angola-imm-situation（Accessed: 25 January 2026）

	• Receiving and examining complaints, or reviewing outcomes of complaints received by the national human rights institution • Promoting the rights of women and girls with disabilities in laws and policies, including laws and programmes on disability and gender equality • Emphasising monitoring and reporting on the rights of women and girls with disabilities • Submitting alternative reports to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other relevant human rights treaty bodies or international human rights mechanisms • Participating in the preparation of the State Party's periodic reports to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities • Cooperating, as necessary, with other national mechanisms such as the National Assembly, National Preventive Mechanism (NPM), and national human rights institution, with a view to strengthening human rights monitoring and reporting at the national level • Coordinating with the focal point designated within the government under Article 33(1) on matters relating to the implementation of the CRPD • Coordinating with national institutions on reporting and follow-up on matters relating to the implementation of the CRPD The National Social Action Council holds its ordinary general assembly once every four months[13].

<Local Government>

Disability-related agencies

Name	Overview
Provincial Office of Social Action, Family and Gender Equality *(Gabinete Provincial da Acção Social, Família e Igualdade de Género)*	The provincial-level organization of MASFAMU, responsible for implementing policies, programmes, projects, actions, and activities in the fields of social action and family, and with a role in proposing and coordinating measures to ensure gender equality and the participation of traditional communities, with particular attention to children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities[14].
Provincial	Provincial governments also provide various forms of support to

[13] https://www.africa-press.net/angola/all-news/ministries-called-to-reinforce-social-actions (Accessed: 25 January 2026)
[14] The Government of Angola (2019) *Decreto Presidencial n.º 202/19 - Regulamento da Lei da Administração Local do Estado,* https://angolex.com/paginas/decreto-presidencial/regulamento-da-lei-da-administracao-local-do-estado.html#a38 (Accessed: 25 January 2026)

Government	persons with disabilities using their own budgets. According to a report by United Nations Children's Fund (hereinafter referred to as 'UNICEF', 2025)[15], several provincial governments have provided support such as construction of special schools, purchase of food supplies for persons with disabilities, procurement of assistive devices such as wheelchairs, and provision of vocational training.

2-2. Laws and Policies on Disability

The Government of Angola promulgated the Law on Persons with Disabilities in 2012. Details are as follows.

Title	Law on Persons with Disabilities (Lei de Pessoa com Deficiência, No. 21 of 30 July 2012)
Year of Enactment	2012
Overview	As the foundational law on disability in Angola, it aims to achieve comprehensive, integrated, and cross-sectoral policies on the prevention of disability, habilitation[16], rehabilitation, and participation of persons with disabilities. The main contents of this law cover the following 16 areas: (1) General provisions; (2) Roles of relevant institutions including the government; (3) Prevention, habilitation, rehabilitation, and participation; (4) Cross-sectoral policies (including information accessibility, research, training, and statistics); (5) Guarantee of employment; (6) Workplace adaptation and integration into the labour market; (7) Disability certification; (8) Architectural accessibility; (9) Persons with disabilities accompanied by guide dogs; (10) Right of access to transport; (11) Organizations of persons with disabilities (Associação de pessoas com deficiência); (12) Prevention of and prohibition on discrimination; (13) Preferential reception or preferential treatment in services; (14) Preferential treatment in education and training; (15) Tax and customs concessions; (16) Other (final and transitional provisions)

Other principal laws related to the rights of persons with disabilities include the following[17].

Title	Disability Allowance Law (No. 6/98 of 7 August)
Year of Enactment	1998

[15] UNICEF (2025) *Analyzing the General State Budget Angola 2025: Inclusion and Disability in the State Budget* https://www.unicef.org/angola/en/media/5661/file/Inclusao%20e%20Deficiencia%202p%202025.pdf.pdf (Accessed: 25 January 2026)

[16] This refers to acquiring skills for adapting to a disability.

[17] The State Party's Report (2017), Eduardo Kapapelo (2016) and UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2021) *Replies of Angola to the list of issues in relation to its initial report (CRPD/C/AGO/RQ/1)*), hereinafter referred to as 'Replies to LOI (List of Issues)'.

Overview	A law on government benefits for citizens who are unable to perform any form of work due to disability or other permanent dysfunction. To receive benefits, the individual must not be a recipient of any other social assistance scheme and must not have private sources of funding.

Title	Basic Social Security Law (No. 7/04 of 15 October)
Year of Enactment	2004
Overview	A law providing guidelines on the norms governing national policy on the protection of vulnerable groups. Article 5 provides that basic social security covers residents who are unable to adequately take responsibility for their own protection due to a substantial lack or reduction of means, and this target group includes 'persons with disabilities at risk of social exclusion'.

Title	National Rehabilitation Institute Law (No. 6-E/91 of 9 March)
Year of Enactment	1991
Overview	A law establishing the National Rehabilitation Institute as the government body responsible for formulating national rehabilitation policies for persons with disabilities. Its mandate includes planning, coordinating, and managing all projects related to rehabilitation. Operating under the supervision of the head of state, the Institute is chaired by the President with the Vice-President serving in a supporting role.

Title	Constitution
Year of Enactment	2010
Disability Provisions	The relevant provisions on disability are as follows: Article 77(1): The State shall promote and guarantee the measures necessary to safeguard the universal right to medical care and health, as well as the right to receive care in childhood, maternity, disability, old age, and in any situation in which a person is unable to work. Article 80(3): The State shall guarantee special protection to orphans, children with disabilities, abandoned children, or children deprived of a family environment in any way. Article 83(1): Citizens with disabilities shall enjoy in full the rights enshrined in the Constitution and shall be subject to the duties therein, without prejudice to restrictions on the exercise or fulfilment of those rights or duties which they are unable or not fully able to perform. Article 83(2): The State shall adopt national policies for disability prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and social integration of persons with disabilities, provision of support to their families, and removal of mobility barriers. Article 84(1): Veterans of the national liberation struggle, retired members of the armed forces, persons who have had impairments during military

	or paramilitary service, and minor children and surviving spouses of fallen combatants shall enjoy a special status and protection from the State and society, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and the law.

Title	Penal Code (No. 38/20)
Year of Enactment	2021
Disability Provisions	This law provides that employment discrimination on the grounds of illness or physical or mental disability is a prohibited act, and under Article 212 of the Penal Code, a custodial sentence of up to two years or a fine of up to 240 days[18] may be imposed.

Title	Accessibility Law (No. 10/16 of 27 July)
Year of Enactment	2016
Overview	A law establishing general rules, conditions, and standards for accessibility for persons with disabilities or motor impairments, with the aim of eliminating barriers in architecture, communication, equipment, and methods. It stipulates penalties ranging from fines to disciplinary, civil, and criminal liability. With regard to accessibility provisions, it mandates accessible design for public facilities and private facilities intended for shared use (Article 7), public spaces such as public roads and parks (Article 9), and public restrooms (Article 12). The law also recognizes Angolan Sign Language as a legitimate means of communication and expression (Article 24), and provides for sign language interpretation in official acts and public services (Article 25), the dissemination of Angolan Sign Language by communications bodies (Article 26), and the inclusion of Angolan Sign Language in curricula and teacher training within the education system (Article 27)[19] .

Title	Basic Law on the Education and Teaching System (No. 32/20)[20]
Year of Enactment	2020

Overview	An act that establishes the basic principles, structure, and operation of the education system. It defines special education as a form of education that cuts across all educational subsystems and stipulates measures to ensure the participation of learners with disabilities and others in education, as well as their social and educational inclusion. It also requires that curricula,

[18] Angolan criminal law, influenced by Portuguese criminal law, employs a "daily fine system," where the court determines the number of days the fine will be imposed (up to 240 days), calculates the daily amount based on the defendant's financial situation (income, assets, etc.), and multiplies these amounts to determine the actual fine.

[19] The Government of Angola (2016) *Lei das Acessibilidades* https://files.lex.ao/assembleia-nacional/2016/lei-n-o-10-16-de-27-de-julho/download/lei-n-o-10-16-de-27-de-julho_assembleia-nacional_lex-ao.pdf（Accessed: 15 March 2026）

[20] https://lex.ao/docs/assembleia-nacional/2020/lei-n-o-32-20-de-12-de-agosto（Accessed: 20 August 2026）

	educational programs, learning assessments, and other educational mechanisms be adjusted and adapted according to the characteristics of the learners in question.

Title	Regulations on the Disability Employment Quota and Recruitment Procedures (Presidential Decree No. 12/16 of 15 January)
Year of Enactment	2016
Overview	This regulation provides that 4% of posts in the public sector and 2% of posts in the private sector must be reserved for persons with disabilities. Private companies that do not comply with this quota are subject to a fine of 10 to 50 times the minimum wage for each day of non-compliance.

Disability Policies

The following are the main national plans for the Angolan government to implement disability support policies.

Title	Plan for the Inclusion and Support of Persons with Disabilities (Plano de Inclusão e Apoio às Pessoas com Deficiência[21]; hereinafter referred to as 'PLANIAPED') 2023–2027 (Presidential Decree No. 217/23)
Year implemented	2023
Overview	A medium-term plan aimed at the inclusion, protection, and support of persons with disabilities. It is formulated in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (hereinafter referred to as 'SDGs') and the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities related to the SDGs. The plan notes that only a few dozen to a few thousand persons with disabilities receive government support in the areas of education, health, employment, and information accessibility, and that efforts to support more than 600,000 persons with disabilities in the country need to be accelerated. The plan sets out the activities to be implemented along the following seven pillars. The supervisory ministry is MASFAMU. • Civil rights, equality, and non-discrimination • Promotion of inclusive education and qualification environments • Inclusive work, employment, and vocational training • Promotion of activities contributing to independence and independent living • Introduction of social services and support measures • Ensuring the implementation of inclusive cultural, sports, tourism, and leisure activities • Ensuring the implementation of inclusive research, innovation, and development approaches

[21] The Government of Angola (2023a)

Title	National Development Plan for Special Education from an Inclusive Perspective (Plano Nacional de Desenvolvimento da Educação Especial na Perspectiva Inclusiva) 2021–2030[22]
Year implemented	2020
Overview	A medium-term plan on inclusive education that sets three pillars—'continuous training from an inclusive perspective', 'development and implementation of special education', and 'formulation and implementation of provincial development plans for special education from an inclusive perspective'—and establishes multiple indicators and short-term (2022), medium-term (2025), and long-term (2030) targets for each. The supervisory ministry is the Ministry of Education.

Title	National Special Education Policy for Inclusive Education (Presidential Decree No. 187/17 of 16 August, Política Nacional de Educação Especial orientada para a Inclusão Escolar[23])
Year implemented	2017
Overview	Formulated by the National Institute for Special Education (Instituto Nacional de Educação Especial; hereinafter referred to as 'INEE'), under the Ministry of Education, with the aim of ensuring that students with disabilities receive continuous education in inclusive schools under an open and diverse system. Its main purpose is to formulate guidelines and strategies for ensuring that the national education system guarantees the right of students with disabilities to access, participate in, and continue their education. The supervisory ministry is the Ministry of Education.

Title	National Development Plan 2023–2027: Sustainable Socioeconomic Impact (Plano de Desenvolvimento Nacional 2023–2027 Impacto socioeconómico sustentável, Presidential Decree No. 225/23[24])
Year implemented	2023
Overview	This national plan sets out seven pillars and 50 development programmes, along with the objectives, priorities, and actions of each programme. Programmes that include disability-related content are as follows. The supervisory ministry is the Ministry of Economy and Planning. Programme 12 (Education):

[22] Ministério da Educação (2020) *Plano Nacional de Desenvolvimento da Educação Especial na Perspectiva Inclusiva 2021-2030* https://www.scribd.com/document/784199058/PLANO-NACIONAL-DE-DESEMVOLVIMENTO

[23] UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2021)

[24] The Government of Angola (2023b) *Plano de Desenvolvimento Nacional 2023-2027 Impacto socioeconómico sutentável* https://www.nepad.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/20231030%283%29_layout_Final_Angola_PDN%202023-2027-1.pdf (Accessed: 15 March 2026)

	• Improving early childhood diagnostic tools, including early detection and appropriate follow-up for developmental disorders and other disabilities. Programme 20 (Sports): • Organizing annual gender-separate middle school, high school, and university tournaments at municipal, provincial, and national levels, and ensuring participation opportunities for young persons with disabilities. Programme 21 (Community Development and Poverty Eradication): Priority '21.1.5: Support and Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities' is identified as a priority area with the following activities: • Improving information sharing and feedback by strengthening coordination between the supervisory ministry and all sectors providing services to target groups. • Registering persons with disabilities. • Promoting technical and vocational training and ensuring that persons with disabilities are valued and integrated in income-generating projects. • Ensuring that mothers/guardians of children and persons with disabilities are valued and integrated in income-generating projects. • Ensuring that mothers/guardians of children and adults with intellectual disabilities (e.g. Down syndrome or severe autism spectrum disorder) are integrated in direct transfers and productive activities. • Ensuring the provision of compensation and mobility aids to economically disadvantaged persons with disabilities. • Promoting the establishment of workshops to repair mobility aids for economically disadvantaged persons with disabilities. • Promoting the establishment of vocational activity centers to promote the independence and social participation of persons with intellectual and physical disabilities. • Holding a national conference on accessibility and social participation of persons with disabilities. • Coordinating with the lead ministry to promote participation of persons with disabilities in sporting activities. • Conducting advocacy activities at all levels to ensure that persons with disabilities and persons with mobility difficulties can access public spaces. • Promoting the creation of cultural and recreational activities for persons with disabilities to promote their social participation. Other disability-related priority actions under Programme 21 are as follows: • Expanding funding for cash transfer projects targeting vulnerable people (persons with disabilities, the elderly, children, and minority ethnic communities) and ensuring equitable distribution across all provinces and regions.

	• Providing medical support to persons with albinism. Programme 24 (Gender Equality): • Promoting the participation of women with disabilities in all areas and highlighting their role in society. Programme 46 (Improving the Welfare of Former Combatants, Veterans, and Social Security Beneficiaries): • Integrating war-disabled persons into the process of physical and mental rehabilitation and social reintegration. • Establishing community support and counselling centers for war-disabled persons. • Improving the social conditions of war-disabled persons, enhancing their quality of life and self-esteem, through the allocation of quotas in housing projects.

2-3. Measures on Disability[25]

1) Healthcare

All citizens have the right to health without any discrimination. This right must be guaranteed by the State, and the Government of Angola, pursuant to Article 77 of the Constitution, bears the obligation to take the measures necessary to ensure universal access to medical and health services, maternal and child health, and care in cases of illness/disability, old age, and inability to work.

With regard to guaranteeing this right, the Government of Angola has taken measures such as ensuring medical and medicinal treatment and follow-up for persons with disabilities using public medical institutions; strengthening coordination mechanisms to facilitate access to public health services; and formulating specific guidelines that prioritize the provision of essential medicines at affordable prices and the promotion of their rational use. The Law on Persons with Disabilities also specifically guarantees the right of persons with disabilities to health.

The Disability Protection Strategy (2011) provides guidelines on the medical and medicinal treatment that health institutions should provide to persons with disabilities. MASFAMU refers persons with disabilities to various health services so that they can benefit from medical and medicinal treatment. In 2019 and 2020, the Ministry referred 454 persons with disabilities to various services, primarily health services.

Angola has formulated a strategic plan on Sexual and Reproductive Health (hereinafter referred to as 'SRH') that aims to raise awareness among young people, including girls with disabilities. The Comprehensive Action Strategy for the Health of Adolescents and Children

[25] Unless otherwise specified, this information is based on the State Party's Report on CRPD (2017), Replies to LOI (2021, CRPD/C/ AGO /RQ/1), and Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2023) (hereinafter referred to as 'Concluding Observations').

also provides for guidance and awareness-raising among young people on this issue, implemented in urban and rural areas with the cooperation of the United Nations Population Fund (hereinafter referred to as 'UNFPA'), UNICEF, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Ministry of Education, MASFAMU, and the Ministry of Social Communication.

On the other hand, the Concluding Observations highlight the following concerns in the health sector:

- Information about the barriers faced by persons with disabilities in gaining access to health-care services and equipment, including the physical barriers faced by persons with visual impairments, attitudinal barriers and the lack of solar protection and skin cancer preventive measures for persons with albinism;
- The lack of specific access to sexual and reproductive health-care services for persons with disabilities, particularly all women with disabilities, including those with psychosocial and/or intellectual disabilities;
- Information about the lack of awareness of health-care service managers and medical staff of the rights of persons with disabilities, including persons with hearing impairments, and the lack of accessible communication with users of health services;
- The obstacles for persons with disabilities in procuring specific medication and long delays for scheduling and waiting for medical appointments;
- That persons with disabilities have faced obstacles in gaining access to health care throughout the COVID-19 pandemic;
- The insufficient early intervention and alternative care with regard to leprosy, including support from families;
- Between 2019 and 2020, only 454 persons with disabilities were referred by the MASFAMU to various services with references on health.

<Habilitation and Rehabilitation>

With regard to rehabilitation, all persons with disabilities are entitled, under the Constitution and Article 25 of the CRPD, to access functional recovery training and rehabilitation services. Eleven orthopedic and physical rehabilitation centers[26] have been established nationwide to ensure geographically balanced distribution, and these services are available free of charge to persons with disabilities.

In addition, through a rehabilitation programme for veterans with disabilities, support is provided to former military personnel with disabilities to enable them to acquire new skills

[26] According to PLANIAPED, these rehabilitation centers also manufacture prosthetic and orthotic devices.

and return to the workplace.

Initial and continuing training is guaranteed for healthcare workers and other skilled personnel involved in the provision of rehabilitation services. With regard to the recruitment and training of social workers and civil servants, a total of 22,500 professional staff were recruited (including projected numbers) between 2012 and 2017. There are 289 rehabilitation specialists working within the public health system (as of 2016).

With regard to the availability, knowledge, and use of assistive devices and technologies for the habilitation and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities, both prosthetics/orthotics and technical assistance have been provided to veterans with disabilities. Equipment distributed up to 2016 included 6,290 adult wheelchairs, 200 children's wheelchairs, 16,560 white canes for blind persons and 2,155 canes, 36,229 adult crutches and 8,254 children's crutches, 1,370 walking frames, 428 motorized cargo tricycles, and 240 motorized passenger tricycles.

Based on community-based rehabilitation programmes, 14,774 persons with disabilities had been engaged in various professional services and socioeconomic projects as of 2016, and veterans and war-related persons with disabilities also successfully reintegrated into society over time.

LARDEF (Liga de Apoio à Integração dos Deficientes, hereinafter referred to as 'LARDEF'), a national level OPD working in cooperation with the government, provides continuous support to 7,200 persons with motor disabilities, helping them to enjoy a better quality of life and greater social integration.

However, the Concluding Observations note that barriers exist in access to rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities, including in rural areas and among victims of landmines.

2) Education

Article 79 of the Angolan Constitution guarantees the right of all persons to education. Article 22 of the Law on Persons with Disabilities explicitly states that, regarding the right of persons with disabilities to education, "the State has the responsibility to take the necessary concrete measures to ensure that persons with disabilities have access to inclusive education by providing appropriate resources and means for learning and communication. "

Since 2008, INEE has been laying the groundwork for the collection and processing of statistical data with a view to developing basic indicators with which to work on improving the situation.

In addition, universities have teams to support students with disabilities, and there are also enrolment quotas for students with disabilities.

The National Special Education Policy for Inclusive Education (2017), developed by the INEE,

aims to ensure that students with disabilities receive continuous education in inclusive schools within an open and diverse system. Its primary objective is to develop guidelines and strategies to ensure that the national education system guarantees the right of students with disabilities to access, participate in, and continue their education. The policy includes a three-phase strategic implementation plan, with Phase 2 underway as of 2021, covering 13 provinces.

Additionally, within the framework of this policy, the government has begun providing specialized educational support to students receiving special education. In doing so, the government aims to develop, plan, organize, and provide accessible educational resources and materials to improve access to the curriculum and effective learning. The Primary Education Quality Improvement and Development Program includes projects for expanding and improving special education with a budget of 565,048,609 Kwanza (approximately 619,581 USD) in fiscal year 2021.

According to PLANIAPED, 44,416 students with disabilities enrolled in educational institutions nationwide in 2023. There are 1,664 inclusive schools and 22 special needs schools (excluding those in Cabinda and Malanje provinces) across the country, and these schools are in the process of being reorganized into Inclusion Support Centers[27](Núcleos de Apoio à Inclusão: NAI) and 292 multifunctional resource classrooms (Salas de Recursos Multifuncionais)[28].

On the other hand, the Concluding Observations pointed out the following as challenges : "insufficient practice of inclusive education throughout the education system," "the proliferation of special needs schools and classes," "the significant barriers to education for children who require more advanced support," " the lack of accessible transportation options for children with disabilities ," "insufficient training for teachers and other staff on their rights to inclusive education," and "a shortage of accessible learning materials, alternative methods of communication and information, and teachers proficient in sign language."

3) Gender

The Government of Angola understands that women with disabilities are susceptible to various forms of discrimination and constitute a highly vulnerable group, and has created

[27] According to the National Special Education Policy for Inclusive Education (2017), Inclusion Support Centers are facilities aimed at providing educational support to the regular school network through ongoing training, in-service training, curriculum development, educational media, and communication tools. They consist of a team of experts from various fields, in addition to professionals belonging to the traditional management organizations of educational institutions.

[28] To ensure the inclusion of students with disabilities in regular schools, support tailored to various types of disabilities will be provided. Source: https://vidaeautismo.com/noticias/angola-regista-quase-45-mil-alunos-com-necessidades-especiais/ (Accessed: 15 March 2026)

and implemented women's support programmes. These programmes include the provision of unconditional cash transfers to those who are permanently unable to work, are not included in other social support frameworks, and have no independent sources of funding.

According to Angola's Replies to LOI[29], OPDs representing persons with disabilities—including women and girls with disabilities—form part of the National Social Action Council (CNAS) and actively participate in the formulation of various programmes and policies. Gender-related policies and programmes are general in nature and apply to all people, including persons with disabilities. The inclusion of women with disabilities is realized through projects jointly implemented with organizations of women with disabilities in areas such as entrepreneurship, psychological support, technical and vocational training, and participatory inclusion. Between 2019 and 2020, a total of 14 cooperatives for persons with disabilities (approximately two per province in Luanda, Bengo, Benguela, Cabinda, Huíla, Uíge, and Zaire) benefited from the Disability Support Programme[30] established in 2012. These cooperatives engage in activities such as tailoring, handicrafts, motorcycle taxi services, mechanical maintenance, and agriculture. As a result of this programme, 230 persons with disabilities benefited, of whom 163 were women.

In April 2024, Angola, led by MASFAMU, held a national consultative council and implemented an event aimed at promoting the SRH rights of persons with disabilities. The event brought together government leaders, civil society, and organizations representing persons with disabilities to discuss addressing the structural barriers that continue to exclude persons with disabilities—particularly women and girls—from access to essential SRH services[31].

On the other hand, the Concluding Observations identify the following issues: 'insufficient information on the situation of women and girls with disabilities'; 'disability-related legislation lacks a gender perspective, and domestic law does not address their intersecting discrimination'; 'limited access to justice for women with disabilities'; and 'absence of programmes to promote the empowerment of women with disabilities in public and political life'.

4) Vocational Training and Employment

The Government of Angola has established policies to ensure that persons with disabilities

[29] UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2021)

[30] Presidential Decree No. 151/12, dated January 29, 2012. PLANIAPED, formulated in 2023, provides more comprehensive support than this program.

[31] The Government of Angola (2025) *Voluntary National Review 2025: Report on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.* High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2025/VNR%202025%20Angola%20Report.pdf (Accessed: 15 March 2026)

have the opportunity to work on an equal basis with others and earn a living through freely chosen or accepted work in the open, accessible labour market and work environment, without any discrimination. These policies promote equal pay for work of equal value, safe and healthy working conditions, protection from harassment, and redress for grievances. Employment discrimination on the grounds of disability is a prohibited act and constitutes a crime under Article 212 of the Penal Code, punishable by a custodial sentence of up to two years or a fine of up to 240 days.

The right to training, employment, and work for persons with disabilities is set out in Article 15 of the Law on Persons with Disabilities. Presidential Decree No. 12/16, which establishes regulations on the reservation of posts and recruitment procedures for persons with disabilities, was promulgated in January 2016. This decree provides that 4% of posts in the public sector and 2% of posts in the private sector must be reserved for persons with disabilities. Private companies that do not comply with this quota are subject to a fine of 10 to 50 times the minimum wage for each day of non-compliance.

The National Employment and Vocational Training Institute, under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Public Administration, Employment and Social Security, has 559 public and private vocational training centers, and 57 employment centers including entrepreneurship centers of local governments, all of which provide support to persons with disabilities. In particular, the Vocational Rehabilitation Centre, established in 1991 to provide vocational training and employment services for persons with disabilities, supports all persons with disabilities wishing to receive vocational training. In 2014, a total of 183 persons with disabilities (including 52 women) in 11 provinces received training in various professional fields. In addition, 270 persons with disabilities received training through the 'Come with Me' project organized in cooperation with the National Association of Persons with Disabilities of Angola. 16 persons with disabilities received training as part of the Formei project based on a tripartite protocol signed by the Lwini Foundation, Cabinda Gulf Oil Company, and the National Employment and Vocational Training Institute. The State Party's Report indicates that a total of 485 persons with disabilities received training, of whom 345 have already found employment or become self-employed through entrepreneurship programmes.

The Support Institute for Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (The Instituto de Apoio às Micro, Pequenas e Médias Empresas: INAPEM) and the Angolan Association of Traders and Street Vendors with Disabilities (Associação de Comerciantes e Ambulantes Portadores de Deficiência de Angola: ACAPODA), collaborated to provide entrepreneurship training, and 786 persons with disabilities participated in the training courses.

According to PLANIAPED, between 2020 and the first quarter of 2021, public employment

services received a total of 2,617 applications from persons with disabilities seeking employment, of whom 960 found employment.

As other measures to promote social participation and inclusion in productive activities, integrated community centers were constructed in 20 locations in four provinces. Cooperatives and associations were established in various professional fields, contributing to a reduction in social dependency for 47,004 persons with disabilities and approximately 235,020 of their family members.

On the other hand, the Concluding Observations identify the following issues:

- Although Presidential Decree No. 12/16 contains provisions on a 4% employment quota in the public sector and 2% in the private sector, these targets are not being met. Private companies that do not comply are subject to fines, but public sector institutions that do not comply are not subject to similar penalties.
- Measures taken to promote the employment of persons with disabilities are insufficient to ensure access to the open labour market for persons with disabilities living in rural areas, and for persons with intellectual disabilities, persons who are deaf, and persons with psychosocial disabilities. Physical barriers in the workplace also exist, including a lack of accessible transport and information for job seekers in particular, as well as attitudinal barriers preventing the employment of persons with disabilities.
- Limited participation of persons with disabilities in market-oriented vocational training programmes is due to inadequate physical access and a shortage of sign language interpreters (caused by the limited number of available sign language interpreters and the high cost of services).
- Lack of official data and statistics on persons with disabilities employed in the public/private sectors.

5) Social Security, Social Service for Persons with Disabilities

In accordance with Article 28 of the CRPD, Article 18 of the Law on Persons with Disabilities provides that the State shall take specific measures necessary to ensure the social security of persons with disabilities through monetary or in-kind benefits aimed at promoting individual independence and appropriate occupational and social integration.

MASFAMU operates the 'Valor Criança (Courageous Child)' cash transfer programme, which aims to provide minimum social security to children under five years of age, including children with disabilities. In 2020, 18,007 children benefited from this programme.

According to MASFAMU data, in 2024, 717 persons with disabilities (392 males, 325

females) received support in the form of basic food packages[32].

The Government of Angola also implements the 'Kwenda' cash transfer programme for vulnerable households through the Social Support Fund, with support from the World Bank. Persons with disabilities are also included among the registered vulnerable population.

An amendment to the Disability Allowance Law (1998) has been submitted, proposing the introduction of cash benefits for persons with disabilities and those permanently unable to work who are not covered by any other welfare scheme and have no independent sources of funding[33]. This would guarantee the exercise of the right to social welfare enshrined in the Constitution.

On the other hand, the Concluding Observations note the large number of persons with disabilities living in poverty, and the absence of a comprehensive social protection system guaranteeing access to an adequate standard of living for persons with disabilities and their families, including resources to cover disability-related costs.

In addition, a parallel report[34] submitted by the Association for the Reintegration of People Affected by Leprosy (hereinafter referred to as 'ARPAL'), the Evangelical Solidarity Association (SOLE Angola), and the International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations (ILEP) notes that leprosy patients often live in extreme poverty with no income, and some are unable to cook or wash due to physical disabilities. While exposed to stigma as socially vulnerable individuals, they receive neither social security nor social insurance, and in some cases lack personal identification documents.

6) Transportation and Urban Development (including accessible urban planning)

In accordance with Article 20 of the CRPD, the Government of Angola has introduced public policy measures to enable persons with disabilities to enjoy personal mobility as independently as possible, in the manner and at the time of their own choosing. These measures include the provision of mobility aids, assistive devices, assistive technology, and other forms of support, as well as mobility skills training for persons with disabilities and specialist staff. Mobility aids are imported or domestically produced and are provided free of charge.

As of 2021, the Ministry of Transport operates more than 150 buses adapted for persons with disabilities.

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[32] The Government of Angola (2025)

[33] As of March 2026, the proposed amendments have not been approved or implemented.

[34] Association for the Reintegration of People Affected by Leprosy (ARPAL), Evangelical Solidarity Association (SOLE Angola) and International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations (ILEP) (2020) *Stigma and Discrimination Against Persons Affected by Leprosy in Angola*

The Infrastructure Office of the Ministry of Education has formulated inclusive school designs to be used in the construction and renovation of schools nationwide. The Ministry has also developed guidelines for implementing the Accessibility Law for students with disabilities through the renovation of buildings in general, specifically the installation of ramps and protective handrails, renovation of toilets, and installation of signage accessible to students with visual impairments.

On the other hand, the Concluding Observations note that while the Government of Angola provides subsidies for assistive devices to support the mobility of persons with disabilities, only registered persons with disabilities are eligible for subsidies; assistive devices are not manufactured domestically and must be imported as expensive products by private companies; the approval process for applications is lengthy and it takes time to obtain the devices; and the government is reportedly considering the construction of domestic manufacturing facilities to lower the cost of assistive devices, though persons with disabilities may not yet be aware of these plans.

7) Information Accessibility

With regard to information accessibility, the Accessibility Law establishes general rules, conditions, and standards for accessibility for persons with disabilities or those with motor impairments. The Government of Angola recognizes that there remain significant challenges with regard to enabling persons with disabilities to use, in their interactions with public institutions, their choice of sign language, Braille, augmentative and alternative communication, and any other accessible means, modes, and formats, and with regard to providing information intended for the general public in accessible formats and technologies corresponding to the type of disability. These means and formats were available as of 2016 only in public special schools, but their number is increasing.

The Accessibility Law defines Angolan Sign Language (Article 5) and recognizes it as a legitimate means of communication and expression (Article 24). The number of sign language interpreters is increasing, and INEE trained 286 sign language interpreters between 2005 and 2019. The National School of Administration also regularly conducts free sign language courses to support service delivery. By 2020, a total of 98 persons—49 Angolan Sign Language trainees and 49 Angolan Sign Language interpreters—had been trained. Angola's public broadcaster airs programmes with sign language interpretation and employs four Angolan Sign Language interpreters.

One of several inclusive projects implemented by INEE under the Ministry of Education is teacher training in Angolan Sign Language, aimed at more effectively conveying knowledge to students who are deaf, fulfilling the role of sign language interpretation in the classroom,

and facilitating relations between persons who are deaf and others. With the support of partner organizations, the Institute has developed materials required by students with visual impairments for learning in the classroom and extracurricular activities, and has obtained materials such as Braille writing instruments, Braille paper, canes, and magnifying glasses. The Institute also has a printing division that transcribes school textbooks into Braille.

In February 2025, the Constitutional Court of Angola published a Braille version of the Constitution of Angola[35].

On the other hand, the Concluding Observations identify the following as issues:

- Insufficient provision of accessible formats and information and communications technology (ICT) information—such as easy-to-read versions, plain language, captions, sign language, Braille, audio descriptions, and tactile, augmentative, and alternative communication means—in both public and private media, particularly on websites providing public information.
- Inability of persons with disabilities to access information and communications technology.
- Absence of a comprehensive accessibility strategy covering physical accessibility, information and communications accessibility, and digital access.
- Low level of implementation of the Accessibility Law.
- Lack of access to information and communications technology at affordable prices.
- Digital work environment barriers for persons with disabilities in accessing information and communications, including government websites, particularly for blind persons and persons with visual impairments.

8) Disaster Risk Management

The objective of the National Social Action Policy (2021) is to build an integrated social action platform to guarantee adequate living standards, access to basic services, the realization of social rights, and the reduction of risks and their adverse effects for vulnerable individuals and households; persons with disabilities are included among the target groups of this policy. Article 3 of this policy provides for sectoral social action in the area of disaster risk management and civil protection, and endeavours to ensure that support and protection are provided to victims and those in crisis or emergency situations, taking into account the vulnerability and degree of risk of various population groups. Persons with disabilities and their organizations are required to participate in these processes.

Responsibility for coordinating the national response to emergencies such as droughts,

[35] https://mpla.ao/2025/02/07/constituicao-da-republica-agora-acessivel-em-braille/ (Accessed: 25 January 2026)

floods, and epidemics lies with the National Civil Protection Commission (Comissão Nacional de Proteção Civil). This Commission is composed of multiple cross-sectoral bodies, maintains personnel trained to provide support when needed, and prioritizes vulnerable persons including persons with disabilities. When an emergency is identified, the Commission carries out relief activities through supplies and other support. The Commission's experts are instructed to give special consideration to persons with disabilities.

3. International Treaties and International Cooperation

3-1. Response to the ratification of the CRPD[36]

The Angolan government acceded[37] to the CRPD in May 2014. The government submitted a report to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on January 26, 2017, which was accepted. The Committee also presented questions on April 3, 2020, to which the Angolan government submitted its responses on May 31, 2021. Two parallel reports from civil society organizations addressing the questions were submitted between February and May 2020[38]. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities issued Concluding Observations on March 24, 2023. The deadline for the next government report was January 2024; As of March 2026, it has not yet been submitted.

3-2. Status of Implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty

The Angolan government became a signatory to the Marrakesh Treaty on December 15, 2025, and the treaty entered into force on March 15, 2026.

Under Article 53 of Angola's Copyright Act, an exception relating to persons with special needs allows the reproduction, distribution, and making available of works in Braille or other accessible formats for persons with visual impairments or other sensory disabilities, without payment of royalties[39].

3-3. Initiatives on Disability Issues within SDG-related Policies

The Angolan government conducted Voluntary National Reviews in 2021 and 2025 to report to the United Nations on its progress toward achieving the SDGs and related policies. According to the second report[40](2025), the only indicator with data related to persons with disabilities is "1.3.1 Proportion of the population protected by social security systems," and in relation to this indicator, it was reported that 717 persons with disabilities (392 men and 325 women) received assistance in the form of basic food sets. No target value is specified for this indicator.

While the review mentions that civil society participated in the data collection process, it is unclear whether OPDs were included in that participation.

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[36] https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/ (Accessed: 25 January 2026)

[37] This is when countries that have not signed the treaty collectively express their willingness to be bound by it. They assume treaty obligations equivalent to those of ratification. They also acceded to the Optional Protocol on the same day.

[38] The following two reports were submitted: 1. "Stigma And Discrimination Against Persons Affected By Leprosy In Angola (submitted by the Association for the Reintegration of People Affected by Leprosy (ARPAL), the Evangelical Solidarity Association (SOLE Angola), and the International Federation of Anti- Leprosy Associations (ILEP)) " ; 2. "Situation of persons with albinism in Angola (submitted by "Under the Same Sun (UTSS)" and "Fraternidade Albinista (FALB)") .

[39] https://www.arl.org/national-implementations-marrakesh/ (Accessed: 25 January 2026)

[40] The Government of Angola (2025) *Voluntary National Review 2025: Report on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.*

3-4. Ratification of and Initiatives regarding Other International Treaties related to Disabilities and Development

The ratification status of international treaties related to disability and development in Angola is as follows:

1986: Angola acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (hereinafter referred to as 'CEDAW').

1990: Angola ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child (hereinafter referred to as 'CRC').

Although Angola did not sign the CEDAW in the conventional sense, it acceded to the treaty in September 1986, thereby assuming equivalent treaty obligations. The latest concluding observations by the CEDAW Committee[41], published in March 2019, recommend the following:

a) Accelerate the process of the decentralization of the courts and the creation of out-of-court dispute settlement centers throughout the State party, in particular in rural areas, accompanying that process with the provision of procedural and age-appropriate accommodations, in order to ensure access for women to justice and better address the intersecting forms of discrimination faced by women, in particular women in rural areas, women with disabilities, women who are victims of gender-based violence and migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee women.
b) Ensure that all women, including rural women, migrant women and women with disabilities, are consulted in the development and implementation of national policies and programmes relating to agriculture, the extractive industries, food security, climate change and disaster response and risk reduction.

In its latest concluding observations published in June 2018[42], the CRC Committee evaluated the Angolan government's response to the Committee's past recommendations and comments and made the following recommendations:

a) Pursue and strengthen its programmes and services for all children with disabilities aimed at enhancing their social inclusion, and ensure in particular their access to health and social services, inclusive education and vocational training so that they can participate actively in the community;

[41] UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (2019) *Concluding observations on the seventh periodic report of Angola* (CEDAW/C/ AGO /CO/ 7)
https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CEDAW%2FC%2FAGO%2FCO%2F7&Lang=en ((Accessed: 8 March 2026)

[42] UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (2022) *Concluding observations on the combined fifth to seventh periodic reports of Angola* (CRC/C/ AGO /CO/ 1-2)
https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2FC%2FAGO%2FCO%2F5-7&Lang=en (Accessed: 8 March 2026)

b) Increase human, financial and material resources to develop inclusive education and ensure that it is given priority over the placement of children in specialized institutions and classes, and invest in the development of the professional skills of children with disabilities;
c) Continue building the capacity, including through training, of all professionals working with children with disabilities, including teachers, social workers, medical personnel and paramedics;
d) Intensify measures, including awareness-raising, to combat the stigma attached to children with disabilities, including children with psychosocial or intellectual disabilities, and to encourage parents of children with disabilities to support the fullest possible social integration and individual development of their children.

The Angolan government has not ratified International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention No. 159 (Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Convention)[43] as of March 2026.

3-5. International Cooperation on Disability[44]

• The Government of Japan

[Technical Cooperation Project]

- Project for the Improvement of Maternal and Child Health Services through Maternal and Child Health Handbooks (PROMESSA) (2017-2022)[45]

• Other donors

UNICEF

- Implementation of Child Friendly School programs[46] (including the inclusion of children with disabilities)

[43] https://normlex.ilo.org/dyn/nrmlx_en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:11300:0::NO::P11300_INSTRUMENT_ID:312304 (Accessed: 8 March 2026)

[44] JICA (2025) "Aiming for a world where all people benefit: Initiatives for "Disability and Development" [In Japanese]" and other donors' websites.

[45] This project involved creating and implementing a program for introducing maternal and child health handbooks in model provinces, establishing a management system, improving maternal and child health knowledge for pregnant women and others, and formulating a nationwide deployment strategy for the handbooks. During these implementations, consideration was given to ensuring services reach mothers and children with disabilities, promoting the mainstreaming of disability in the health sector. Furthermore, examples of disability-friendly initiatives in Japan's maternal and child health handbooks were introduced. As a result of incorporating a disability perspective into these activities, by 2024, there was a movement to create Braille maternal and child health handbooks. Source: JICA (2025)

[46] https://www.unicef.org/angola/historias/uma-escola-que-abra%C3%A7a-inclus%C3%A3o-e-promove-um-ambiente-saud%C3%A1vel-e-acolhedor-para-todas (Accessed: 25 January 2026)

- Implementation of CRPD training for reporters and other staff of children's radio and television programs[47](2025)
- Creation of CRPD awareness materials for children[48](2024)
- Analysis of National and Local Government Budget Spending on the Disability Sector (2024[49], 2025[50])

UNFPA

- Conducting a public consultation on access to SRH services for women and girls with disabilities and on the needs of women with disabilities[51](2024)

World Bank

- Enhancing the Social Protection System for Human Capital and Resilience Project[52] (2025-2029)
- Angola Youth Employment Opportunities Project[53] (2026-2029)

The Government of Germany, the African Union

- Realizing the rights of persons with disabilities in Africa: Boosting the Rights of Individuals with Disabilities in Africa (BRIDGE Africa)[54] (2024-2028)

• International NGO

APOPO[55]

- Prosthetic limbs for landmine victims are being manufactured at the Princess Diana Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Center in Huambo province.

[47] https://www.unicef.org/angola/historias/rep%C3%B3rteres-infantis-aprendem-sobre-direitos-das-pessoas-com-defici%C3%AAncia (Accessed: 25 January 2026)
[48] https://www.unicef.org/angola/relatorios/convenção-sobre-os-direitos-das-pessoas-com-deficiência-versão-amiga-da-criança (Accessed: 25 January 2026)
[49] https://www.unicef.org/angola/en/media/4821/file/Angola%20Disablity_English_Revised_03-10-2024.pdf.pdf (Accessed: 25 January 2026)
[50] UNICEF (2025)
[51] https://angola.unfpa.org/en/news/public-consultation-people-disabilities-challenges-and-innovative-solutions-people-disabilities (Accessed: 25 January 2026)
[52] https://projects.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/project-detail/P181495 (Accessed: 25 January 2026)
[53] https://projects.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/project-detail/P505158 (Accessed: 25 January 2026) Six percent of those benefited are young persons with disabilities.
[54]https://www.giz.de/en/projects/boosting-rights-individuals-disabilities-africa-bridge-africa (Accessed: 25 January 2026) Angola is also one of the target countries.
[55] https://apopo.org/global-landmine-crisis-landmine-monitor-2024/?v=55add3d845bf (Accessed: 25 January 2026)

4. Disability-related Organizations and Activities

The main disability-related organizations in Angola are as follows:

4-1. Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs)

Organization Name	Overview
Angola Federation of Disabled Organizations (Federação Angolana das Associações de Pessoas com Deficiência: FAPED)[56]	An umbrella body of OPDs with 32 member organizations. Its mission is to coordinate, represent, and advocate for member organizations in promoting human rights, and to strengthen the organizational capacity of member organizations. Angola's Disability Protection Strategy (2011) recognizes this federation as a strategic partner of the Angolan Government. It is the Angolan member organization of the Southern Africa Federation of the Disabled (SAFOD).
Alliance for the Integrative Support of Persons with Disabilities (Liga de Apoio à Integração dos Deficientes: LARDEF)	Founded in 1997, this organization advocates for, promotes, and represents the rights, participation, and interests of persons with disabilities. It aims to implement programs, projects, and activities that ensure equal rights for persons with disabilities and promote their participation and full integration[57]. As of December 2025, it had 8,782 members[58].
National Association of Persons with Disabilities in Angola (Associação Nacional dos Deficientes de Angola: ANDA)	Responsible for advocating for the social integration and rights of persons with disabilities at both national and international levels. Its main objective is to support and encourage persons with disabilities to develop and utilize their physical and mental abilities through learning, work, and sports practice, thereby improving their quality of life. It also engages in community rehabilitation and awareness-raising activities[59].
Angola Association for the Rights and Inclusion of Women with	In partnership with MASFAMU, the organization develops guidance booklets on the measures to be applied to ensure the rights and healthcare access of women with disabilities[60]. It also

[56] UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2021) and https://www.rodra.co.za/images/countries/angola/research/FAPED%20Country%20Report%20-%20Angolan%20Federation%20of%20the%20Association%20of%20People%20with%20Disabilities.pdf (Accessed: 25 January 2026)

[57] https://www.ecoi.net/en/file/local/1072780/1930_1347374227_civlsociety-angola-hrc105.pdf (Accessed: 25 January 2026)

[58] Jornal de Angola (2025) "Não temos ainda um país inclusivo para pessoas com deficiência" December 3, 2025, https://www.jornaldeangola.ao/noticias/3/sociedade/653524/%E2%80%9Cn%C3%A3o-temos-ainda-um-pa%C3%ADs-inclusivo-para-pessoas-com-defici%C3%AAncia%E2%80%9D (Accessed: 25 January 2026)

[59] https://the-monitor.org/country-profile/angola/impact?year=2023 (Accessed: 25 January 2026)

[60] UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2021)

Disabilities (Associação Angolana de Direitos e Inclusão das Mulheres com Deficiência: AADIMD)	provides support to approximately 2,800 women with disabilities facing difficulties and has provided literacy instruction to 50 women with disabilities seeking employment[61].
National Association of the Deaf in Angola (Associação Nacional de Surdos de Angola: ANSA)	A national organization for persons with hearing impairments established in 2000[62]. Its objective is to promote and advocate for the rights of persons with hearing impairments[63]. The organization receives over 30 requests per year for sign language interpreter dispatch at police stations, courts, and other settings[64].
National Association of the Blind and Visually Impaired in Angola (Associaçao Nacional de Cegos e Amblíopes de Angola: ANCA)	It provides support for access to medical facilities and employment opportunities[65]. It has over 5,000 members and branches in 10 provinces, including Luanda, Uíge, Namibe, Huambo, Cabinda, Bengo, Cuanza Norte, Cuanza Sul, Bié, and Malanje[66].

4-2. Disability Support Organizations

Organization Name	Overview
Lwini Foundation	Established in 1998, the organization raises funds and provides support for civilian landmine victims[67]. It also promotes advocacy, mobilization, and awareness campaigns for persons with disabilities, their families, and society as a whole. It also provides physical therapy and prosthetics[68].
APOPO	This international NGO works to remove landmines and has been active in Angola since 2012, providing support to landmine

[61] https://www.africa-press.net/angola/all-news/ombudsman-defends-greater-attention-to-the-accessibility-law (Accessed: 25 January 2026)
[62] https://africansignlanguagesresourcecenter.com/angola/ (Accessed: 25 January 2026)
[63] http://www.rodra.co.za/countries/angola-docs/47-countries/angola/179-angola-revised-country-report# (Accessed: 25 January 2026)
[64] https://www.africa-press.net/angola/all-news/health-professionals-and-police-trained-in-sign-language (Accessed: 25 January 2026)
[65] Eduardo Kapapelo (2016)
[66] https://wbu.ngo/members/associacao-nacional-de-cegos-e-ambliopes-de-angola (Accessed: 25 January 2026)
[67] https://www.africa-press.net/angola/all-news/lwini-foundation-aims-to-activate-inclusion-project-for-people-with-disabilities (Accessed: 25 January 2026)
[68] https://the-monitor.org/country-profile/angola/impact?year=2023 (Accessed: 25 January 2026)

	victims[69]. In 2024, they tripled the number of prosthetic limbs manufactured for landmine victims at the Princess Diana Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Center in Huambo Province[70].

[69] https://apopo.org/what-we-do/detecting-landmines-and-explosives/where-we-work/apopo-in-angola/?v=55add3d845bf (Accessed: 25 January 2026)

[70] https://apopo.org/global-landmine-crisis-landmine-monitor-2024/?v=55add3d845bf (Accessed: 25 January 2026)

5. Barriers and Needs Faced by Persons with Disabilities

5-1. Barriers to and Needs regarding Healthcare Services

In a parallel report[71], *Under the Same Sun*, an international support group for persons with albinism, and the Brazilian OPD *Fraternidad de Albinista* (FALB), point out that persons with albinism in Angola are vulnerable to mental health problems due to a combination of tragic circumstances such as prejudice, discrimination, rejection, exclusion, and abandonment by their families. These effects are particularly severe for children; in some cases, children with albinism feel inadequate as human beings and believe that their condition alone is to blame for all the challenges they face. The report also points out that the lack of emotional and psychosocial support - which is little or non-existent - means that many children suffer from self-esteem problems and psychological distress, which can lead to mental health issues, isolation, depression, suicidal thoughts, and substance abuse.

In addition, the report points out the following:

- In Angola, a lack of adequate medical services, difficulty accessing education and employment, and social exclusion lead persons with albinism to neglect self-care, resulting in little to no care for their skin and vision, and worsening their symptoms.
- In rural Angola, persons with albinism live in poverty, and their options for employment and healthcare are extremely limited.
- In Angola, the average lifespan of persons with albinism is generally shorter due to a combination of factors, including skin cancer, HIV/AIDS, the superstition that sexual intercourse with persons with albinism cures illness, and harmful practices based on witchcraft beliefs.

A parallel report submitted by ARPAL and other organizations[72], a support group for leprosy patients, reported the following cases and pointed out that access to medical care is not equal for persons with disabilities or leprosy.

- Leprosy patients are sometimes refused treatment or hospitalization. Even if they arrive at a hospital early, their consultation may not be seen until after working hours or the following day.
- Medical professionals sometimes refuse to treat leprosy patients or even refuse hospitalization for amputation surgery ordered by doctors.

Furthermore, the executive director of LARDEF, a national-level OPD, pointed out that there is still a lack of accessible medical equipment such as height-adjustable examination tables, beds, and gynecological examination tables, as well as ongoing training for technicians in the

[71] Under the Same Sun (UTSS) and Fraternidade Albinista (FALB) (2020) *Situation of Persons with Albinism in Angola*
[72] ARPAL, SOLE Angola and ILEP (2020)

health sector, regarding healthcare services[73].

5-2. Barriers to and Needs regarding Education

In the parallel report[74], ARPAL and others point out numerous cases of children being unable to attend school due to discrimination by teachers and students, and young people being forced to abandon their studies due to complications from leprosy. These children and young people do not meet the government's definition of having more than 60% functional impairment, but they are still subjected to unfair discrimination. Specific examples include a child who was excluded from school because they could not write due to a deformity of their right hand, and a child who could not attend school due to muscle weakness and deformity in their legs.

5-3. Barriers to and Needs regarding Employment

In the parallel report[75], APRAL and others point out that leprosy patients have lost their jobs or been denied employment in the police, military, educational institutions, private companies, and public services due to leprosy or visible disabilities. Examples of dismissals and denials of employment opportunities have been reported, including a driver in Lunda Norte province, a young security guard, a private school teacher who was fired at the request of other students' parents, a police officer in Cunene, a young restaurant owner, a bricklayer, a coastal fisherman, and a soldier who was discharged from service and denied veterans' benefits because of leprosy.

Furthermore, a representative from LARDEF pointed out that despite the employment quota system, the number of persons with disabilities actually employed is very small, and that there are cases where people are not hired because of their disability, even after signing a contract[76].

5-4. Barriers to and Needs regarding Transportation[77]

The executive director of LARDEF points out that there is still a lack of ramps, handrails, elevators, and accessible toilets in public and private buildings, and that the lack of accessible public transportation makes it difficult for persons with disabilities to participate in community meetings and gatherings.

[73] Jornal de Angola (2025)
[74] ARPAL, SOLE Angola and ILEP (2020)
[75] *Ibid.*
[76] Jornal de Angola (2025)
[77] *Ibid.*

5-5. Barriers to and Needs regarding Information Access[78]

The executive director of LARDEF points to the absence of sign language interpreters and the lack of documents in Braille or other accessible formats as barriers to accessibility. She further notes that a lack of consideration for accessibility measures—such as sound amplification, lighting, and subtitles—stemming from the misconception that persons with disabilities rarely lead or participate in public meetings, presents an additional barrier.

5-6. Barriers and Needs regarding Gender

During a public consultation[79] on the needs of persons with disabilities, particularly women and girls with disabilities, conducted by MASFAMU in 2024 with the support of UNFPA, 47% of the 50 persons with disabilities reported having difficulties accessing SRH services. In the same consultation, a member of the Angola Association for the Rights and Inclusion of Women with Disabilities pointed out that women with disabilities, who face high risks even just from being pregnant, receive no support from medical professionals, even when they have difficulty moving to facilities during childbirth. A woman with hearing impairment from the Angola National Association of the Deaf also pointed out that because there are no interpreters in medical facilities, doctors greatly undervalue women with hearing impairments due to communication barriers, and they have to beg to receive medical care [80].

[78] Jornal de Angola (2025)
[79] https://angola.unfpa.org/en/news/story-empowerment-woman-disability (Accessed: 25 January 2026)
[80] https://angola.unfpa.org/en/news/public-consultation-people-disabilities-challenges-and-innovative-solutions-people-disabilities (Accessed: 25 January 2026)

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