

CONFLICT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND INCLUSION RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Liliane
Fonds

see the
strength in
every child

Follow-up Inspiration from Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon & Indonesia

INTRODUCTION

Children and young people with disabilities (CYWD) are highly vulnerable to consequences of climate change and conflicts, which are increasingly common in today's world, yet their rights are often not met. This paper is based on lessons learned from four humanitarian - development nexus research projects funded by Liliane Fonds, including conflict-related insights from Burkina Faso and Cameroon and climate change-related insights from Bangladesh and Indonesia. This paper aims to inspire follow-up research and innovation projects based on insights from the studies and other recent sources. For further background reading about the studies read the other available briefs summarizing what data tells us, which inclusive approach are needed and which collaboration is required to address the rights of children in fragile settings.

COMMON FOLLOW-UP RESEARCH & INNOVATION THEMES

The following categories are relevant across all four countries and can guide the design of follow-up research and pilot project. In the last column of the table the ideas emerging from the studies are compared with research and practice recommendations from [Elhra](#) (2025) and [UNICEF](#) (2022).

	FOLLOW-UP RESEARCH THEME & QUESTION	INNOVATION INSPIRATION	WHAT IS NEW AND WHY THIS MATTERS ?
Access to Health & Rehabilitation Services	How can access to health and rehabilitation services be improved for children and youth with disabilities in contexts affected by conflict and climate change?	Strengthen mobile health units; integrate disability-inclusive services in health systems; provide psychosocial support.	The mentioned innovations are concrete examples how to make healthcare more accessible and adaptive.
Inclusive Education Continuity	How can continuity of education for children and youth with disabilities be ensured during and after disasters and conflict?	Build disability-friendly infrastructure; train teachers in inclusive methods and psychosocial support; provide assistive learning tools; parent support groups. Remote learning platforms adapted for various disabilities.	The mentioned innovations are concrete examples how to continue inclusive education in areas affected by crisis.

	FOLLOW-UP RESEARCH THEME & QUESTION	INNOVATION INSPIRATION	WHAT IS NEW AND WHY THIS MATTERS ?
Livelihoods & Economic Empowerment	How can livelihood opportunities and economic empowerment be enhanced for families of children and youth with disabilities in the face of climate and conflict challenges?	Offer vocational training; promote climate-smart livelihoods; link to social protection schemes. Digital vocational training and micro-entrepreneurship models .	This connects economic empowerment with climate adaptation, offering a dual resilience strategy.
Social Inclusion & Participation	How can social inclusion and participation of children and youth with disabilities be strengthened in community decision-making, especially in the context of climate and conflict challenges?	Establish youth-led disability clubs; include them in local planning; promote intergenerational dialogues. Programs that combine trauma-informed care with climate resilience.	This adds a generational empowerment and leadership lens, promoting CYWD as active agents rather than passive recipients.
Data & Mapping of Vulnerabilities	How can data collection and mapping of vulnerabilities be improved to better support children and youth with disabilities in climate and conflict-affected contexts?	Use tools like the Washington Group Short Set; map disability prevalence and climate/conflict risks. Co-creation spaces where persons with disabilities design solutions.	promotes comparable data collection but context-specific design rather than one-size-fits-all approaches, especially for pilot testing.
Policy & Governance Integration	How can the integration of disability inclusion in policy and governance be strengthened to ensure that the needs of children and youth with disabilities are addressed in climate and conflict-affected contexts?	Advocate for disability indicators in DRR/CCA plans; train local officials; support inclusive policy development. Inter-agency coordination models that embed inclusion from the start.	This recommendation links disability inclusion with climate governance, a growing but under-addressed area in humanitarian policy.
Inclusive Early Warning & Disaster Preparedness	How can early warning and disaster preparedness systems be designed to be inclusive of children and youth with disabilities?	Develop multi-modal early warning systems (visual, auditory, tactile); train families and caregivers; conduct inclusive drills. Inclusive mobile apps or wearable tech for alerts and navigation	This is a concrete, preparedness-focused recommendation that bridges disability inclusion with disaster risk reduction (DRR), especially relevant in climate-vulnerable regions.

EXAMPLE: COMPREHENSIVE, INCLUSIVE DRR PLANNING



The nexus research in Bangladesh led to a 12 point multisectoral steps to enhance inclusive disaster risk reduction. Starting from inclusive data collection, inclusion awareness raising to sector specific actions for disaster and conflict preparedness and response. Steps can be adapted to different context depending on the situation.

EXAMPLE: ENGAGEMENT OF ORGANISATIONS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (OPDS)



OPDs in Burkina Faso advocate for inclusive budgeting, co-design projects, and promote disability rights. Their partnerships with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) have enabled vocational training, assistive device access, and better services, positioning OPDs as vital actors in inclusive humanitarian and development efforts, despite funding and coordination challenges.

CONTEXTUAL CONSIDERATIONS

The four studies point to many similarities and common areas for follow-up research and innovation. However the unique contextual situation in each country guides which follow-up may be most impactful. Furthermore, CYWD are a diverse group, so follow-up research can focus on the needs of specific disability subgroups with the highest needs.

COUNTRY	UNIQUE FOCUS AREAS	POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS FOR FOLLOW-UP
Bangladesh	Climate change impacts (cyclones, salinity, floods); strong community-based DRR	Focus on inclusive climate resilience, early warning systems, and school-based DRR activities.
Indonesia	Climate change and leprosy; intersectional vulnerabilities; policy gaps	Emphasize inclusive climate governance, leprosy-specific health services, and youth participation.
Burkina Faso	Conflict-related displacement; limited access to services	Prioritize inclusive humanitarian response, mobile health and education services, and protection mechanisms.
Cameroon	Armed conflict and displacement; high rates of abuse and trauma	Focus on psychosocial support, inclusive education in crisis zones, and protection from violence.

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