**Transcript**

**Disability, Resilience and Inclusion in our Cities: An Event Organised by GDI Hub at #COP26**

Date: 11th November 2021

\*Note – some of the housekeeping and webinar format information has been removed. Small edits have been made to maximise the quality and flow of the transcript. Full transcripts are available on request.

**Introduction - Speaker 1 - Mikaela Patrick:**

Good morning everybody, and welcome. Can we have the slides up on screen please? So, can we get the slides in the room? Perfect, thank you. We’re talking about Inclusive design and community-led urban solutions for disability-inclusive climate resilience. We’d like to say thanks to our funders and partners. So GDI Hub and ADB have partnered to deliver this session today. GDI Hub is a research and practice centre. We’re working with ADB to streamline disability projects across Asia. In terms of accessibility today we’ve tried to make this session as accessible as possible. It’s been interesting for us working with an event that does prioritise access - we’ve provided a captioner today and interpreters. For those in the room, there is an accessible toilet outside. We hope these are accessible for you, if not, please do let us know. If you require the content in an accessible format we’re happy to share that with you as well we’ll do everything in our power to help you. We’ll also be issuing a transcript of the video so it’s accessible to everybody. The plan is to set the agenda for genuine inclusion for persons with disabilities. What better way to start than to think about a definition for inclusive design for persons with disabilities. The definition we’ve come up with: The inclusive design of response to climate change in a way that engages and supports all members of society, including historically marginalised groups, such as persons with disabilities.’ And to amplify the voices of disabled people, around climate change. Next slide. We’re having a question and answer session, and we’ll be using slido to take place virtually. If you’re in the room, there are 2 standing mics. If you’d like a mic, let us know. A bit of housekeeping, at the end of the session at 11am there will be a 2 minute silence for Remembrance Day. We will observe the silence in the room. That’s it from me, I’d like to hand over to our chair, Asha Hans. Asha is joining us virtually, so can we get her up on the screen?

**Speaker 2 – Asha Hans:**

Thank you so much, good morning everyone, good afternoon, evening to all participants across the globe who’ve joined. We’re so happy you can join this event on disability resilience and inclusion in our cities. Inclusive climate resilience, the event is co-hosted by GDI Hub in association with ADB I welcome all of you, those of you who are in the room, and taking part in COP at Glasgow and those that have joined us online and interested in a climate just world. When we discuss, let us pause and think of those that cannot participate in the discussion but will impacted most by them To understand what inclusive design and innovation are needed for persons with disabilities in cities during climate change, it’s a huge agenda we’ll be covering today we are very excited to hear from our panelists and hear what they have to say all of us would prefer, to make it participatory - ask questions, send in your questions I’m sure many of you have a number of questions! You can also, submit your questions if you’re online via Slido. My perception is that, change slide please, we must in the global search of resilience, the experiences of the person with disabilities must not be left out - adaption can only be achieved through collaborative partnership. In adopting future pathways we have to ensure to make the brilliant disabled voices count. To do this, we must be aligned that climate change poses the most single political challenge: the idea of freedom as a way to transcend climate change, many philosophers have been consumed with how humans can be free of inequality - climate change is a human-made issue, it is we that have destroyed our freedom. Until a new relationship, where disabled people insist that the most powerful leaders radically reconfigure the past and rewrite the destiny based on inclusion. The journey to Glasgow has not been an easy one. COP26, which is creating history as it’s gone more inclusive of disabled people than ever before, but I can attest that this year, what humanity is experiencing is real and personal. Near where I live there is a woman who has been displaced by flooding and she uses a wheelchair. The other thing that is very familiar coming from my engagement with climate change in the last few years has shown that far reaching impacts are there for persons with disabilities. People are being forced to move to towns where barriers facing disabled people are non inclusive we have been aware of the dangers on our doorsteps which people have been highlighting for many years. The dispossessed of the earth can not be left out, if you are looking for justice. Before I introduce our first speaker, we will show a 5 minute video produced by Kota Kita and GDI Hub. A short film highlighting the new issues faced by persons with disabilities in Indonesia today.

Can we have the video please?

*[Video plays]*

**Speaker 2 – Asha Hans:**

Thank you everyone. For those who provided the video, you did such a tremendous job. Now I have the pleasure to introduce Manoj Sharma. he’s the Chief of Urban Sector, Asian Development Bank. He’s a global leader in making cities inclusive. These projects are so important to climate change, especially urban infrastructure. Manoj Sharma has also supported the most important strategy component to urban resilience - the industrial sector, water. We couldn’t have a better person to open this event today, Manoj Sharma.

**Speaker 3 - Manoj Sharma:**

Thank you very much Asha. Greetings from Manila. I am delighted to join the session. So in my presentation today I’ll talk about the trends we’re witnessing in Asian cities and the Pacific and finally, a few examples of relevant projects. Let me quickly set the context, by outlining three trends: urbanisation, disability and ageing. Urbanisation is one of the most significant trends - by 2030 Asia and Pacific will have 55% of the region’s population. residents of slums and informal settlements - climate change resilience is to embrace inclusion. That’s so correct Ma’am Asha, thank you so much. A third trend is regarding ageing in our region by 2050, 1 in 4 people, or 1.5 b will be over 60 years old. This results in an increasing number of people with disabilities. As has been depicted many times, the battle against climate change will be born or lost in Asia and Pacific Cities are experiencing many disasters, which can lead to health crisis, lower incomes and changes Like Asha said, coming from a country like India we can relate to the problems of urban transport, clean water, all of which needs substantial improvements. Let me talk about ADB’s approach to these complex issues. We have a new strategy, the world vision is to be inclusive, resilient and sustainable priority 1 focuses on increasing opportunities and inclusivity. So how do we plan to achieve our objectives? This is through finance plus. The first is through partnership, but of course, finance is always important. Inclusion is at the heart of our strategy, whether urban infrastructure of in tackling poverty. So I’m happy to share that we are delivering and developing a new roadmap for 2025. this is a momentous document which is currently being developed and we’re implementing over the next five years we’re collaborating closely with the GDI team in this regard. Our Chief of Social Development who’s also joining us today is leading the support and implementation here's a few project examples: yes. In Karachi, ADB is designing and implementing a rapid bus transit project. Extensive consultations have been carried out, such as with people with disabilities we have several metros in Asia and Pacific that are incorporating these designs. Some of these projects are between Metro Manila and the new class cities. ADB is also working in healthy cities programmes. This is also in line with the healthy policy in line with the government of China. We are implementing a new project which is in Jilin Yanji in China some of the solutions in this project include low carbon mobility so it’s really a combination of various solutions. We have also developed planning and design tools on health-impact assessments these are available on our ADB website, please feel free to download these tools and instruments from our website and use them. Let me share a few more examples quickly I am pleased to share our private housing project in Georgia, it includes designs for those with additional needs including handles, additional space. These are the first projects to help the built environment help include more women and children. affordable housing units, working with women and industry workers, we have a series of projects, and increasingly so more and more are coming up in inclusive design. So finally I want to make 2 quick points there are several guidances, policies which channel money towards sustainable development We are aware of SDG 1, 2, 3. At ADB, we are strongly supporting all these international policies in our investments. and last one from me, I want to emphasise that we’re providing for elders and persons with disabilities. Thank you.

**Speaker 2 – Asha Hans:**

Thank you, Manoj. It is the time to take action now. But, at the same time I think you show that it’s possible and I’m glad for that, thank you so much We’ll come back at the end. I hope people have questions ready for Manoj. There are so many, we need to dialogue with you. Our second speaker is one of the most important voices. That is introducing Mayor Ibnu Sina Mayor of Banjarmasin, since 2016, who brings us an update on his work and the Kota Kita foundation. His amazing work includes making the city of Banjarmasin a city for all. And joining Cities for All, a campaign led by a non-profit consulting World Enable. I request Mayor Ibnu Sina to present your views. Okay. (line breaking)

**Speaker 4 - Ibnu Sina, Mayor of Banjarmasin:**

Assalamu’alaikum wr. Wb. May the peace, mercy, and blessings of god be with you

Resilient cities are cities that are responsive in surviving, adapting, and growing better when faced with challenges. As we meet together during the 2021 un climate change conference today, the focus is on cities that are resilient in facing climate change. The flood that struck almost all districts and cities in south kalimantan -- including banjarmasin -- at the end of 2020 provided us with a lesson to become more progressive in facing -- and even mitigating -- the impact of climate change. The city government of banjarmasin is committed to building banjarmasin city to be a climate-resilient and inclusive city. Building on banjarmasin’s vision to be a safe, comfortable and dignified city -- kota banjarmasin barasih wan nyaman (baiman) dan lebih bermartabat, in our language -- banjarmasin has pledged to be one of 10 pilot cities in the climate resilient and inclusive cities program in indonesia. With a hope that banjarmasin will be able to have a policy instrument for carbon emission reduction efforts in the city.

The banjarmasin city government’s strategy to build banjarmasin as a climate-resilient inclusive city are:

* Integrating relevant program activities and action plans in the city of banjarmasin’s medium-term development planning
* Developing an action plan for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Currently, the city of banjarmasin is developing a greenhouse gas (ghg) reduction regional action plan (rad).
* A comprehensive environmental assessment, including issues in waste management, sanitation improvement, control of industrial waste, quality of rivers and water
* A large-scale climate awareness campaign, involving community participation across various environmental efforts.
* Collaborate with surrounding districts, cities of the banjarbakula metropolitan, on waste management, transportation, and riverbanks.
* Partner with non-government funding sources, by strengthening the public-private partnership (ppp)

Banjarmasin city’s strategy to be a more climate-resilient city will be implemented through concrete actions such as:

1. Effort for reducing air emissions, by implementing:

* Car-free day
* Usage of solar cells
* Strengthening public transportation
* Establishing bicycle routes

1. Addressing waste management at the source, such as:

* Establishing 302 waste banks
* 6 household scale recycling center units planned
* Reducing the use of plastic shopping bag
* Decreasing single use plastic bags in traditional markets. Currently there are two pilot projects.

1. River management, through efforts such as:

* River revitalization
* River normalization
* River clean up competition, which has been held in 75 rivers since 2017
* Supporting river maintenance through river stakeholders, as many 150 river stakeholders
* Organize the “balingai” (banjarmasin care for river) community and “malingai” community care for the river.

1. Implementing the climate resilience program, by installing:

* Kampung iklim or climate village initiative in 16 neighborhoods
* A greenhouse gas (ghg) reduction village
* Disaster resilience training for persons with disabilities
* Emergency response for people with disabilities

These efforts are concrete actions in the mission to build banjarmasin as a climate-resilient city and contribute to the effort to achieve indonesia’s ndc target.

In banjarmasin, we have a saying “kayuh baimbai” which means to collaborate. So as a city of collaboration, banjarmasin commits to work with citizens, academics, and the private sector to build banjarmasin, other cities in indonesia, and even the world, to become a more climate-resilient and inclusive place.

May this conference be a platform of knowledge, commitment, and collaborative spirit that we can work together to face these uncertain times.

Thank you. Peace be upon you. Wabillahi taufiq wal hidayah Wassalamu’alaikum wr. Wb

**Speaker 2 - Asha Hans:**

Thank you, Mayor Ibnu Sina. You have done tremendous work to get the city to where it is today. At the end, with questions, we will explain a bit more about the involvement of disabled people within the city. Thank you so much for coming here and joining us. Our next speaker is Ahmad Rifai. Rifai is the co-founder of Kota Kita foundation, a non-profit with expertise in urban planning. Rifai is a seasoned urban activist, and inspires participant actions. He brings not just expertise, but also his years at UCL London where he received his masters degree. Mr Rifai, the floor is yours.

**Speaker 5 - Ahmad Rifai:**

First of all, I would like to thank GDI Hub and also ADB for this wonderful opportunity to share and learn together about how to bring inclusive, just and resilient cities. I will give my presentation but probably also to compliment some of the stories brought by my Mayor and some of the experience we have in building these cities. I’ve heard that there’s heavy rain in Banjarmasin and there’s already flooding, our colleague who is the movie, in the film are also struggling right now- so it’s sad news. I would like to give my presentation, Resilient City for All, I want to highlight that no one being left behind is a very important condition. Resilient city for me makes sure that the wellbeing for all is ensured. I would like to jump to what Covid 19 taught us. COVID 19 pandemic gave us an important understanding about our resilience, the pandemic exposed those who are vulnerable to the worst conditions. Women, informal economy, older people, children, persons with disabilities. Our national government has created a lot of effort to reduce the impact of the pandemic, especially for those who are vulnerable. Next slide please. Just an illustration in Indonesia, in our city, the pandemic has impacted those who are blind. It’s very common that they work as a masseur, as a therapist, and it’s common that during the pandemic they lost their livelihood. They cannot do this anymore. How has climate change impacted our cities? Without doubt we have seen and experienced the impact in our daily life today: intense rainfall, often leads to flooding, like recently in Banjarmasin. And a flooding recently in a beautiful tourism area which killed victims. Sea level rise, tidal floods, has become a regular disaster. We’ve worked there to help work with the city government to bring projects around climate change and hold to build mitigation there. We also have intense and frequent tropical cyclone especially during the transition between dry and wet season. Also fever, dengue, it’s reduced our immune system - maybe it’s also related to the outbreak of covid 19. This picture illustrates the risk of our cities in the middle of this climate change, you know, challenge. So you can see different pictures here and at some point it may increase the vulnerability of the people when combined with other problems, like trash and bad infrastructure like sanitation. Next slide please. This diagram I would like to illustrate and to kind of say how people are impacted differently were it left to different - to the level of vulnerability of people living in our cities. For example, this, you know, who we are, by race, gender, age, social class or disability types, and when we relate to certain circumstances like uneven structure, or project, or development structure, plus condition of our adapted capacity and our exposure it can create, define the level of vulnerability itself. For example, a person with disabilities - a level of exposure to vulnerability is really high. This is just an example of how policy open development projects has created difficulty at some point. It’s going to be severe and dangerous when it comes along with climate change hazards. This is another example - how steep our infrastructure is. It cannot be easily accessed. Who are the most impacted groups? I came back recently from cities in Pekalongan - this flooding is happening almost everyday from 5am until 10am they have to keep dealing with this. Most people with disabilities living with this have moved to other areas. The impact of climate change has impacted different types of disabilities. This is another example, say, a house in Banjarmasin. A house is exposed to intense rainfall during rainy season but at the same time, very dry during the dry season because of the houses on steel and wood to build that house, many cases of fire in the ? are very common. Our research with UCL London shows that aspects of danger and risks regards to fire are challenging for persons with disabilities, especially when we relate to evacuation roads. There aren’t enough roads to be used that can be accessed as well by a person with disabilities many public transports are not accessible to persons with disabilities as well I would like to give this as an example as well how enhancing inclusion with persons with disabilities can inform us for example, a person with disabilities helping with mapping, and their experience we worked with ADB and GDI hub about understanding inclusive mobility and how to better access assisted technology in their neighbourhood and surrounding. That project has impacted in a good collaboration between Kota Kita, ADB as well to provide an accessible school zone, like a school zone that’s more accessible for children with disabilities I would like to conclude my presentation by concluding why disability must be included in planning. Everybody may be, in the future, needs this design (?) this is for the future and for the sake of our (?) Next slide please. That’s all from me, and if you’re interested in knowing more about our work, especially on the inclusive project please visit or website at kotakita.org.

**Speaker 2 – Asha Hans:**

Thank you very much. Thank you - if you’d seen that Kota Kita presentation you can see the continuation that is there I think we are going to have a very exciting next presentation which will give the wider perspective Elham could unfortunately not join us. Anyone who has done climate risk reduction will know the work Gordon has done over the years. And of course with other international advocacy platforms, he’s a well known face. Recently in communication but also in advocacy and advisory His academic background is in biological sciences, he’s known as a passionate advocate for climate change. Gordon, the floor is yours.

**Speaker 6 – Gordon Rattray:**

Thank you very much Dr Hans, and thanks to the organisers to participate. I would like to follow on from the words of the last speaker, who mentioned that disability inclusion is about building a resilient society for us all. It’s something that’s beneficial to everyone. I’d like to focus in the beginning on how we do this the obligation for states to involve organisations with persons with disabilities, and to involve us in all the decisions about us. What are organisations for person with disabilities? You’ve probably heard the acronyms. They basically mean NGOs, they are part of civil society, but they are specific they are organised for, run by and for persons with disabilities and they are guided on the UN conventions of the rights of persons with disabilities. This is what guides OPDs. Their goal is the realisation of rights for persons with disabilities. They can be international, community-led, cross-national. They incorporate requirements of people with all disabilities - they can be specified e.g. on women and children etc, but if you want more information on that the best and most general resource is the General number 7, and articles 3 and 3.3. That’s an overview of what OPDs are. What do we bring to the table? Well, apart from the legal and moral obligations what we really bring is the expertise and experience, we’re used to the barriers that we face and we know the solutions, we know how to overcome those barriers All this leads to inclusion of society as a whole - education, health if we involve people in decision making then you make a society that’s more inclusive for all these components. Thinking about resilience, climate change, disaster risk reduction when you’ve got an inclusive, strong, resilient society - when society breaks down partially driven by climate change, then you’ve already got a society that’s more inclusive and strong. A specific example might be schools - people with disabilities who are being evacuated, instead of being stuck at home and being afraid or going somewhere that isn’t accessible, then they know they will be able to access a refuge site if it's in a school that's accessible. If it’s all there in the beginning, then things will continue to function and you’ll save money in the long-term. What must be done to engage DPOs? (?) we must be at the table as equal partners as everyone else there. What capacity they might need, and thinking about the capacity and expertise of climate actors. what do they need to learn? For any partnership, it needs to start from the beginning. In looking at what all the people: financial, education, training and thinking about involving people right at the beginning until the end. Right from the start and right till the finish it should never be a tick box exercise and consultation. This doesn’t work, it’s not good for anyone it doesn't result in inclusive end of the project. You’ve got to think how do you build their governance, how do you think about their future? We’re back to money: make sure that money is earmarked right at the beginning so that you can afford accessibility later on down the line. I’ve narrowed it down to four points: 1) there must be legal requirements, gov, national law and regs must stipulate accessibility and inclusion in everything that’s done. 2) there must be guidelines that are clear and competent, so they can be checked and audited. 3), you could say you want to punish stakeholders, but maybe a more progressive and friendly way is to say we provide incentives and quotas. Lastly, 4) all professional who are working on renovation of infrastructure or developing from the beginning, they need ongoing, not just one-off training it must be an ongoing part of their training to learn and understand about universal designs, about inclusion and most of all how much easier it makes their work, it really is not rocket science. It’s quite fun to do things in a way that’s inclusive and practical. I would finish by saying accessibility is not a small part it’s a huge part disability is a driver to increased resilience and you want to do it, it’s not just a moral it’s a legal obligation - to involve persons with disabilities through our representative organisations.

**Speaker 2 – Asha Hans:**

Thank you, those are 4 wonderful ideas you’ve presented. I will now request Iain McKinnon who is director of Inclusive Design at GDI Hub. He’s the co-founder and that includes design work across research, practice and teaching. Including the Olympic Park in East London, UK. Iain also features inclusive design and environment (?) a product design engineer by training, is at Glasgow.

**Speaker 7 - Iain McKinnon:**

I’ll be quick, actually, we want to leave some time for a couple of questions. We’ve heard regional, city, and DPO perspective it says there technical perspective, my experience of inclusive design is less so about the climate, so I’ll take you through both those things. Who could argue against sustainable and inclusive? For us, it means it must be inclusive of 1.2 billion people who are disabled worldwide. We do know how to do it, we just need more people to do it. We know that climate change is happening now - from Manila, from Pakistan, we know it’s happening, and we need to make our cities and homes averse to the challenges it brings. In this side event, and working in partnership, is to raise this issue and set an agenda and our argument is - when climate resilience is (?) to ensure it fits now and well into the future. We only have one shot - and getting it right is imperative. We want to introduce some research we’re doing. GDI Hub is leading cutting edge research on the programme AT 2030 funded by UK Aid. To get assistive tech to people around the world. As part of this looking at inclusive infrastructure we’re going to work on this on 6 case studies looking at Low- and middle-income countries, these include: Surakarta, Ulaanbaatar, Varanassi, Nairobi, Freetown that’s piqued our interest between climate and low and middle income, we know the link there, we also know some of the measures can make urban areas less inclusive. Evidence shows disabled people are more at risk to climate change. and that’s why it’s a necessity to have a platform at this conference and beyond. Our case studies are beginning to bear fruit on this already, in some of the places we’re working we often come across open drains, flood, there’s negative health impacts. we’re doing a lot of work in informal settlements where there’s a lack of informal structure there’s no climate mitigations in these places at all what this results in is situations where buildings are being built raised, on plinths, concrete to avoid issues with flooding what this means is there’s no level access. Certainly not inclusive, and you create no go areas, meaning some people can’t engage their homes and within their communities it’s a human rights issue, and if nothing changes, then disabled people will continue to be at risk and that's not something that anyone wants to see.

Next, mitigation. We’re seeing mitigation come into play but, again, they come in afterwards and are often reactive. We can forget about people, so we need to change that - when designing for the climate let’s not forget the people so cycling needs the proper infrastructure and particularly for people with sensory impairments in the Asia regions we’re seeing buildings on plinths, but think about the long-term - think about the drainage infrastructure in the future - you’ll have a city that’s 6m off the ground I’ve been involved where prototypes have been tested, they’re not inclusive. Often the feedback is ‘it’s just testing the tech’ that’s not the point. If it’s not there at the start, it’s not inclusive. if we’re thinking about concrete ramps, is there a better way to do it? this is where innovation comes into play. Thinking about areas prone to flooding, the classic in the UK is the revolving door. Sustainability engineers would like this for the heat exclusion - but it’s not inclusive what is needed? We don’t want to have that conversation, there should be no compromise. We need basic infrastructure, that include informal settlements and to protect heritage, too, that’s a huge thing in Varanasi So, let’s work together with genuine engagement with persons with disabilities from the start - building capacity and in particular supporting developing countries. If you think you’ve recognised, or those points seem familiar to you, they’re there in the UN sustainable Development Goals. So we need action, we need a strong voice in the climate conversation When we say people, we mean every single one of us. We believe that applying inclusive design will ensure we do get it right for everyone, first time let’s break down the silos, and let’s put disability inclusion at the heart of the response. This is a slide that I stole from a colleague in the room. I’ll read through: Disability needs to be put fully on the agenda, it needs to be a key issue at the COP event and as Gordon said, ‘nothing about us without us’ - persons with disabilities need to be active participants. So at this point I’ll hand over to Mikaela.

**Speaker 1 – Mikaela Patrick:**

I realised I was so excited to talk, I forgot to introduce myself: I’m Mikaela Patrick and I’m an inclusive design researcher. We’ve got 8 mins for questions, so we’ll take one from Slido and one from within the room.

In the meantime, I’ve got a question online, which initiative in Banjarmasin has had the most impact in helping non-disabled people understand the opportunities of inclusive planning?

**Speaker 5 - Ahmad Rifai:**

We’ve started to map and identify the different types of disabilities, and it’s given an understanding to local communities there about how you know they understand about disabilities at the same time, link to different, services by the government in terms of, you know, how it can bring more inclusive projects to the city especially when we linked to the initiative by the mayor as well it’s very important to bring, to provide, the profile of inclusive city profile where there’s a lot of ideas and a pipeline project that can link to the city planning. Thank you.

**Speaker 1 – Mikaela Patrick:**

Thanks, Rifai. We’ve had two questions which so I’ll read one the two are quite similar what can we, as individuals do to make sure inclusivity is focused on within actions towards sustainability? Manoj, do you have an answer to that question?

**Speaker 3 – Manoj Sharma:**

Yes, sure, I’ll try to answer. So first of all, I think persons with disabilities must be included in climate conversation and also in planning and design, the future of cities must be resilient and inclusive to give an example, from Gordon and Ian’s discussions, if I can add as an organisation we have to work proactively and with passion to make this happen, thank you.

**Speaker 6 – Gordon Rattray:**

I would say, to go back to what I said earlier, there are organisation with persons with disabilities at all levels, in all geographical areas, and representing all different parts of the diversity of disability whatever work it is you’re doing, identify your local DPO or the relevant DPO it might be an international level and tell them what they’re doing and ask them if they’ve got input - do it now, don’t wait do it now so that you’re starting from the beginning. Brilliant, thanks Gordon.

**Speaker 1 – Mikaela Patrick:**

Do we have a question from within the room that anyone would like to ask? I will ask Iain, how can we ensure that persons with disabilities play a more prominent role in making cities inclusive?

**Speaker 7 – Iain McKinnon:**

Well, there’s a couple of things - to make sure that disabled people have a genuine role from the very start there’s also something that ensuring disabled people area belt o lead - there’s systemic issues, but ideally it would be fantastic to be in a position where disabled people are in leadership roles, able to influence from the top down and bringing their own. lived practical experience to it. My experience is not done well, or at all, typically not through malice or through intention it’s ignorance, a lack of understanding, education that often is one of the biggest barriers. So there’s a piece around education: the best way to educate is from the source most of what I’ve learnt, is working for, with, alongside with people who have different abilities, disabilities, it’s that richness that is often lacking. That’s where the innovation lies - that’s where the nuggets, gems will come from. That’s where innovation lives.

**Speaker 1 – Mikaela Patrick:**

I think that’s great, that echoes something Gordon said in his presentation - inclusive design is enjoyable, it’s a good process there’s an amazing statistic that 60% of the infrastructure we have by 2050 hasn’t been built yet. All of this construction needs to be done with inclusivity in mind. I would like to pass back to Asha to close, you’e got a 1 minute and a half for closing remarks.

**Speaker 2 - Asha Hans:**

Thank you, thank you all of you I thank all the panelists for their presentations not just their knowledge, but also the paths we can take if all of you had so many things that have been highlighted, which, work on climate change. I’d like to thank Mikaela for providing the knowledge to help us learn about climate resilience, thanks to the captioner and the interpreters. And especially thanks to you all for sending in your questions. Thank you everyone for joining us today, and I’m so glad that we can meet new people who are working in the field and old friends who’ve come and joined us, thank you so much. The meeting is now closed.