

AT2030
Impact story

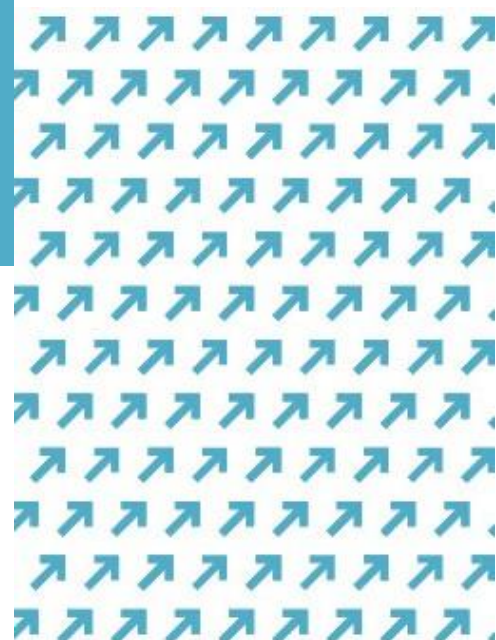
Championing Assistive Technology in Indonesia's new National Commission for Disabilities

Prepared by
Clinton Health Access
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About AT2030

The AT2030 programme tests 'what works' to improve access to Assistive Technology (AT) and will invest £20 million over five years to support solutions with a focus on innovative products, new service models, and global capacity support. The programme will reach nine million directly and six million more people indirectly to enable a lifetime of potential through life-changing AT. The programme is funded by UK aid and led by the Global Disability Innovation Hub.

About the Clinton Health Access Initiative

The Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) is a global health organization committed to saving lives and reducing the burden of disease in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), while strengthening the capabilities of governments in those countries to create and sustain high-quality health systems that can succeed without our assistance. CHAI teams always work with and at the behest of country governments where they focus on solving problems at the nexus of business, government, and health. CHAI takes a unique approach to technical assistance focused on capacity building and skills transfer. CHAI is a partner to governments in over 35 countries.

Context

In 2018-2019, the Indonesian Government, specifically the Coordinating Ministry for Human Development and Cultural Affairs (Kemenko PMK), and the Ministries for National Development Planning (Bappenas), Health, and Social Affairs – supported by CHAI under the AT2030 programme – conducted a national assessment on the capacity for AT provision, using the Assistive Technology-Assessment Capacity tool that was developed by the World Health Organization. The assessment ('National AT Landscape in Indonesia') yielded insights on the capacity for financing, procurement, and provision of AT in the country. Gaps and opportunities to increase access to AT were identified and documented in an AT scoping report. The National AT Landscape in Indonesia was also instrumental in raising awareness around AT in Indonesia.

December 2021 has marked a new milestone for persons with disabilities in Indonesia. President Joko Widodo appointed seven members of the newly established National Commission for Disabilities (KND) for the 2021-2026 period. Eka Prastama Widiyanta,

former programme officer for CHAI under the AT2030 programme in Indonesia, was appointed as one of the country's seven KND Commissioners.

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Introducing Eka

Prior to this appointment as Commissioner of the KND for 2021-2026, Eka was the Project Officer on Assistive Technology with CHAI Indonesia for almost two years in 2019-2020. Eka has also worked with Hellen Keller International Indonesia, the International Labour Organization, and NLR Indonesia. He holds a degree in Industrial Engineering from Telkom University in Indonesia and an Australian Fellowship of Inclusive Education from Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane, Australia.



Image 1: Portrait of Eka

Eka's engagement through the AT2030 programme

Eka got involved in the AT2030 programme because his prior experiences had triggered an interest in AT, specifically, the need to tackle gaps in AT provision. Under the AT2030 programme, CHAI was the first organization that did a comprehensive assessment about Indonesia's capacity for AT provision, which involved key ministries, local government, and engaged persons with disabilities in the process.

"The National AT Landscape in Indonesia has been important to help the Indonesian Government fulfil its commitment to ensure access to AT. The report describes the current situation, identifies critical gaps and makes key recommendations for the country to make AT more available and affordable", explains Eka. "As a result of the assessment, immediate actions were taken, such as the prototyping of a locally produced adaptive wheelchair for children with mobility impairment, and the development of local AT guidelines by the Ministry of Home Affairs".

In an additional response to the assessment, a cross-ministerial technical working group (TWG) for AT was established under the leadership of Kemenko PMK and

Bappenas. Representatives from eight key ministries¹ and from Disabled People Organizations (DPOs) sit on the TWG. The TWG serves as a national AT coordination mechanism that aims to streamline communication across ministries, between central and local government, and with other key stakeholders. The DPO representative ensures active participation of persons with disabilities and that AT fulfillment is grounded in a rights-based approach.² With support from the TWG, Bappenas and Kemenko PMK coordinates the development of tools and guidelines for local governments on AT procurement and provision, strengthen data, and creates a strategy for appropriate AT procurement.



Image 2: Eka interacting with a child in a wheelchair

Impact of the AT2030 programme on Indonesia AT priorities going forward

Eka has been appointed a Commissioner of the KND for 2021-2026 and, in this capacity, reports directly to the President. The KND was established to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of persons with disabilities. The agency is tasked with monitoring,

¹ TWG members: Bappenas; Kemenko PMK; Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs; Ministry of Social Affairs; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Home Affairs; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Education and Culture; Representative from DPOs

² For more on a rights-based approach, see https://www.unicef.org/disabilities/index_70434.html

evaluating, advocating for the implementation of respect, protection, and fulfilment of the rights of persons with disabilities, including access to AT in Indonesia.

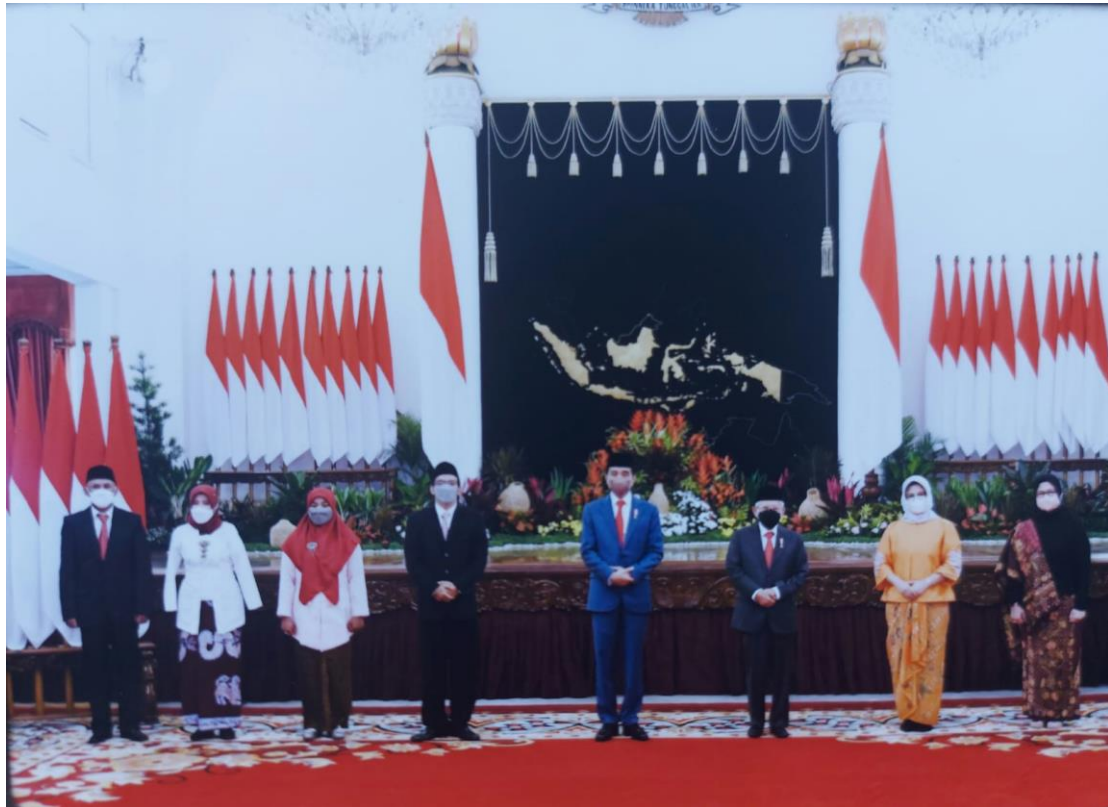


Image 3: Appointment of Indonesia's first National Commission for Disabilities on December 1, 2021

Eka emphasizes that the work under AT2030 will have an important impact the priorities of KND: *"The experiences under the AT2030 programme on improving access to AT from the national to the local level will be very important in my role as Commissioner. It enables me to better monitor and advocate for AT provision in Indonesia. Based on my experiences from the field, there is a very large demand for assistive products from persons with disabilities - especially children with disabilities. In my new position, I hope to help improve the AT delivery system by strengthening the market for appropriate and quality AT, increasing coordination across ministries and local governments on matters that involve AT, improving standards for locally manufactured products, and reinforcing financing schemes for AT. As a Commissioner, I am committed to prioritize the improvement of data systems, and work with the relevant ministries to strengthen policies & regulations. Furthermore, I hope to mobilize support from the private sector, NGOs, and universities to assist the Indonesian government so that AT becomes more available and affordable for every person with a disability in Indonesia. The progress on access to AT will be one of the key indicators in the yearly report from KND to The President"*.