UPR 4th Cycle – CIVIL SOCIETY REPORT

Suriname - Rights of Persons with Disabilities

In April 2026, Surinamese civil society organizations Stichting Wan Okasi, Stichting Projekta and BINI submitted a civil society report for the upcoming 4th cycle of the UPR, taking place in November 2026.

1. IMPLEMENTATION GAPS

- Participation: no structured or institutionalized mechanism ensures meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in policy processes; engagement is ad hoc.
- Education: no fully implemented inclusive education system; barriers include inaccessible buildings, inadequate transport, insufficient reasonable accommodation, adapted materials and trained teachers.
- Interior regions: specialized services and rehabilitation are concentrated in urban areas, with major disparities in education, transport and access to services.

2. LEGAL & ACCOUNTABILITY GAPS

- No comprehensive legal framework currently ensures the rights of persons with disabilities.
- Suriname has not signed or ratified the Optional Protocol to the CRPD, limiting access to international individual complaints and inquiry mechanisms.
- No national CRPD implementation plan, coordinated governmental mechanism or independent monitoring body exists.
- Accessibility standards are not legally enforceable.

3. SOCIAL & ECONOMIC RIGHTS

- Healthcare remains difficult to access because of physical inaccessibility, financial constraints and limited specialized services, especially in rural and interior regions.
- Employment barriers include the absence of inclusive labour policies, reasonable accommodations and targeted measures supporting labour-market participation.
- The disability allowance is SRD 4,550 (≈ USD 114), compared with a national poverty line of SRD 7,810 (≈ USD 200) for a single-adult household (2026 data cited in the submission).
- The allowance is not legally guaranteed and can be adjusted administratively, creating financial insecurity.

4. NON-DISCRIMINATION & ACCESSIBILITY

- No specific legislation prohibits disability-based discrimination across sectors.
- Public infrastructure, transport and digital services remain largely inaccessible.
- No policy framework or formal recognition of sign language exists, limiting access to information, services and communication for persons with hearing impairments.
- Constitutional equality guarantees have not been translated into specific disability protections.

RECOMMENDATIONS

A. PARTICIPATION	Establish institutional mechanisms ensuring the structured and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in all policy processes, including climate-change and disaster-risk-reduction frameworks.
B. INCLUSIVE EDUCATION	Remove structural barriers to education for children with disabilities; ensure inclusive materials, trained teachers, reasonable accommodations and accessible transport and facilities.
C. RURAL & INTERIOR ACCESS	Allocate targeted funding for equal access to education in rural and interior areas and develop accessible, affordable transportation for students with disabilities.
D. NATIONAL INCLUSIVE EDUCATION STRATEGY	Develop and implement a comprehensive national inclusive education strategy, based on research and broad sector-wide consultations, with nationwide accessible infrastructure and structured support systems.
E. CRPD LEGAL FRAMEWORK	Adopt comprehensive CRPD-aligned legislation; establish a national implementation and monitoring framework; and ensure independent monitoring.
F. ACCOUNTABILITY & REMEDIES	Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the CRPD and strengthen accessible mechanisms for complaints, accountability and remedies.
G. SOCIAL PROTECTION	Legally guarantee disability benefits and align their amount and allocation with the national cost of living, while providing additional benefits for persons with extra needs.
H. NON-DISCRIMINATION & ACCESSIBILITY	Enact legislation prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability and establish and enforce accessibility standards for public infrastructure, transport and digital services.

CONTACT
To access the entire report, visit: https://binisuriname.sr/data/index.php/publicaties
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PROJEKTA
Governance, Participation and Gender Equality

BINI Burgerinitiatief voor Participatie & Goed Bestuur

CCPR Centre for Civil and Political Rights