

Parke announces ambassador for disability-inclusive development

by Ashlee Betteridge
30 July 2013

In one of her first announcements in the role, Minister for International Development Melissa Parke has **announced** that the government will appoint an Australian Ambassador for Disability-Inclusive Development.

Proud to announce Aust will be the 1st country to have an ambassador for Disability-Inclusive Development #weDIDit
<http://t.co/94aA21vKqT>

— *Melissa Parke MP (@MelissaParkeMP) July 29, 2013*

There's even an enthusiastic YouTube video from Parke and PM Kevin Rudd announcing the decision.

The press release states that the role is expected to be filled by a Senior Executive in AusAID at First Assistant Director General level.

The creation of the role has been **welcomed** by ACFID and others and followed an advocacy campaign from Australian NGOs and other groups such as the **Micah Challenge**.

AusAID also has an ambassador for HIV, TB and Malaria. DFAT has ambassadors for women and girls and climate change, among others.

If you are interested in learning more about disability inclusive development, we held an excellent panel event in May at the Development Policy Centre with members of AusAID's disability inclusive development reference group. Watch the video below.

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Ashlee Betteridge was the Manager of the Development Policy Centre until April 2021. She was previously a Research Officer at the centre from 2013-2017. A former journalist, she holds a Master of Public Policy (Development Policy) from ANU and has development experience in Indonesia and Timor-Leste. She now has her own consultancy, Better Things Consulting, and works across several large projects with managing contractors.

Link: <https://devpolicy.org/parke-announces-ambassador-for-disability-inclusive-development/>