

Empowering Inclusive Humanitarian Action:

A 3-Day Regional Training

based on the Humanitarian Inclusion Standards

 December 4-7, 2026  Rembrandt Hotel Bangkok, Thailand

— *A three-day regional training, followed by a dedicated fourth day for the Sphere Regional Consultation*



HelpAge
International

QA HUB ASIA
BUILDING LOCAL LEADERS CAPACITY
THROUGH QUALITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

 **Sphere**

 **CHS Alliance**

community
WORLD service
ASIA
peace
resilience
dignity



Why This Training Matters?

When crisis strikes, inclusion cannot be an afterthought.

In today's fast-evolving humanitarian landscape, overlapping crises, from climate shocks to conflict, demand responses that are inclusive, gender-responsive, locally led, and adaptive. Across the Asia-Pacific, older people and persons with disabilities are often overlooked in emergencies, despite their valuable knowledge and experience and the disproportionate risks and barriers they may face during crises. Inclusive humanitarian action recognises that people experience crises differently, and that barriers related to age, disability, gender and other characteristics or forms of discrimination can prevent individuals from accessing assistance, participating in decisions, and exercising their rights. This training puts a practical answer in your hands: **the Humanitarian Inclusion Standards (HIS)**, a hands-on framework aligned with the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) and the Sphere Handbook, built to turn "leave no one behind" from principle into practice. **Join us to make inclusion central to how you work, not an add-on to it.** Through practical tools and real-world approaches, you will learn to identify and dismantle the barriers to participation, access, and accountability, so that older people and persons with disabilities aren't just present in humanitarian response, but genuinely served by it.

What You'll Walk Away With?

By the end of the training, participants will be able to:

- **Make the case for inclusion:** Explain why age, disability, and gender inclusion are central to effective humanitarian response, not peripheral to it.
- **See the full picture:** Recognise how intersecting identity factors and forms of discrimination can shape people's experience of crisis, the barriers they face, and their ability to participate in the response.
- **Know the framework:** Navigate the structure and core principles of the Humanitarian Inclusion Standards (HIS).
- **Put into Practice:** Apply all nine HIS standards for including older people and people with disabilities across every stage of the programme cycle.
- **Turn principles into action:** Identify concrete steps to strengthen participation, accessibility and accountability for older people and persons with disabilities.
- **Assess and improve your own organisation:** Use the Age and Disability Organizational Assessment Tool to foster inclusive practices within your organisation.

Who is This For?

This training is designed for humanitarian professionals who influence programming and organisational practices, bringing together voices from across the response.

- **Local and National Actors:** National Non-Governmental Organisations (NNGOs), local NGOs, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), and Community-Based Organisations (CBOs).
- **Representation Groups:** Older People Associations (OPOs) and Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs).
- **International Organisations:** International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs) and UN agencies.
- **Government Stakeholders:** Representatives from relevant government ministries and disaster management agencies.
- Ideal participants include Inclusion Advisors, Programme Managers, Technical Coordinators (e.g., Protection, Health, Livelihoods), and MEAL staff. Full attendance and commitment to sharing learning within your organisation are required.





Training Fees & What's Included?

USD 700 per participant for National/Local Organisations / any relevant National authorities
USD 800 per participant for international agencies and organisations

This subsidised fee covers shared accommodation, lunch and refreshments, training materials, expert facilitation, and a certificate of completion.

Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Disclaimer: Please note that HelpAge or Community World Service Asia (CWSA) will not be responsible for arranging or covering any travel or visa-related expenses. All participants are expected to manage their own travel arrangements and associated costs. Kindly also note that HelpAge or CWSA will not be issuing invitation letters for visa purposes.

How To Apply?

Please register **HERE** to apply.

Registration Deadline: September 15, 2026

Selection: First-come, first-served basis

Language: English (participants must be proficient)

For Any Queries Contact: qa.support@communityworldservice.asia

Sphere Revision Consultation:

Sphere Revision Consultation Day 4 - 7th December 2026. For more details, please visit **HERE**.

Regional Humanitarian Partnership Week Asia & the Pacific (RHPW)2026

Optional participation in **Regional Humanitarian Partnership Week** 8–10 December 2026. Please note, RHPW is a separate event and requires its own registration. Accommodation and other costs for RHPW are not covered under this learning event. To know more about RHPW 2026, please click **HERE**.

About The Organisers

HelpAge International is a global non-profit organisation that works to improve the lives of older people around the world. Working with the HelpAge global network, an alliance of over 200, we advance the rights, inclusion and wellbeing of older people in all their diversity. Through advocacy, technical support, capacity strengthening, research and programming, HelpAge promotes inclusive approaches that address barriers faced by people at risk of exclusion, including older people and persons with disabilities, in a wide range of contexts.

Community World Service Asia (CWSA) is a humanitarian, development, and advocacy organisation, registered in the global South and implementing initiatives across Asia Pacific and Africa. CWSA is a member of the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) Alliance and Sphere, is the Regional Partner to Sphere in the Asia Pacific region.





Meet Your Facilitators

Led by experts from HelpAge International and the Foundation for Ageing and Inclusive Development (FAID), the training will be facilitated by:



Shahzado Khaskheli

Shahzado is Head of Programmes at the Foundation for Ageing and Inclusive Development (FAID), Pakistan. He is an inclusion specialist with over 20 years of experience in humanitarian and development programming and expert-level expertise in ageing and age, gender and disability inclusion. He has extensive experience facilitating regional trainings on the Humanitarian Inclusion Standards (HIS), inclusive humanitarian action, climate resilience, disaster risk reduction, and disability-inclusive programming. Shahzado works closely with governments, UN agencies, INGOs, and local partners to strengthen inclusive policies, systems, and practice across humanitarian and development programmes.



Benil Thavarasa

Benil is Regional Adviser for Asia and the Pacific at HelpAge International. He has over 20 years of experience in international development and humanitarian action, with extensive expertise in managing complex humanitarian and development programmes across Sri Lanka, South Asia and Southeast Asia. His work focused on humanitarian coordination, programme design and management, capacity strengthening, and inclusive humanitarian programming.

Benil has supported governments, civil society organisations and humanitarian partners to strengthen preparedness, response and resilience. He is an experienced facilitator, delivering practical training on humanitarian standards, inclusive humanitarian action and conflict-sensitive programming.