

HEARING LOSS FRIENDLY VENUES: GUIDELINES TO FOLLOW

1. A GOOD MICROPHONE AND SOUND SYSTEM

- Participants must switch the microphone on when talking.
- Use the microphone correctly. Most mics are directional — you have to speak directly into it in order for it to work effectively.
- Correctly position mics on the tables.
- The Presenter or person who will do most of the talking, must use a lapel microphone.
- The sound system must be compatible with a loop system or other communication technology.

2. GOOD ACOUSTICS

- Ensure there is no echo and avoid using areas with wooden floors.

3. NO BACKGROUND NOISE

- Make sure staff elsewhere in the building respect sessions in other rooms (e.g. limit shouting in hallways)



4. PLACE TABLES IN “V” OR “U” SHAPE

5. AN INDUCTION LOOP

- Must be installed by an expert and the international sign of the T-coil displayed outside the venue.
- The output of the loop system must be accessible to persons with moderate to severe loss.

6. LOOP RECEIVERS

- These must be available for individuals without hearing aids or for use in cases where persons who are deaf, hearing impaired, or do not have hearing aids or an activated “T” function on their hearing aids.

7. ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES

- FM Systems like neck loop systems must be available and accessible to persons with moderate to severe hearing loss.

8. ACCESSIBLE AUDIO VISUAL ELEMENTS

- Such as: data projector, screen, speakers, spotlight or dimmers system, subtitles on video material.

9. LIP SPEAKERS, NOTE TAKERS OR SOUTH AFRICAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS

- The expert support needed will depend upon the different individuals attending the sessions and should be arranged well in advance of the session. The same goes for word-to-text transcription.
- Pace the proceedings and ensure regular breaks, with support persons in mind.



10. VISUAL EMERGENCY ALARMS AND EVACUATION PROCEDURES SHOULD BE AVAILABLE

11. GOOD LIGHTING AND ILLUMINATION

- Ensure that support staff such as Lip Speakers and Interpreters are not in dark areas when lights are dimmed for clarity of audio-visuals.

Contact the NCPD: _____

Fanie du Toit: faniemdt@ncpd.org.za | **Danie Marais:** danie@ncpd.org.za | **Visit:** www.roadtoindependence.co.za

Tel: 011 452 2774 | Andries Pretorius Rd, Edenvale, Johannesburg, 1609

www.ncpd.org.za | [f \disabilities.sa](https://www.facebook.com/disabilities.sa) | [@The_NCPD](https://twitter.com/The_NCPD) | [@disabilities_sa](https://www.instagram.com/disabilities_sa)

Visit our initiatives: www.casualday.co.za | www.nappyrun.co.za

