

# Profile

# NCPD

National Council of & for  
Persons with Disabilities



## “Amplifying the voices of Persons with Disabilities to lead the change.”

The National Council of and for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD), headquartered in Gauteng, is a premier DPO (Disabled Persons Organisation) non-profit organisation and a cornerstone of South Africa’s disability rights movement. Established in 1939, the NCPD has dedicated over eight decades to ensuring a society that embraces diversity and secures equitable opportunities for all.

Today, according to WHO & ILO data, approximately 17% of the South African population are persons with disabilities. Through collaborative efforts with government entities, civil society organisations, and international partners, the NCPD actively influences legislation, policies, and practices, and consequently, serves as the vital link between national policy and the lived experiences of persons with disabilities; whilst also providing services on local; provincial and national level.

## Vision:

An all-inclusive and equitable society where the human rights of all are upheld and protected.

## Mission:

To advocate, lobby, and provide innovative services that achieve collaborative social and economic inclusion. This includes fostering respect for dignity, combating stereotypes (particularly regarding hearing loss), and promoting the capabilities of persons with disabilities.

## Compliance & Framework:

The NCPD operates on a rights-based approach, serving as a key implementer of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), and the White Paper on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (WPRPD).

## Core Values:

The NCPD espouses and promotes the following core values in all its functions:



### **Self-representation:**

We ethically pledge to never speak for persons with disabilities, but to provide the platform for self-representation..



### **Integrity & Honour**

We manage public funds with radical transparency and “Honourable Intentions” to ensure maximum impact.



### **Equity & Inclusion**

We move beyond “equality” to “equity,” acknowledging that different impairments require specific, innovative accommodations to ensure fair outcomes.



### **Dignity & Respect**

Every interaction — from the Nappy Run to high-court litigation — must restore and uphold the inherent dignity of persons with disabilities.



### **Professionalism:**

We maintain high-impact standards through specialised expertise in law, research, and advocacy, consistently maintaining a rights-based approach.

## Governance and Staffing

The NCPD is led by a Council with provincial representation and an Executive Board (including the Executive Director) focused on sustainable value creation. The Board is democratically elected from member organisations, representing the country's racial and gender demographics, and includes people with varying impairments and expertise in governance and oversight.

Unlike traditional charities, the NCPD includes a specialized team of experts such as researchers, and pro-bono lawyers focused on high-impact litigation and policy change.

Our financial resilience is proven by our management of flagship projects like Casual Day, which has raised over R455.4 million for the sector in 29 years.

## Organisational Membership and Reach

As a national umbrella body, the NCPD coordinates a vast network:

- Provincial Associations (APDs): Providing grassroots services and mobilizing community discussions.
- **665** Smaller NPOs, CBOs, and Special Schools: Creating a unified voice for the disability sector.

## Financial & Economic Sustainability

The NCPD maintains a rigorous financial management system with bi-weekly cash flow statements and audited annual reports.

- **Revenue Streams:** Diversified income from project fundraising, trust distributions (Disability Empowerment Concern), member fees, and corporate partnerships (e.g., Clicks).
- **Resilience:** Despite challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic and economic shifts, the NCPD maintains substantial investments to ensure long-term stability without compromising service delivery.



## 1. Advocacy and Policy Influence

The NCPD utilizes lobbying, model legislation, and lawsuits to influence government programs. Key focus areas include:

- **Representation:** Promoting “Leaving No One Behind.”
- **Monitoring:** Holding the government accountable to national and international standards.
- **Accessibility:** Persuading entities like the DTI for tax rebates on adapted vehicles or the Department of Environmental Affairs for beach access permits.

## 2. Economic Empowerment and Training

- **Job & Learnership Placements:** Assisting persons with disabilities in acquiring workplace skills.
- **Disability Inclusion Training:** Advising workplaces on BEE compliance and universal design.
- **Entrepreneurship:** Supporting projects like Veggie and Raised Gardens and partnering with entrepreneurs for government tenders.

## 3. National Flagship Campaigns

- **Casual Day (Est. 1994):** Celebrating over 30 years, this is SA’s most successful fundraising project.
  - o **Impact:** Raised over **R455.4 million in 29 years.**
  - o **Support Base:** Partners with **554** mainstream schools, **418** NPOs, **184** LSEN centres, **742** government departments, and various universities.
  - o **Reach:** Funds hundreds of schools and supports injured veterans (SANDF and SAPS).
- **Nappy Run (Est. 2011):** An annual drive providing nappies and sanitary pads to children with disabilities to restore dignity.

## 4. Specialized Support Services

- **Hearing Loss Matters:** Support for the “Road to Independence” protocol, specifically for those who are deaf or hearing impaired but do not use Sign Language.
- **Gender-Based Violence (GBV):** A dedicated program launched in 2020 focusing on advocacy and support for women with disabilities.
- **Viva iYouth:** A leadership program designed to empower youth with disabilities to become the next generation of advocates.



**ENABLED WOMEN ARISE**  
DISABILITY GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE PROGRAMME

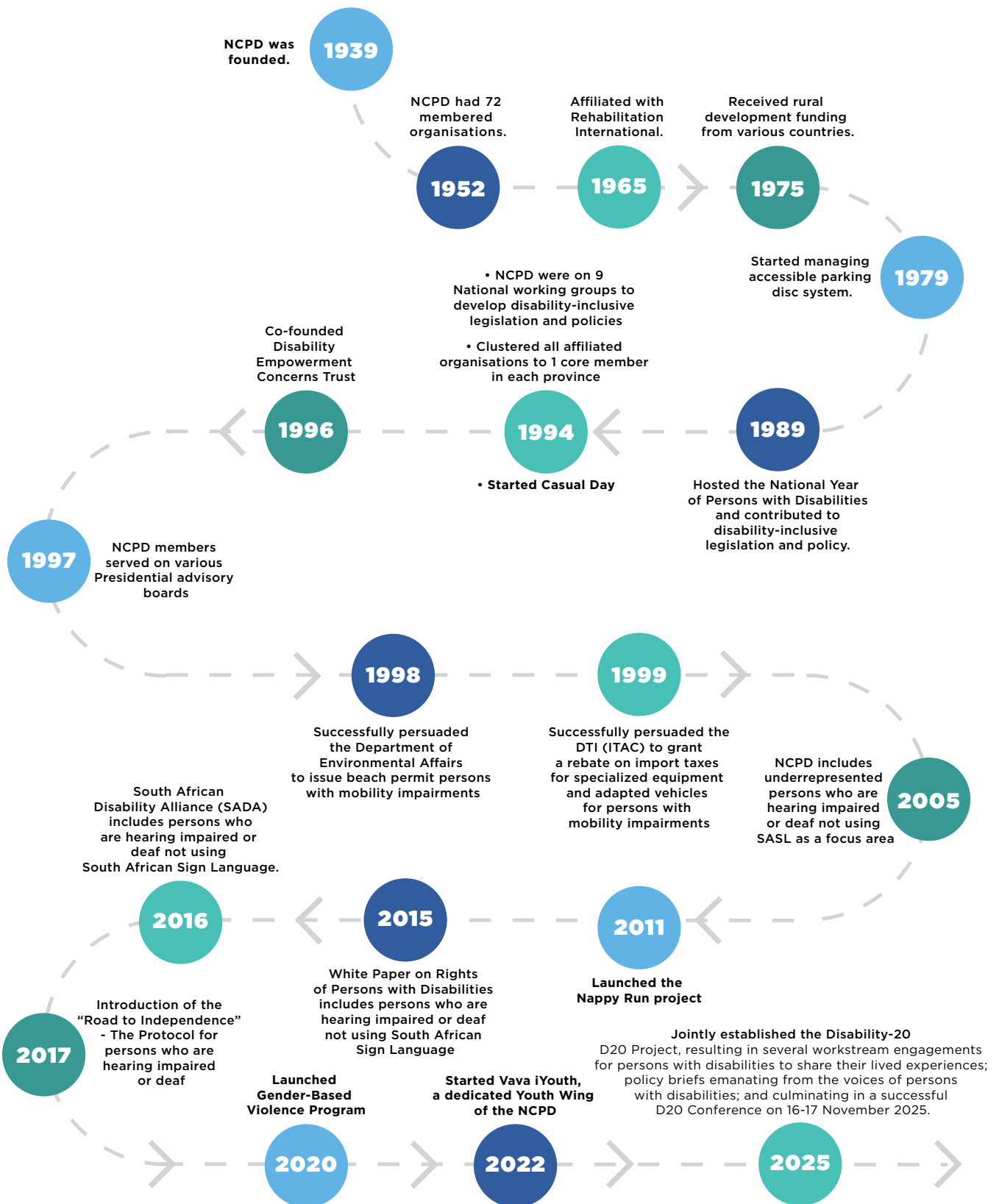


projects of

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The NCPD has been pivotal in advancing disability rights with numerous milestones:



## Conclusion

The NCPD remains the vital link between policy and the lived experiences of persons with disabilities, continuing to evolve to meet the needs of a changing South Africa.