



# Summary of Atoatoali'o – National Pacific Disability Approach

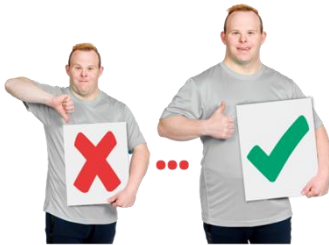


**Published: April 2025**

# What this Easy Read is about



This Easy Read is from **Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People**.



**Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People** works to make change for disabled people to make their lives better.



Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People makes things better for disabled people by working with:



- the Government
- the community
- businesses.

When you see **we / our / us** in this Easy Read it means **Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People**.



This Easy Read is about  
**Atoatoali'o – the National Pacific Disability Approach**.



**Atoatoali'o – the National Pacific Disability Approach** says what we can do to make support and services better for Pacific disabled people.



**Atoatoali'o** is a Samoan word about people sitting in a circle where everyone:

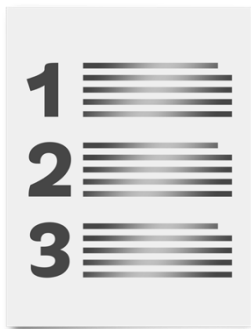


- fits
- belongs.



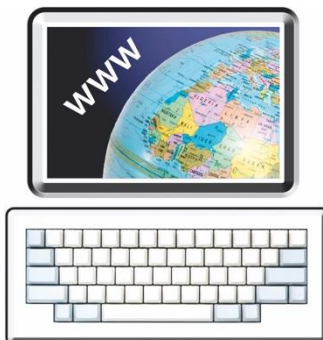
In this Easy Read we will call  
Atoatoali'o the National Pacific  
Disability Approach **Atoatoali'o**.

This Easy Read is a **summary** of the  
full document.



A **summary**:

- is shorter than the full document
- tells the main ideas.



You can find the full document at:

**<https://tinyurl.com/3mczckx9>**



The full document is **not** in  
Easy Read.



Atoatoali'o uses ideas from:

- Pacific disabled people
- the aiga / families of Pacific disabled people.



We will use Atoatoali'o when we update the **New Zealand Disability Strategy**.



The **New Zealand Disability Strategy** supports the Government to know how to make life better for disabled people.

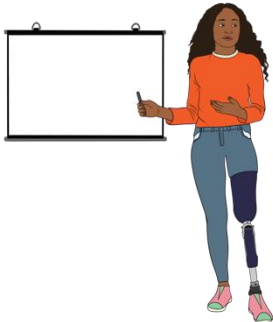
## What Atoatoali'o says



Atoatoali'o talks about our **priorities** for Pacific disabled people.



Here **priorities** means the things that are the most important to do.



We want to support Pacific disabled people to be leaders in their communities.



We want to make sure people who work in health / disability services understand:

- about Pacific **cultures**
- what Pacific disabled people need.





**Culture** is a way of:

- thinking that a group shares
- doing things as a group.



We want to support Pacific communities to understand about disability.



This will make it easier for Pacific disabled people to get support from their:

- aiga / family
- church
- community.





We want to make sure  
Pacific disabled people feel:

- supported
- **valued.**



Here **valued** means being treated  
like:

- you are important
- people care about you.



We want the aiga / families of Pacific  
disabled people to feel this way too.



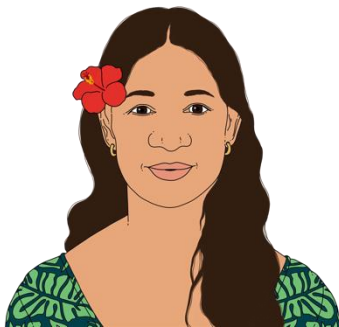


We want to make sure any **research** the Government does includes Pacific disabled people.



**Research** is when someone:

- looks at what is happening
- tries to find ways to do things better.



We want to work in ways that are good for:

- Pacific disabled people
- the aiga / families of Pacific disabled people
- the whole community.



# Thank you



We wrote Atoatoali'o with a lot of support from:

- Pacific disabled people
- Pacific communities.



We want to thank everyone who:

- came to talanoa / meetings
- told us their stories / ideas.

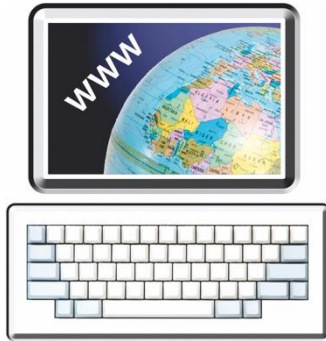


We could not have written Atoatoali'o without those people.



We need to make sure the New Zealand Disability Strategy shows that we have listened to the things everyone told us.

## Where to find more information



You can find out more about how we wrote Atoatoali'o here:

**<https://tinyurl.com/3mczckx9>**



This information has been written by Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People.



It has been translated into Easy Read by the Make it Easy Kia Māmā Mai service of People First New Zealand Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi.



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