People with disability are hopeful about the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), but there are some issues and challenges affecting the successful implementation of the NDIS throughout Australia, including:

- The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) could improve their engagement and communication with people with disability
- There is a need for a stronger commitment across government to address the barriers that the NDIS alone cannot address
- The planning process is inconsistent, varied often rushed, isn’t tailored to individual needs and can be difficult to navigate without advocacy or independent support
- In practice, there aren’t clear lines drawn between what the NDIS, housing, health and education provide and this is creating service gaps
- People over 65 who are unable to access the NDIS may be disadvantaged
- Funding for the Information, Linkages and Capacity Building stream of the NDIS will not be enough to achieve its important goals

Things that work

- Good plans designed to meet people’s goals are helping people do things they never thought were possible
- The NDIS has contributed to a grassroots and peer support movement that is creating strong networks of people with disability supporting each other through the NDIS process
- Good planning experiences, planners and support to implement plans are enabling people with disability to exercise choice and control over their supports
- “Nadia” – the intelligent assistant designed to help people navigate the NDIS – is a good example of co-design and collaboration between the NDIA and the community that can be built on

We will know that the NDIS is achieving positive change when:

- People with disability have the information and support they need to create plans and exercise choice and control over their supports
- People with disability are involved in co-design and co-creation of initiatives to make the NDIS work better
- All information, processes and infrastructure related to the NDIS are user-friendly
- Policy and practice meets the needs of vulnerable groups including people with disability with criminal justice histories, people with disability from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and people with disability from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds

All people with disability, regardless of age, residency status, cultural, Indigenous and/or linguistic background, criminal history and/or where they live, have access to the supports they need and can live life the way they choose to live it.