What practical issues do persons with disabilities face in accessing and using technologies in our region?

**Aiko overview of challenges:**
1. Common misconceptions about technology.
2. Common misconceptions about accessibility.
3. Availability - produced and made available in your country.
4. Affordability.
5. Ineffective distribution system.
6. Usability.
7. Confidentiality of information.
8. Markability.
9. Dearth of data.
10. Lack of will.

**Sawang overview of key challenges as a user:**
1. ACATRA (Accessibility, Assistive Technology, Reasonable Accommodation).
2. Accessing technologies.
3. Needs of innovation and technologies.
4. Public transport.
5. Challenges in Thailand: public transport (space is limited so persons with disabilities are marginalised; no route info for deaf; vending machines without Braille; wheelchairs of little use in rural areas; apps not fully accessible and limited availability in some areas).
6. Discrimination in eligibility for funding of assistive technologies.
7. Legislative measures - Hong Kong updating 2008 access code.
8. Innovative technology - very difficult to use legislation to jump-start this; but when mandatory there will be innovation.
9. Policy complex (Brunei) - not much we can share.
10. Persons with disabilities don’t think they can access - so they censor themselves.

**Other observations:**
1. Trust in technology - do you trust it enough to use it.
2. Scientists and users - between them there must be a system to link them together.
3. Tech that appears only for persons with disabilities can be used by all - mind-set of universal design may be lacking.
4. Governments could introduce cheaper ways of helping people with specific disabilities.
5. Persons with disabilities who cannot use tech - it’s because of lack of information (especially in rural areas; those in cities have more information).

**Funding:**
1. Blind, deaf, mobility (Brunei).
2. TV in Hong Kong is only when company needs licence.
3. Malaysia - lots of mobiles are designed in a particular way - phone cover that has little holes on cover to guide where positions on key can be found.

**Infrastructure:**
1. Infrastructure is designed by people who don’t think about accessibility.
2. Designers need to engage with persons with disabilities (contrasts between Malaysia and Singapore).
3. Design process.
4. User-centred design - ability to talk with deaf people - translating different sign languages (Philippines).
5. Accessibility standards - we don’t seem to have anything in common.

**Legislation:**
1. Legislation.
2. Legislative measures - Hong Kong updating 2008 access code.
3. Innovative technology - very difficult to use legislation to jump-start this; but when mandatory there will be innovation.
4. Technology is not enough for employment - government does not provide anything for employees; company has to buy the technology (Thailand).

**Costs:**
1. Affordability.
2. Maintenance and technical support.
3. Need for general public to be educated.
4. Need for more empathy.

**Licensing:**
1. Person with disabilities.
2. Persons with disabilities.
3. Persons with disabilities.
4. Persons with disabilities.
5. Persons with disabilities.
6. Persons with disabilities.
7. Persons with disabilities.
8. Persons with disabilities.

**Perceptions:**
1. Person with disabilities.
2. Persons with disabilities.
3. Persons with disabilities.
4. Persons with disabilities.
5. Persons with disabilities.
6. Persons with disabilities.
7. Persons with disabilities.
8. Persons with disabilities.

**Design and standards:**
1. Tech that appears only for persons with disabilities can be used by all - mind-set of universal design may be lacking.
2. Well-accessibility standards enable access to site.

**System issues:**
1. Disaster - how to communicate message to persons with disabilities - potential of photographs (UNOCHR) but cultural context.
2. Even if available, awareness is lacking.
3. Even if available, awareness is lacking.
4. If tech does not work persons with disabilities are timid in asking people to make it work.

**Other observations:**
1. Assistive tech empowering persons with disabilities - chronic fatigue syndrome - directing film from bed using Skype and iPhone.
2. Brunei - 7 categories of disability (from birth, and injuries).
3. Funding issues.
4. Legislation.
5. Discussed - how to communicate message to persons with disabilities - potential of photographs (UNOCHR) but cultural context.
6. Even if available, awareness is lacking.
7. If tech does not work persons with disabilities are timid in asking people to make it work.

**Legislation:**
1. Yik - every country has laws and practices - blind have audio; deaf have caption; or sign language.