


Public Disclosure Authorized

Public Disclosure Authorized

Public Disclosure Authorized

Public Disclosure Authorized

DEVELOPMENT Outreach

PUTTING KNOWLEDGE TO WORK FOR DEVELOPMENT  JULY 2005

40620



DISABILITY AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

ABOUT THIS ISSUE

Six hundred million people around the world are affected by disabilities. Most of them live in developing countries, and most of them are poor. There is a growing awareness in the development community that people with disabilities must be included in the development equation, not only to improve their economic and social welfare, but because they themselves can contribute to the development process.

Research shows that the disabled are caught in a vicious cycle: disabilities can cause people to fall into poverty, and the poor more often fall victim to disability. This means that there is a disproportionately high number of disabled people among the poor, especially in the developing countries.

People with disabilities, however, have a great deal to offer society, and can contribute significantly when given the opportunity. But this means eliminating discriminatory practices such as exclusion from school or work, and putting policies in place to help people with disabilities achieve economic independence. Society as a whole would reap the benefits of their "human capital."

In December 2004, the World Bank sponsored its second conference on Disabilities and Inclusive Development, which focused on how to bring people with disabilities into the mainstream of economic development, and explored the relationship between disability and poverty.

To build on the momentum created by the conference, *Development OUTREACH*, in this special report, presents a range of articles from international organizations, governments, and NGOs, illustrating different perspectives and approaches to facing the challenges of disability, and addressing the connection between disability and poverty either explicitly or implicitly.

We hope that this issue of *Development OUTREACH* will help raise awareness and contribute to a fuller inclusion of disability in the development agenda.



Sunetra Puri
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

MARY MCNEIL
FOUNDING EDITOR

EDITORIAL BOARD

SWAMINATHAN S. AIYAR
ECONOMIC TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI, INDIA

MICHAEL COHEN
NEW SCHOOL UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK, USA

PAUL COLLIER
THE WORLD BANK, WASHINGTON, DC, USA

JOHN GAGE
SUN MICROSYSTEMS, PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA, USA

JOSEPH K. INGRAM
THE WORLD BANK, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

KWAME KARIKARI
SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM AND COMMUNICATIONS,
THE UNIVERSITY OF GHANA, LEGON, GHANA

VIRA NANIVSKA
INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR POLICY STUDIES, KIEV, UKRAINE

PEPI PATRON
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY, LIMA, PERU

J. ROBERT S. PRICHARD
TORSTAR, TORONTO, CANADA

RAFAEL RANGEL SOSTMANN
MONTERREY TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM, MONTERREY, MEXICO

ADELE SIMMONS
CHICAGO METROPOLIS, CHICAGO, IL, USA

VIVIENNE WEE
CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT, GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT, SINGAPORE

Development OUTREACH is published three times a year by the World Bank Institute and reflects issues arising from the World Bank's many learning programs. Articles are solicited that offer a range of viewpoints from a variety of authors worldwide and do not represent official positions of the World Bank or the views of its management.

SUNETRA PURI
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

ANNA LAWTON
MANAGING EDITOR

MOIRA RATCHFORD
PUBLICATION DESIGN

PHOTO CREDITS

Cover: World Bank; Pages 2-3 and 28: World Bank; Page 5 and 17: World Bank/Anatoliy Rakhimbayev; Page 9: World Bank/Trevor Samson; Page 11: Roll Call Photos/ Tom Williams; Page 14 and 23: ILO; Page 19: Bandphoto/Zuma Press; Page 21: World Bank/Masaru Goto; Page 22: STAC; Page 26: SERP; Page 31: Salim Henry/Reuter; Page 32: T Reel/San Antonio Express-New/Zuma Press; Pages 34-35: Landmine Survivors Network; Page 37: The Challenged Athletes' Foundation

This magazine is printed on recycled paper, with soy-based inks. 

ISSN 1020-797X © 2005 The World Bank Institute

WORLD BANK INSTITUTE

Promoting knowledge and learning for a better world

World Bank Institute
Frannie A. Léautier, Vice President
The World Bank
1818 H Street NW
Washington, DC 20433, USA

www.worldbank.org/wbi
www.worldbank.org/devoutreach
devoutreach@worldbank.org

THE WORLD BANK

DEVELOPMENT Outreach

VOLUME SEVEN, NUMBER THREE JULY 2005



PAGE 9



PAGE 11



PAGE 30

SPECIAL REPORT DISABILITY AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

2 Greater Equity for Disabled People

JAMES D. WOLFENSOHN

4 Disability and the Fight Against Poverty *Guest Editorial*

JEAN-LOUIS SARBIB

7 The United Nations and Disability

EDOARDO BELLANDO

9 Research is Key to Moving Disability up the Economic Development Agenda

DANIEL MONT

11 Change from Within: The Impact of Disabled Politicians

ILENE R. ZEITZER AND KATHY MARTINEZ

13 An Inclusive Approach to Development: The UK and Disability

PHILIPPA THOMAS

14 Access for All: USAID's Commitment to Accessible Programs

LLOYD FEINBERG AND ROB HORVATH

16 Access Through Technology: The World Bank's Work on Technology for Disabled People

MOHAMED V. MUHSIN

18 Independent Living Empowers People with Disabilities

ADOLF D. RATZKA

20 Breaking the Barriers: Enabling Children with Disabilities

VENUS M. ILAGAN

23 Reducing Poverty Through Economic Empowerment: Women with Disabilities in Ethiopia

ROBERT RANSOM

25 From Norway with Love: Atlas Alliance's Initiatives

LARS ODEGAARD

26 Disability Enlightenment: Improving Services to Disabled People through *Velugu*

VENKATESH SUNDARARAMAN

28 Towards Inclusion: Education for Persons with Disabilities

KENNETH EKLINDH

30 "The Forgotten Tribe": Persons with Disabilities and HIV/AIDS

AMBROSE MURANGIRA

32 Disability and Broadcasting in the UK: Past, Present and Future

SIMON MINTY

34 Inclusive Development in Post-Conflict Societies

HER MAJESTY QUEEN NOOR OF JORDAN

37 VOICES FROM THE FIELD

38 BOOKSHELF

39 KNOWLEDGE RESOURCES

40 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

greater equity for

BY JAMES D. WOLFENSOHN

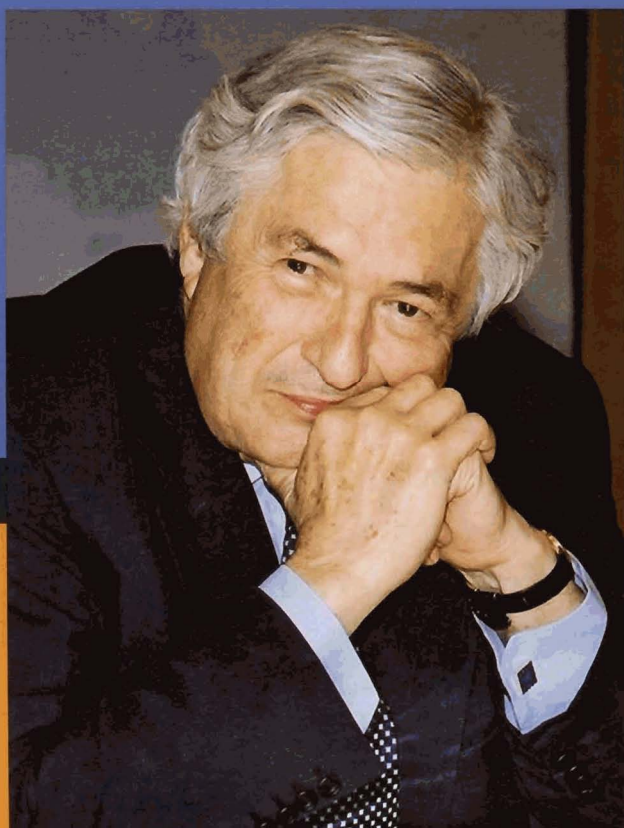
SOME OF THE MORE IMPORTANT WORK I have undertaken during my tenure at the World Bank has, in fact, been unlocking the opportunities for 600 million or more people who have one form of disability or another. As many of us know, people with disabilities have tremendous competencies that we need to unlock so that they can contribute to the societies in which we all live.

My personal interest in the issue began more than 20 years ago when a friend of mine named Jacqueline du Pré contracted multiple sclerosis. It affected me profoundly and eventually I converted my newly found interest in the disease into a professional one by becoming the president of the Multiple Sclerosis International Federation (MSIF) in the 1980s. Not only did I learn a lot about MS at this job, but also about a whole host of problems that disabled people face. Since that time I have remained engaged in the issues of the disabled

community because once you become aware of the issues—you cannot forget them.

In 2002 the Disability and Development Initiative was launched at the World Bank and Judith Heumann was hired as our first-ever Advisor on Disability. The move reinforced the Bank's poverty reduction mission because disabled people are often the most impoverished in any given society, and it also reflected what I saw as a transition at the Bank—from a sort of "institutional approach" based on numbers—towards a more "human approach" that perceives the issues of poverty within the context of empowering people. Enfranchising and giving voice to poor, vulnerable groups of people whether they be orphans, indigenous people, or disabled people is essential to truly understanding the challenges these people face and makes our institution a more effective and humanized one. And when disability combines with other characteristics associated with poverty—such as gender—it can be particularly detrimental to economic well-being.

The Bank's work on disability is not a gloss on what we do, but rather it is central to what we do. This means that we have undertaken a mainstreaming approach to our work on disability because we recognize it as a cross-cutting issue affecting a variety of areas such as education, infrastructure construction and reconstruction, information sharing and technology, and data collection. Disability is being interwoven throughout the projects which we finance. I am encouraged by the progress we have made within our institution so far, but we must push for-



disabled people



James D. Wolfensohn, Former World Bank President, and Judith E. Heumann, Advisor on Disability and Development, at the Disability and Development Conference, December 2004

ward until we begin to see concrete results.

If we are to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, which were set at the year 2000 and aimed at halving poverty, dealing with education for all, and reducing the rates of mortality in birth and for children, we cannot hope for success without the inclusion of disabled people. Take education. An estimated 40 million of the more than 100 million children out of school have disabilities yet most of our schools are built without access for children who have physical disabilities and most teachers are not trained to deal with children who have handicaps.

Moving the disability and development agenda forward is not something that any of us can do alone. This is an enormous task that requires a partnership on a global level. We need greater collaboration with civil society and NGOs at the local and national-levels, trade unions, faith-based groups, international institutions, the private sector and the governments that we serve. This is why we provided initial funding to organize the Global Partnership on Disability and Development (GPDD), which is a loosely constructed worldwide coalition of organizations interested in furthering the vision of Inclusive development and to do so through the sharing of knowledge and the coordination of their efforts.

If we remove the barriers that have relegated disabled people to poverty, provide them with an opportunity to work, to become self-sufficient and contribute to their community, I believe that their families, community, society, and local economy will also benefit. And this is also what disabled people want. They want the chance to get educated, find rewarding work, lead worthwhile lives and be valued members of their community and of the world at large. Their empowerment is a cause which is humanly important, economically important, and is an integral part of our overall quest to fight poverty and build a peaceful planet.

Aubrey Webson of the Hilton Foundation's Perkins School for the Blind



Disability and the Fight Against Poverty

Guest Editorial

BY JEAN-LOUIS SARBIB

DISABLED PEOPLE CONSTITUTE one of the largest and poorest groups among people living in poverty. Plausible estimates of the number of disabled people in developing countries range upward from 400 million, and many more people are involved with disability as family members of disabled people. Poverty rates among disabled people are high even if the same poverty lines are used that are applied to the general population. And, Nobel laureate Dr. Amartya Sen recently pointed out in a keynote address at the World Bank that, if poverty lines are adjusted to reflect the fact that disability absorbs substantial amounts of both time and money, poverty rates for disabled people will be even higher. It is clear that the fight against poverty will not succeed without focused efforts to address the needs of people with disabilities.

Addressing the issue of disability requires cutting across the boundaries of traditional disciplines. People speak about disability and development using different vocabularies, and the way they view the subject reflects varied geographic backgrounds, experience from diverse disciplines, and different institutional affiliations. This issue of *Development OUTREACH* has been designed to reflect a rich array of viewpoints and approaches on disability and development. Each article contributes to a fuller understanding of each other article, and each can be fully appreciated only in the context of the entire body of work on the subject.

The magazine opens with an article called "The United Nations and Disability," by Edoardo Bellando. It describes various areas in which the UN is working on disability issues and highlights its work on the UN Convention on Disability. The UN is at the forefront of recognizing disability as a human rights issue and its convention is the cornerstone of this approach. It is a vital piece of work not only because of the substance that is emerging from it—governments that ratify the convention will be legally bound to give people with disabilities clearly defined rights—but also because of the process that is creating it. Disability groups, organized in a Disability Caucus, have for the first time claimed their place at the drafting table, thus making their motto, "nothing about us without us," a reality.

Complementary to the UNs' work on human rights is progress in placing disability firmly on the economic development agenda. The full potential of a human rights approach will only be reached, in my view, if it proceeds together with the creation of an environment in which economic progress is also possible. Economic gains will not automatically follow from human rights advances, but a human rights framework will remain hollow if not accompanied by improvements in the economic well-being of disabled people.

Economists have been rather slow to see disability as an important aspect of poverty in developing countries. A central reason is a vicious circle between research and data. Since data about disability in developing countries are limited and difficult, researchers have tended to by-pass the topic. At the same time, since researchers have not been clamoring for data, the foundation of facts about disability in developing countries is weak. In his contribution, "Research is Key to Moving Disability up the Economic Development Agenda," Daniel Mont, an Economist and Consultant with the Human Development Network at the World Bank, focuses on this problem. He assesses the current state of play, describes recent attempts to improve the situation, and calls on researchers to redouble and harmonize their efforts to generate good data and research.

In many developing countries, policy makers have also been slow to consider disability in the context of economic development programs and policies. An important reason is that disabled people have been underrepresented in positions of influence and power, both because of educational constraints and because of discrimination. "Change from Within," by Ilene R. Zeitzer and Kathy Martinez, documents the positive impact of having people with disabilities in positions of responsibility.

One of the consequences of general neglect by policy makers is another vicious circle: since policy makers in developing countries have not insisted that foreign assistance programs take disability explicitly into account, foreign assistance providers have been able to argue that "it's not something developing countries think is important." Yet, since programs of foreign cooperation often have not raised issues of disability and poverty, policy makers in developing coun-

tries have had one less reason to include it on their agenda.

This vicious demand-supply circle is beginning to break down. Several foreign assistance providers, most notably the Scandinavian countries, have made disability an ingredient in their foreign aid programs. Some large foreign assistance providers are also taking note, and we include here contributions from three of them: DFID, USAID, and the World Bank.

DFID has adopted a twin-track approach to inclusive development that is laid out in "DFID and Disability," by Philippa Thomas: (1) specific initiatives to empower and enhance the lives of disabled people, and (2) mainstreaming disability across all areas of its work. DFID is also determined to develop a more diverse workforce by recruiting more disabled people, particularly at higher levels.

USAID is taking a number of actions to include disabled people more fully in the design, implementation and evaluation of its development efforts. "Access for All," by Lloyd Feinberg and Rob Horvath, focuses particularly on accessibility standards in USAID-financed construction.

"Access through Technology," by Mohamed V. Muhsin, describes the World Bank's efforts to make the World Wide Web, computer technologies, telephony and video conferencing work for disabled people.

Some of the most fascinating and productive international initiatives in the area of disability and inclusive development do not come from large foreign assistance agencies, but from NGOs working in cooperation with each other and with other partners. We present a few of these initiatives here:

"Independent Living Empowers People with Disabilities,"

by Adolf Ratzka, describes a worldwide movement of disabled people who work for self-determination, self-respect and equal opportunities. With origins in the US civil rights and consumer movements of the late 1960s, the Independent Living movement replaces the special education and rehabilitation experts' concepts of integration, normalization and rehabilitation with a new paradigm developed by disabled people themselves.

"Breaking the Barriers," by Venus M. Ilagen, describes a cooperation between the National Federation of Disabled Persons in the Philippines (KAMPI) and the Danish Society of Polio and Accident Victims (PTU) called Breaking Barriers for Children. For the past 10 years, the program has been establishing satellite Stimulation and Therapeutic Activity Centers in 118 municipalities.

"Economic Empowerment of Women with Disabilities in Ethiopia," by Robert Ransom of the ILO, recounts the story of Mebrate Gebre-Yesus, a woman disabled while fighting in opposition to the former government, and now helped by a program called Entrepreneurship Development among Women with Disabilities in Ethiopia.

"From Norway with Love," by Lars Odegaard, presents a number of initiatives by the Norwegian NGO, Atlas Alliance. It describes how Atlas Alliances' work both in Norway and in the field—namely, in Lesotho—have benefited disabled people and inspired them to take the initiative in their own hands.

"Disability Enlightenment: Improving Services to Disabled People through Velugu," describes a project partnership between the World Bank and The Society for the Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP), a quasi-government body in India.



GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP ON DISABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT

The Global Partnership on Disability and Development (GPDD) illustrates the World Bank's commitment to collaborating with diverse partners in order to integrate disabled people fully into national and international economic development efforts. The overall objective of the GPDD is to combat the social and economic exclusion and impoverishment of disabled people and their families in developing countries.

The GPDD combines an informal Alliance of many stakeholders and a multi-donor trust fund:

The Alliance for Disability and Development is an informal cooperation of developing country governments, bilateral and multilateral donors, UN agencies, multilateral development banks, international development NGOs, disabled persons' organizations, foundations, enterprises, and other participants drawn together by the GPDD's overall objective. The Alliance has created a Coordinating Task Force of fourteen people drawn from representative constituent entities. The Coordinating Task Force is converging on a program of activities that can be divided up among participants and implemented in a coordinated, parallel manner. The Task Force is looking first at disability data; economic research on disability and poverty; development policy; capacity building of various kinds, including developing expertise in the economics of disability and development in universities and institutes in developing countries; and pilot foreign assistance projects. The task force has created working groups on education and (following the Tsunami) disaster recovery.

A multi-donor Trust Fund for Disability and Development (TFDD) will finance the processes necessary to the functioning of the broad Alliance. If funds permit, the TFDD may also finance specific projects and activities that advance the GPDD's overall objective.

The World Bank is supporting the Alliance by providing administrative services, hosting a web site and listserv, and organizing and hosting teleconferences and meetings. The World Bank will also serve as trustee for the Trust Fund. As an additional contribution toward the goals of the GPDD, the World Bank provided a grant for the UN's Washington Group on Disability Measurement to strengthen the collection and reporting of disability statistics.

For more information on the GPDD, visit www.worldbank.org, then topics > Social Protection & Labor > Disability > Global Partnership for Disability and Development.

SERP has been entrusted with the responsibility of implementing all of Velugu's components with the overarching goal of enhancing the economic and social mobility of the poor, and to improve their quality of life. This multi-objective project has as a key component the mandate to bring the *eternal light of Velugu* to the disabled citizens of Andhra Pradesh.

Several articles in this issue of *Development OUTREACH* have a sectoral point of view: education, health, communications and post-conflict.

"Education for Persons with Disabilities: Towards Inclusion," by Kenneth Eklindh of UNESCO, speaks on behalf of disabled school-age children. Since 40 percent of school-age children who are not in school have disabilities of one kind or another, Education for All (EFA) must include strategies to combat discrimination and remove structural and attitudinal barriers and to focus on the needs of children with disabilities. The UNESCO "Flagship on the Right to Education for Persons with Disabilities: Towards Inclusion" promotes a broad concept of education that aims at full inclusion in society.

"The Forgotten Tribe," by Ambrose Murangira, describes a triple burden in Uganda: disability, poverty and HIV/AIDS. Disabled people are more vulnerable to HIV/AIDS than the general population because information programs have not been tailored to reach them effectively and because discrimination has limited their access to health services. Murangira is a young blind Ugandan who calls for inclusion of disabled persons in the national crusades for HIV/AIDS prevention and management.

In "Disability and Broadcasting," Simon Minty filters the development of media approaches to disability through his own personal experiences over the last 10 years. Changes at the BBC, the Broadcasters and Creative Industries Disability Network and Sky Television offer hope that the communications sector all over the world can be a positive force in reducing stigma and discrimination.

"Inclusive Development in Post-Conflict Societies," by Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan, is Her Majesty's personal account of the work being done in the area of landmine eradication. Over the past several years she has worked with the Landmine Survivors Network and the International Coalition to Ban Landmines in the global battle to eradicate not only landmines but the effects of landmines. And, as you might imagine, many of the activists working on this campaign are, in fact, disabled and fiercely determined to improve the lives of persons with disabilities.

The articles in this issue of *Development OUTREACH* share a tone of dynamism, and a sense that things are on the move. They call for moving from advocacy to policy and action. It would be premature to claim that efforts to mainstream disability in the development agenda have reached full maturity, yet these articles illustrate broad progress across a wide front. Like the pieces of an emerging mosaic, the efforts described in this issue are building a hopeful picture of an inclusive future for disability and development.

✎

Jean-Louis Sarbib is Senior Vice President and Head of the Human Development Network, The World Bank

The United Nations and Disability

BY EDOARDO BELLANDO

EIGHTY PER CENT of people with disabilities live in poor countries, which are less equipped to address their needs. All over the world, persons with disabilities continue to suffer from discrimination and lower standards of living.

To address this situation, the United Nations has consistently promoted the full equality of persons with disabilities and their participation in the social, economic and political life of their country. This concern is rooted in its founding principles, which are based on human rights, fundamental freedoms and the equality of all human beings.

A disability perspective

IN 1971, the United Nations' General Assembly adopted the *Declaration on the Rights of Mentally Retarded Persons* and, in 1975, the *Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons*, which set the standard for equal treatment and equal access to services.

Growing international recognition of disability rights as a

form of human rights led to the proclamation of the *International Year of Disabled Persons* in 1981. The Year led to the adoption by the General Assembly of the *World Programme of Action Concerning Disabled Persons* (1982), a policy framework for promoting the rights of persons with disabilities, which calls for international cooperation in support of equality and full participation in social life and development. The Assembly also declared the *United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, 1983-1992*, and in 1992 it proclaimed 3 December as the *International Day of Disabled Persons*. Subsequent regional Decades of Disabled Persons have been implanted in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.

A major outcome of the Decade on Disability was the adoption in 1993 of the *United Nations Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities*. The Rules serve as a tool for policy-making and as a basis for technical and economic cooperation. They have been instrumental in moving away from the traditional welfare approach to disability towards a rights-based approach.

A DECADE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: A CALL TO ACTION

The African Decade (2000-2009) was proclaimed by the African Union Assembly of Heads of State in July 1999, and a formal Declaration was subsequently adopted by the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government in July 2000. The Declaration calls upon AU member States to study the situation of persons with disabilities with a view to formulating measures favouring equalization of opportunities, full participation and their independence in society. A Continental Plan of Action for the Decade was drafted at a Pan-African Conference held in Addis Ababa in February 2002, and adopted by the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government in July 2002. A Secretariat for the Decade eventually was created in April 2004.

It has been my honor to serve as Chief Executive Officer of the Secretariat since its inception. —Shuaib Chalklen

AFRICAN DECADE: 1999-2009

<http://www.africandecade.org.za/>

ASIAN DECADE: 1993-2002

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/psis/disability/decade/index.asp>

ARAB DECADE: 2003-2012

<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/enable/disarabdecade.htm>

2003-2012

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/psis/disability/decadenew/newdecade.asp>

Growth of a disability agenda

- The first Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission on Social Development was Mr. Bengt Lindqvist, who was appointed by the Secretary-General in 1994. The current Rapporteur, Ms. Hissa Khalifa Al-Thani, was appointed in 2003. The task of the Rapporteur is to promote and monitor the implementation of the Standard Rules and make proposals for their further development. This involves a direct dialogue with Member States, disability organizations and experts to obtain their views and comments.
- The United Nations Programme on Disability, housed in the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, draws its mandate from the *World Programme of Action and the Standard Rules*. The Programme works to support the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in social life and development, to advance the rights and protect the dignity of persons with disabilities, and to promote equal access to employment, education, information, goods and services.
- Technical cooperation is carried out through the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability, which supports innovative activities to put into practice the *World Programme of Action*. The Fund provides small grants to promote awareness of disability issues, exchanges of knowledge and experience, and dissemination of appropriate disability technologies. It also supports participation by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the sessions of the committee drafting the Convention on the rights of people with disabilities. The Fund currently supports a project of national training workshops in nine Latin American countries; an education initiative on universal design in Latin America and the Caribbean; a project on capacity-building and training for leaders of disability organizations; and small-scale projects in the Arab region, Bulgaria and Ethiopia.

The United Nations works with governments, the non-governmental community, academic institutions and professional societies to promote awareness, compile international resources and build national capacities for a broad human rights approach to the issue. It also seeks to promote the disability perspective in mainstream development and human rights activities.

For its part, the General Assembly has reaffirmed its commitment to adopting and promoting effective public policies and programmes for persons with disabilities and has launched a process leading to the adoption of the first-ever

convention on the protection and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities.

A convention on disability

MEXICO'S PRESIDENT VICENTE FOX proposed to the General Assembly the drafting of a landmark convention in 2001. The Assembly then established the Ad-Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention to Promote and Protect the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, which met for the first time in July 2002.

Many members from the global disability community attended that first meeting. They organized themselves into a Disability Caucus and fought hard, using the slogan "Nothing about us without us." A unique feature of these proceedings was how the Ad-Hoc Committee allowed accredited disability NGOs to attend the public meetings, make statements and presentations, and provide material to delegations. Thus, this was and still is a process open to persons with disabilities and their organizations, as they work together with government experts.

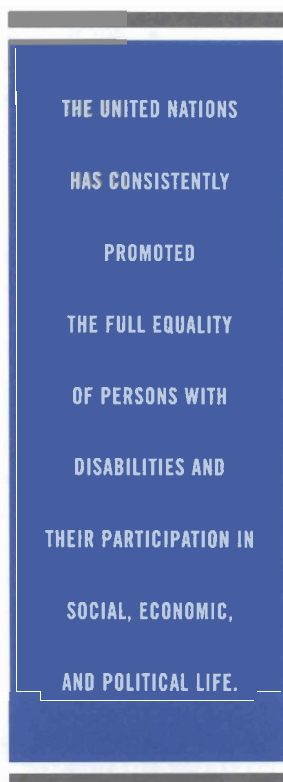
This breakthrough convention is the only universal human rights instrument specifically addressing disability. It creates a framework for promoting the rights of persons with disabilities in a single, legally binding instrument, of a standing equal to other major conventions. It makes persons with disabilities "rights holders" and "subjects of law", with full participation in formulating and carrying out plans and policies affecting them.

The convention moves beyond the traditional concept of access to the physical environment, to broader issues of equal access, social opportunities, health, education, employment, political, economic and social development, and elimination of legal and social barriers to equal participation. Governments that ratify it will be

legally bound to treat persons with disabilities not just as victims or a minority, but as subjects of the law with clearly defined rights.

This convention will address all kinds of barriers facing people with disabilities such as the denial of the right to vote, the opening of bank accounts or signing of contracts, discrimination in employment and inadequate standard of living. A final convention text is expected by 2006.

Edoardo Bellando is Public Information Officer, United Nations Program on Disability



Research is Key

to Moving Disability up the Economic Development Agenda

BY DANIEL MONT

DISABILITY BELONGS on the economic development agenda, but it has been rather slow to arrive. Disability affects hundreds of millions of families in developing countries, and there are two-way links between poverty and disability. Yet a weak factual foundation about disability and development and anemic research interest have tended to undercut each other—since data are weak, there is little research; and since there is little research, demand for data is weak. The practical consequence has been that disability and development has been pushed down the development agenda by aspects that are better researched. We must break this pattern by making the best

possible use of the data and research that do exist, by identifying the most critical areas for data generation and economic research, and by pressing ahead to remedy the neglect that this aspect of economic development has experienced.

Definitional and measurement problems plague data generation

QUALITY DATA ON DISABILITY does not generally exist for developing countries. Within established economies, the prevalence rate varies from 8 percent to over 20 percent. Much of this variance can be explained by differences in definitions. In some countries, a person who controls diabetes



with diet alone is considered disabled, while in others someone is disabled only if she has impairments that permanently and completely prevent her from working. Quite apart from definitional difficulties, serious measurement problems have inhibited the development of a solid factual foundation about disability in developing countries.

Definitional and measurement problems help explain why many developing countries report rates of disability that are unbelievably low—often 1 percent or 2 percent. As data and methods improve, it isn't unusual for disability estimates to jump. Recently, a few countries have adopted an approach to disability measurement based on the WHO's new International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health (ICF), and have thus started recording prevalence rates more in line with developed countries. For example, the 1991 Brazilian census reported only a 1 percent to 2 percent disability rate, but the 2001 census, using the improved approach, recorded a 14.5 percent disability rate. Similar jumps in the measured rate of disability have occurred in Turkey (12.3 percent) and Nicaragua (10.1 percent).

The nature of disability and its extent can also vary across countries, depending on the main causes of disability. A study being presently undertaken by the World Bank finds that about 20 percent of the population of Bosnia is suffering from depression, for example. Similar rates may apply in other post-conflict countries.

Disability and Poverty

SOME ESTIMATES SUGGEST that roughly 15 percent to 20 percent of poor people in developing countries have a disability (Elwan, 1999). A recent disability survey in Nicaragua found disabled people to have much lower rates of education, much higher rates of illiteracy, and much lower rates of economic activity. In Uganda, households with a disabled head are 38 percent more likely to be poor than their non-disabled counterparts (Hoogeveen, 2005). According to the Serbian Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP), 70 percent of disabled people are poor and only 13 percent have access to employment. In Sri Lanka, about 90 percent of disabled people are unemployed (Tudawe, 2001). One study in India found that disabled people were more likely to be poor, hold fewer assets, and incur greater debts than the general population (Harris-White, 1996).


Moreover, the disability of one member impacts whole families. The Uganda study showed a significant drop off in school attendance for children with disabled household heads. In Nicaragua, family members spent on average 10 hours a day caring for disabled people, which must affect their employment and other home production.

Still, these figures probably underestimate the extent of poverty among disabled people. As Dr. Amartya Sen pointed out in his keynote address at the World Bank's conference on disability, the poverty line for disabled people should take into account the extra expenses they incur in exercising what purchasing power they do have. A study in the United Kingdom found that the poverty rate for disabled people was 23.1 percent compared to 17.9 percent for non-disabled peo-

ple, but when extra expenses associated with being disabled were considered, the poverty rate for people with disabilities shot up to 47.4 percent. What seems very clear is that poor people are disproportionately disabled, and disabled people are disproportionately poor.

The two-way link between poverty and disability creates a vicious circle. Poor people are more at risk of acquiring a disability because of lack of access to good nutrition, health care, sanitation, as well as safe living and working conditions. Once this occurs, people face barriers to the education, employment, and public services that can help them escape poverty. These barriers include intense stigma, as well as barriers related to infrastructure and program design. Unfortunately, research in this area is sparse (Yeo and Moore, 2003).

The World Bank has been increasing efforts in this area. The World Bank is supporting efforts by the UN Statistical Commission's Washington Group on Disability Measurement to develop improved data instruments. Disability is also being incorporated in a growing number of Bank research projects including primary data collection (e.g., Afghanistan, Ecuador, Bolivia, and Kenya). In addition, using poverty mapping techniques, the Bank is developing a methodology for estimating the poverty rates of small vulnerable groups (see Hoogeveen, 2005) and applying it to several countries this year. A qualitative data instrument focusing on how disability affects family dynamics is also in development. A study on service delivery to disabled people in Indonesia, a regional study of disability in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, a study of cash transfer programs in Latin America, and a study of the relationship between disability and educational attainment are in progress.

In November 2004, the World Bank convened a seminar to develop a strategic plan for generating research to meaningfully assist inclusive development. The seminar was chaired by the World Bank's new Chief Economist for Human Development and included a number of outside experts. The group concluded that the World Bank should construct a detailed program evaluation of service delivery in the area of employment, education or health as it regards people with disabilities. The evaluation should focus on the family (or household) of the disabled person, and the results should be incorporated into current operations. The goal is not only to focus attention on the relationship between disability and poverty, but also to help develop the tools to better design, monitor, and evaluate policies and operations that include disabled people. 

Daniel Mont is an Economist and Consultant with the Human Development Network, The World Bank

References:

- Elwan, A. (1999) Poverty and Disability: A Review of the Literature, Social Protection Discussion Paper No. 9932, The World Bank
- Harris-White, B. (1999) Onto a loser: Disability in India, in B. Harris-White and S. Subramanian (eds.), *Ill fare in India: Essays on India's Social Sector in Honor of S. Guhan* (pp. 135-138) New Delhi: Sage Publications
- Hoogeveen, J. G. (Forthcoming), Measuring Welfare for Small but Vulnerable Groups Poverty and Disability in Uganda, *Journal of African Economies*.
- Tudawe, I. (2001) Chronic Poverty and Development Policy in Sri Lanka; Overview Study, Chronic Poverty Research Centre Working Paper 9. Manchester: Institute of Development Policy and Management/CPRC
- Yeo, R. and K. Moore, (2003) Including Disabled People in Poverty Reduction Work; "Nothing About Us, Without Us." *World Development*, Vol. 31, No.3 pp 571-590

Change from Within

The Impact of Disabled Politicians

BY ILENE R. ZEITZER
AND KATHY MARTINEZ

"By definition, a government has no conscience, sometimes it has a policy, but nothing more."

—Albert Camus (1913-1960)

"The welfare of each is bound up in the welfare of all."

—Helen Keller (1880-1968)

AN INTERNATIONAL, just released study of twenty leaders in a dozen countries has examined the impact on social policies and programs of having people with disabilities in high positions of governance. *Change from Within: International Overview of the impact of disabled politicians and disability policy bodies on governance* concludes that having disabled individuals in positions of governance is clearly having an impact. Disabled people in government positions report that legislation and programmatic improvements have aided the situation of people with disabilities in their respective countries. Moreover, though perhaps less quantifiable, they also list heightened awareness and increased understanding of disability issues among their non-disabled colleagues as another positive impact. Many report that their non-disabled peers have begun to consider all issues through a new "disability lens" and as a result, they have developed new allies in the fight for equal access and inclusion. Finally and perhaps most importantly, they see themselves as role models who could serve to inspire new generations of



more individuals with disabilities to enter public service.

The study was undertaken on behalf of the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) of the United States Department of Education and is part of the five year International Disability Exchanges and Studies (IDEAS) project conducted by the World Institute on Disability in collaboration with Rehabilitation International (RI). The study was initiated because the impact of having people with disabilities in high positions of governance has, thus far, not been measured or explored at all.

There are probably many explanations for this, but the most likely one is that disabled individuals have only gained access to high levels of governance in different countries fairly recently. Much as the ascent into leadership by women a few decades before, the research that studied the impact of the gender shift lagged behind the actual gains by several years. While there are similarities to the situation of women in leadership positions, the challenges for disabled individuals are far more sharply cast and arguably much more difficult to overcome.

Goal of the project

THIS REPORT SEEKS to answer some basic questions about the impact of having people with disabilities in high positions of governance. Does it really make a difference? When people with disabilities serve in high positions of leadership, do governments develop "a conscience;" at least, do non-disabled politicians think about the impact on people with disabilities when they develop policies? What are the systemic differences in the ways that some countries are integrating disabled people in positions of governance? What are the differences, if any, in being elected versus being appointed to positions of high leadership concerning self-perceptions of disabled leaders? Does having disabled colleagues raise the awareness of non-disabled politicians on the issues that stem from coping with a disability in a non-disabled world? Once in positions of governance, do disabled individuals see themselves as spokespersons for all other disabled people or do they shy away from being perceived as a "poster child" or a single issue expert? Finally, what do disabled leaders see as their impact on the welfare of their respective countries?

Scope and format of the study

THERE ARE THREE DISTINCT but inter-related aspects to the study: 1) a portfolio of elected and appointed governmental officials with disabilities that includes the individual interviews and an analysis of the impact of their service; 2) the structure, scope and effectiveness achieved by national disability policy bodies; and 3) improving accessibility of democratic processes, such as voting and elections.

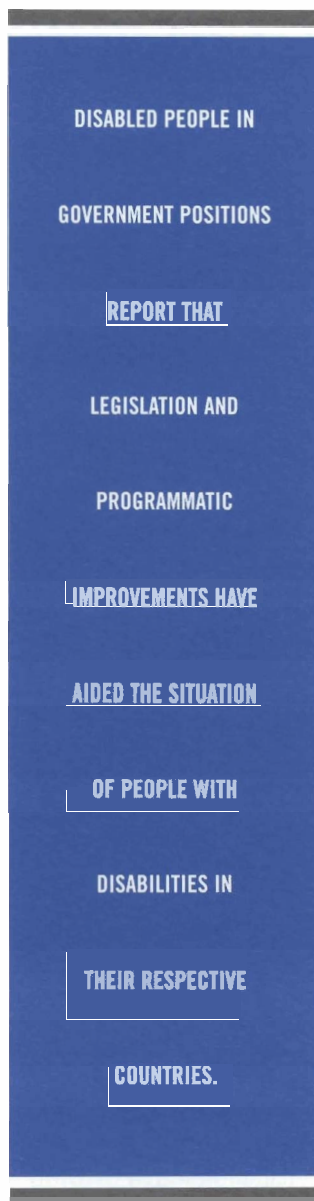
The research was carried out over more than a year through personal interviews with individuals who had various types of visible disabilities and who had either been elected or appointed to their positions. They were from South Africa, Lesotho, Malawi, Uganda, Lebanon, Brazil, Mexico, Sweden, Norway, the United Kingdom, New Zealand and the United States. The study explores the various ways in which those interviewed attained positions of leadership. Although it might seem that there were only two options i.e., they were either elected or appointed, in actuality, within those two possibilities, were several variations on a theme. For example, in the African countries, the election of several of the leaders was accomplished through deliberate recruitment of qualified individuals with disabilities. The

process in South Africa is illustrative in that the leading party there, the African National Congress (ANC), went directly to the major disability Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in different areas and asked them to develop a list of well-qualified individuals and then those names were placed on the party's national list to ensure through this process that people with disabilities have a voice in Parliament. Thus in 1999, 10 individuals with disabilities became Members of the

South African Parliament—the highest representation of any country of the world.

The study also explores how disabled leaders feel about their role especially if, unlike the South African example, they were not specifically selected to represent a disability constituency, but instead were elected to represent a district or area where the majority of those represented are not people with disabilities. The leaders in those situations often indicated that they were more conflicted about their position. Initially elected to represent a broad-based constituency, they tended to shy away from disability issues lest they be perceived as too focused on one issue. However, after settling into their respective positions, they often came to realize that they had an expertise and familiarity that their non-disabled colleagues simply did not and could not have and thus, they had an almost moral obligation to speak out on these issues.

The study also examines how countries organize their governance structures to ensure input from the disability community and specifically how disability organizations interact with government and influence legislation, policies and programs. Again, there are many different models represented by the different countries. For example, in recent years, Mexico and South Africa have both established specific disability offices that report to the President and with which all other ministries must work very closely to ensure that policies and programs are being responsive and inclusive. In some other countries such as Malawi and Uganda, previously elected MPs have been elevated to the status of Ministers specifically for disability issues.



Ilene R. Zeitzer and Kathy Martinez, World Institute on Disability

Copies of *Change from Within* will be available from Kathy Martinez at the World Institute on Disability; Kathy@wid.org; Tel: 510 251 4326; or Fax: 510 763 4109.

An Inclusive Approach to Development

The UK and Disability

BY PHILIPPA THOMAS

DISABILITY IS BOTH A CAUSE and a consequence of poverty, and disability is an important factor, along with gender, age, caste and others, that interacts to impoverish people and keep them poor.

The Department for International Development of the UK government (DFID) recognizes that the needs of disabled people have to be addressed if the Millennium Development Goals are to be achieved and is committed to an inclusive approach to development, which respects the rights of all vulnerable groups and ensures that they can actively participate in development and decision-making that affects their lives.

As outlined in the DFID paper "Disability, Poverty & Development," DFID adopts a twin-track approach to disability, seeking to mainstream disability issues alongside specific initiatives to empower and enhance the lives of disabled people.

A recent mapping of disability initiatives in DFID revealed that while the organization is quite strong on specific initiatives, DFID has further work to do on mainstreaming the issues across all areas of its work. It is hoped that DFID's work on social exclusion will provide a platform to further address disability in the context of poverty reduction and human rights.

Moreover, DFID's new diversity strategy clearly articulates the linkages between developing a more diverse workforce and an inclusive environment to its ability to better deliver core business. The department is committed to recruiting more disabled people, particularly at the higher levels and developing a more open and inclusive culture over the next three years.

DFID has made progress in recent years and is supporting the following activities:

- A Partnership Programme Agreement with Action on Disability & Development (ADD) to establish and build the capacity of grassroots disabled people's organizations to advocate for the rights of disabled people with national governments while simultaneously supporting the disability movement and disability rights. Support to over twenty disability specific projects through the Civil Society Challenge Fund. The Challenge Fund gives

project funding to UK based organizations working with partners in the South. The focus is on rights and the Challenge Fund requires that all proposals must demonstrate how the planned activities will be inclusive of disabled people.

- Research on disability, including accessible transport systems and access to water and sanitation. The Disability Knowledge and Research (KaR) program has a focus on disability mainstreaming. The program has commissioned a number of research studies, organized three regional roundtables in Africa, South Asia and South East Asia and generated lively debates via the E-forum with disabled people and organizations across the world. It is hoped that the Disability KaR program will help shape DFID's future response on disability.
- In India, DFID has set up its own partnership agreements with leading international NGOs to tackle exclusion. Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) is the nodal agency for disability, and DFID hopes that this partnership will facilitate engagement between DFID and Indian disability networks. In December, during his visit to India, the Secretary of State met with disabled people and disability organizations and listened to their concerns. Disability specific indicators have been included in some agreements with the Government of India and other donors for large sectoral programs, such as the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan education program which includes a focus on education for children with special needs. DFID India is also seeking to ensure that the needs of disabled people are adequately addressed in the recovery operations in the tsunami-affected areas.
- In the post-conflict states of Bosnia, Serbia, Kosovo and Albania, disability is very relevant and DFID in Bosnia has supported more than 16 civil society organizations focused on disability to deliver local community services. DFID is also seeking to ensure that disability movements are engaged in our consultations.

Philippa Thomas is Disability Policy Officer, Disability KaR

Programme, Department for International Development (DFID)

For more information subscribe to the DFID e-bulletin at: www.dfid.gov.uk

Access for All

USAID's Commitment to Accessible Programs

BY LLOYD FEINBERG AND ROB HORVATH

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES represent a vast and relatively untapped resource for international development and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) recognizes that in order to be most effective in our development efforts, the needs of people with disabilities must be taken

into consideration. To that end, USAID Administrator Andrew Natsios sent a message asking all USAID personnel to review the Agency's programs to determine if we were doing all we could do to include people with disabilities in the design, implementation and evaluation of our development efforts. Over the past year, a number of actions have taken place within USAID in pursuit of this goal.



Accessibility in USAID-financed construction

ONE IMPORTANT ACTION has been the development of policy guidance on accessibility standards for the disabled in USAID-financed construction. These standards were developed by a USAID inter-bureau committee and provide guidance for any new or renovation construction project funded by USAID. These standards can be found at: www.usaid.gov/about/disability.

In order to stimulate sustainable, developmentally sound attention to the needs of people with disabilities in host countries, USAID's standards note that the first preference is to use host country, or regional standards for universal access in construction if they exist. These standards must, however, result in at least substantially equivalent accessibility and usability as the standard provided in the ADA and Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Guidelines. In the absence of local standards that meets this threshold, the ADA and ABA guidelines are to be used.

USAID recognizes that it does not have specific expertise in universal/accessible design and, therefore, have asked the U.S. Access Board, an independent Federal agency devoted to accessibility for people with disabilities, to be our consultative partner in developing and maintaining accessible requirements and providing technical assistance on guidelines and standards.

Recognizing that there may be some circumstances and situations where accessible design is not possible, the policy allows the Agency to authorize a waiver to the guidelines. However, the intention is not that a waiver will be granted for an entire program or project, but rather granted on a case-by-case basis for elements of a specific structure or program. Furthermore, USAID plans to post all granted waivers on our external website.

It is important to note that while the policy on accessible construction was issued fairly recently, many USAID contractors and grantees already hold themselves to providing accessibility for people with disabilities in their programs and projects.

Supporting disability in contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements

IN ADDITION TO POLICY on accessible construction, USAID has also recently issued policy requiring its contracting and agreement officers to include a provision supporting USAID's Disability Policy in all solicitations and resulting awards for contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements. The provision is an affirmative statement that the contractor or recipient will

comply, to the extent practicable and within the scope of the award, with the intent of USAID's Policy Paper on Disability. The provision requires "...that the contractor (or recipient) not discriminate against people with disabilities in the implementation of USAID programs and that it make every effort to comply with the objectives of the USAID Disability Policy in performing this contract. To that end and within the scope of the contract, the contractor's (recipient's) actions must demonstrate a comprehensive and consistent approach for including men, women and children with disabilities."

Inclusion in development-training for USAID personnel

USAID RECOGNIZES that to build an inclusive development community its personnel must have the awareness, tools, and strategies on how to best include people with disabilities in its development programs.

Later this summer, USAID will launch an e-learning platform that will educate USAID personnel as to how they can incorporate disability-related issues into their work. The course will cover topics such as misconceptions about disability, removing physical and social barriers, inclusive program design, as well as monitoring and evaluating strategies. The disability community as well as key USAID partners are an integral part of the design and implementation of this course.

Disability and foreign policy

IN AN EFFORT to further improve the lives of persons with disabilities throughout the world the U.S. Secretary of State and USAID Administrator Natsios have formed a Federal Advisory Committee on Persons with Disabilities. The Committee, made up primarily of appointed public sector representatives, will represent the interests of people with disabilities in development and implementation of U.S. foreign policy and assistance.

USAID has long been committed to the inclusion of people who have physical and mental disabilities and those who advocate and offer services on behalf of people with disabilities. Recent actions reaffirm this commitment and the Agency's promise to be as inclusive as possible in its developmental efforts around the world.

Lloyd Feinberg is Disabilities Coordinator, Bureau of Democracy, Governance and Humanitarian Assistance, USAID

Rob Horvath is Disability Advisor, Displaced Children and Orphan Fund, USAID



Access through Technology

The World Bank's Work on Technology for Disabled People

BY MOHAMED V. MUHSIN

WE LIVE IN A WORLD where the use of the internet is spreading rapidly into all areas of the world and society. In this world, at least 10 percent of the population have disabilities (e.g., visual, auditory, physical, speech, cognitive, and neurological) and need improved web accessibility compatible with the assistive technologies used by disabled people.

In 2003, the World Bank's Information Solutions Group (ISG) conducted an accessibility audit. We engaged the American Foundation for the Blind and Accessible Systems as consultants to assess the World Bank's current level of accessibility for people with physical or sensory impairment in several areas, including website and Internet presence, operating and software systems, telecommunications systems, video and multimedia products, office equipment, and employee accommodation practices.

The results were not great: The audit indicated that the World Bank's overall work environment, including web applications, software, telecommunications equipment, and office equipment, is not fully accessible to individuals with disabilities, creating unnecessary obstacles for these individuals in meeting their responsibilities and/or demonstrating their individual capabilities and potential for advancement.

So we immediately set to work to improve the situation, and began removing barriers to access. This work spanned information access via the web and through computer technologies, telephony and video conferencing.

Making information accessible to all

THE WORLD BANK IS COMMITTED to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are provided with equal access to information and opportunities as their non-disabled peers. We are working on web accessibility—making sure that all of the World Bank's critical information and functionality within its

internal and external web pages is accessible to all staff and worldwide audiences.

Web accessibility guidelines are now included in the World Bank's Web Policy. Compliance with these guidelines will assist individuals using assistive technologies, such as screen readers, Braille devices and screen magnifiers, to access and use the World Bank's website.

And in an effort to promote inclusion and access to information, the World Bank has made assistive technologies available in some of our Public Information Centers around the world.

Removing barriers internally

THE WORLD BANK GROUP is committed to modeling internally what it is striving for externally in its work with clients—to mobilize the valuable resource of people with disabilities by removing barriers to their participation in the work of the World Bank.

In practice this translates into:

Recruiting people with disabilities proactively by tapping into networks of disabled people worldwide and ensuring accommodations for candidates with disabilities in the interview process.

Removing barriers to access in Washington and Country Offices.

- Assessing and improving accessibility of hardware and software systems, products and services.
- Providing staff with the accommodations needed to function effectively in the workplace.

Technology in relation to disability is much more than lack of internet/computer access. It involves all the communication tools and assistive devices enabling a person with a disability to be independent and an active participant in all areas of the community.

In the last few years at the World Bank, we have worked to make telephones accessible through TTY; and we have includ-

ed accessibility features in video conferencing systems, such as using a remote, interactive camera feature to provide sign language interpretations for videoconference participants who are deaf, and providing audio description for staff who are blind or visually impaired.

We have made available to staff products such as screen readers, screen enlargers, voice recognition software, alternative input devices (such as track balls, keyboards, touch screens), Braille displays, Braille printers, Braille translation software, and more. And we have developed services including providing technical support to World Bank staff using assistive technology, as well as assessments to staff to determine which technology solution will best address the barrier they face, and desk-side training.

Working in partnership

THE WORLD BANK HAS BEEN PARTNERING with members of the UN family, other development institutions, and civil society including disabled persons' organizations.

At the end of last year, the World Bank hosted the 2004 International Disabilities Conference, which brought together hundreds of disability and development experts from around the world. As part of this conference, we held a round table discussion, Enabling Access Through Information Technology, with panelists from IFC, IADB, IMF, and the UN; and from the private sector, IBM, Microsoft, IDEAL, the World Wide Web Consortium (WC3) and Satyam.

The aim of the round table was to learn and share knowledge and experience about accessibility, technology and development. Speakers and panelists discussed how accessibility should be a part of development efforts. IBM and

Microsoft discussed their work on integrating accessibility into design and planning of technology products and processes; Microsoft discussed their programs with governments in developing countries, and a starter edition of Windows for developing countries that has accessibility features built in to the operating system; and the IDEAL Group challenged development banks to structure ICT loans to developing countries so that they are encouraged to incorporate accessibility into the framework of ICT projects. As an outcome of the round table, the dialogue will continue with an on-line discussion, with the goal to help foster an international environment where innovative design and application of more accessible ICT helps improve people's lives.

Commitment for the future

THIS IS ALL PART of the World Bank's commitment to ensure that individuals with disabilities are provided with equal access to information and opportunities as their non-disabled peers.

As World Bank President James Wolfensohn recently stated, "The issue for us in terms of a lifetime cycle, are to ensure we deal with the questions of employment, the questions of healthcare, the questions of social services. So that we can think in terms of a complete life history, a complete and integrated program. Our purpose of the institution is to try and ensure that all people are addressed in terms of the work that we are doing. Because we believe that social inclusion, that equity and social justice are in fact the keys to development and the keys to peace, and that is for everybody."

**Mohamed V. Muhsin, Vice President and Chief Information Officer,
The World Bank Group**



Independent Living

Empowers People with Disabilities

BY ADOLF D. RATZKA

INDEPENDENT LIVING is a philosophy, a way of looking at disability and society, and a worldwide movement of disabled people who work for self-determination, self-respect and equal opportunities.

In most countries preconceived notions and a predominantly medical view of disability contribute to negative attitudes towards people with disabilities. Often they are portrayed as sick, defective and deviant persons, as objects of professional intervention, as a burden for themselves and their families, dependent on other people's charity. These deep-rooted views have consequences for their opportunities in getting education and work or raising families of their own. Everywhere, persons with disabilities make up a large portion of the poor.

With origins in the US civil rights and consumer movement of the late 1960s the Independent Living movement replaces the special education and rehabilitation experts' concepts of integration, normalization and rehabilitation with a new paradigm developed by disabled people themselves. The first Independent Living ideologists and organizers were people with extensive disabilities. Today the movement's message is still most easily grasped by people whose everyday lives depend on assistance with the activities of daily living, since they are most exposed to custodial care, paternalistic

The Independent Living philosophy postulates that disabled people are the best experts on their needs, must take the initiative, individually and collectively, in designing and promoting better solutions and must organize themselves for political power.

attitudes and control by professionals.

The Independent Living philosophy postulates that disabled people are the best experts on their needs, must take the initiative, individually and collectively, in designing and promoting better solutions and must organize themselves for political power. Besides de-professionalization and self-representation, the Independent Living ideology comprises de-medicalization of disability, de-institutionalization and cross-disability (i.e. inclusion regardless of diagnoses).

In the Independent Living philosophy, disabled people are primarily seen as citizens and only secondarily as consumers of healthcare, rehabilitation or social services. As citizens in democratic societies they have the same right to participation, to the same range of options, degree of freedom, control and self-determination in every day life and life projects that other citizens take for granted. These demands require the removal of infrastructural, institutional and attitudinal barriers and the adoption of the Universal Design principle. Depending on the individual's disability, support services such as assistive technology, income supplements or personal assistance might be necessary to achieve equal opportunities. Needs assessment and service delivery must enable users to control their services, to freely choose among competing service providers and to live in dignity in the communi-

ty. Cash benefits have been found superior to services in-
kind in terms of users' quality of life and cost-efficiency.

The Independent Living approach, in traditional self-
help group fashion, is based on peer support and role model-
ing in local grass-roots initiatives, referred to as Centers for
Independent Living or CILs, that are run and controlled by
persons with disabilities. The example of a peer, somebody
who has been in a similar situation, can be more powerful
than non-disabled professionals' interventions in analyzing
one's situation, in assuming responsibility for one's life and
in developing coping strategies. According to the movement,
with peer support all of us—including persons with extensive
developmental disabilities—can learn to take more initiative
and control over their lives. For example, peer support is
used in Independent Living Skills classes where people living
with their families or in institutions learn how to run their
everyday lives in preparation for living by themselves.
Depending on the public services in the community, CILs
might assist with housing referral and adaptation, personal
assistance referral, or legal aid. Typically, centers work with
local and regional governments to improve infrastructure,
raise awareness about disability issues and lobby for legisla-
tion that promotes equal opportunities and prohibits segre-
gation and discrimination.

Over the years, the movement has spread from North
America to all continents adapting itself to and getting
enriched by different cultures and economic conditions in the
process. A considerable body of research, training materials
and examples of good practice exists on such themes as tran-
sition from institutional to community living, transition from
school to employment or self-employment, community
organizing and advocacy, disability culture, girls and women
with disabilities as well as disability and development.
Supporting the movement and utilizing its work has become
an important ingredient of many countries' social policy.

Independent Living does not mean that we want to do
everything by ourselves or that we do not need anybody or like
to live in isolation. Independent Living means that we
demand the same choices and control in our every-day lives
that our non-disabled brothers and sisters, neighbors and
friends take for granted. We want to grow up in our families,
go to the neighborhood school, use the same bus as our neigh-
bors, work in jobs that are in line with our education and
interests, and raise families of our own. We are profoundly
ordinary people sharing the same need to feel included, rec-
ognized and loved.

Adolf D. Ratzka, Independent Living Institute, Stockholm



Breaking the Barriers

Enabling Children with Disabilities in the Philippines

BY VENUS M. ILAGAN

A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER of children with disabilities reside in the Philippines. Estimates derived from demographic and disability statistics show that 30 to 40 percent of the total disability population are children. Socio-economic conditions and the lack of capacities to develop children with disabilities are main causes of the poor conditions they face. It has been established that disability is a consequence of poverty and conversely, disability increases a person's vulnerability to poverty. In the Philippines, poverty conditions such as inadequate natal care, poor nutrition and lack of health services cause a majority of disabilities in children.

Problems on disability and poverty are further aggravated by the fact that 70 percent of the population live in rural areas. As it is, health and rehabilitation services in the Philippines are wanting. Rural populations experience higher degrees of deprivation due to resource and access constraints. Services and facilities are available in highly urbanized areas although the costs are prohibitive to most members of the disability sector.

The general attitude of families and the community towards children with disabilities is negative. Feelings of pity, shame and denial are commonplace along with superstitious beliefs that pervades in many communities. Many children with disabilities are hidden and their families forbid social interaction with members of the community.

The gamut of issues that children with disabilities face have led to their underdevelopment and separation from the community. They suffer from low self-esteem and low self-image. Early intervention is necessary to ensure that they enjoy their rights as members of society.

Two Filipino organizations of persons with disabilities took the initiative to address the needs of children with disabilities in poverty conditions: KAMPI, the National Federation of Disabled Persons in the Philippines (Disabled Peoples International-Philippines) and PTU, the Danish Society of Polio and Accident Victims. Together they initiated a project in 1995 that aimed to uplift the condition of indigent children with disabilities. The partnership, called the

Breaking Barriers for Children project, has developed an innovative model of early intervention through the establishment of Stimulation and Therapeutic Activity Center (STAC). To date, KAMPI and PTU have implemented the project in 118 municipalities of 14 different provinces with more than 8,000 children with disabilities receiving comprehensive rehabilitation services.

Early intervention services

EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES have been widely recognized as an effective means to ensure that development potentials of children with disabilities are realized. Rehabilitation in particular is a facilitating factor for children with disabilities to gain more opportunities to development. Increased mobility, maximizing education opportunities and overall well-being, among others, may be derived from rehabilitation.

In order to reach many poor children with disabilities in far flung areas, smaller facilities called STAC Satellites have been established in villages where a considerable number of children reside. The idea is to make the services more accessible to families that incur high costs in transportation and time when bringing their children for rehabilitation.

Social rehabilitation services are provided with interventions that aim to change the negative attitudes on disability that the child, family and the community have. The component seeks to address children's problems caused by the lack of stimulation and opportunities for social interaction. A main focus is developing the social skills of the child through play activities, socialization and counseling. Activities like hydrotherapy, visits to museums, parks, malls and other places of interest are conducted to widen the children's knowledge. The children and their families participate in government activities that celebrate children or disability concerns.

To ensure the effectiveness of the interventions provided in the STAC, follow-up services are conducted by social workers. Families are visited in their respective homes where the

staff facilitates problem-solving activities and provide counseling on attitudes towards the child with the disability.

Another service is the education of children with disabilities, a right that is denied to many. Pre-school training to prepare the children for schooling is conducted in the STAC. Problems of rejection by the school, inaccessible school buildings and the lack of appropriate skills to handle disabled children are dealt with through advocacy and negotiation by parents and staff.

Organization of parents

From the very beginning, the importance of parents as partners in the development of their children with disabilities has

been stressed. It is imperative that parents agree to actively participate in activities for their children before they are taken in as beneficiaries.

The parents training program is an integral component of the project where parents are provided lectures that make them understand the causes of disabilities in children, prevention and interventions that can be done. During therapy sessions, parents are instructed on basic exercises and activities that they can perform at home with their children.

The project organized the STAC parents association as an interest group that would provide a venue where they can share issues and provide support to one another. As parents, they are major stakeholders in the life of their children. It was deemed important to empower the parents to work for



the rights of their children and ensure that the STAC program is sustained. Parents associations have been organized in the STACs and satellite level and they have been federated into a national organization duly recognized by the government.

Training on lobbying, advocacy and disability legislation together with organizational development support have been provided to the STAC parents association. As a result, parents have been able to plan and implement several activities for the benefit of their children and organization. Parents have been able to raise resources for supplemental feeding, medicines and other services not provided by the project.

Channeling local resources to benefit children with disabilities

THE MODEL FOR PROVIDING holistic rehabilitation services was designed taking note of the political, social and cultural contexts in the Philippines. The project has been able to adapt to local conditions and utilize local resources for



the effective implementation of its components. Although there are certain standards set for the quality of the services in the STAC, institutional and implementation mechanisms that are most beneficial within the local situations are utilized. This has allowed the initiative to thrive in the communities where it was implemented.

Prior to establishing STAC, local governments are provided with background information on disabilities and the importance of rehabilitation for children. The project will only proceed after it receives an LGU commitment to become a project partner by sharing in decision-making and resource responsibilities. Local government counterparts are in the form of space and resources for training local health workers, among others.

Some children who are ready for schooling are hindered by public school teachers and day care workers who lack the willingness and capacity to handle disabled students in classes. The project has responded by training teachers and day care workers in the schools that will receive the children. Disabilities in children, legislation, inclusive education and specific methods to handle children with disabilities in the classroom are discussed.

Access to mainstream services is necessary for the holistic development of children with disabilities. The project builds linkages with government and civil society organizations providing services within the area. Many of the children and their families are referred for free surgery, medical treatment, livelihood assistance and other services.

The project has likewise provided capability building and support to local disability organizations. Together,



the parents associations and the disability organizations have advocated and lobbied for disability issues in their communities.

Sustainability

BREAKING BARRIERS FOR CHILDREN'S strategy for sustainability is its major strength. Organizing of parents, developing local human resources such as the health workers, day care workers, teachers and disabled peoples organizations and networking, all form part of the strategy. More importantly, the high degree of involvement from the local government in terms of resource inputs and decision-making ensure the effective delivery of services for children with disabilities and sustaining the project.

During the project implementation phase, government staff are trained on how to operate the STAC. Parents, local disability organizations and the staff lobby for the creation of specific programs that will institutionalize disability programs and ensure that resources are earmarked for the said purpose.

In almost ten years of developing and implementing the STAC model, KAMPI and PTU have improved the lives of many poor children with disabilities. The partnership has also been able to raise awareness and increase the capacities of governments, parents, disabled persons and the community to develop children with disabilities towards achieving their full potentials.

Venus M. Ilagan is President, Disabled Peoples' International

Reducing Poverty through Economic Empowerment

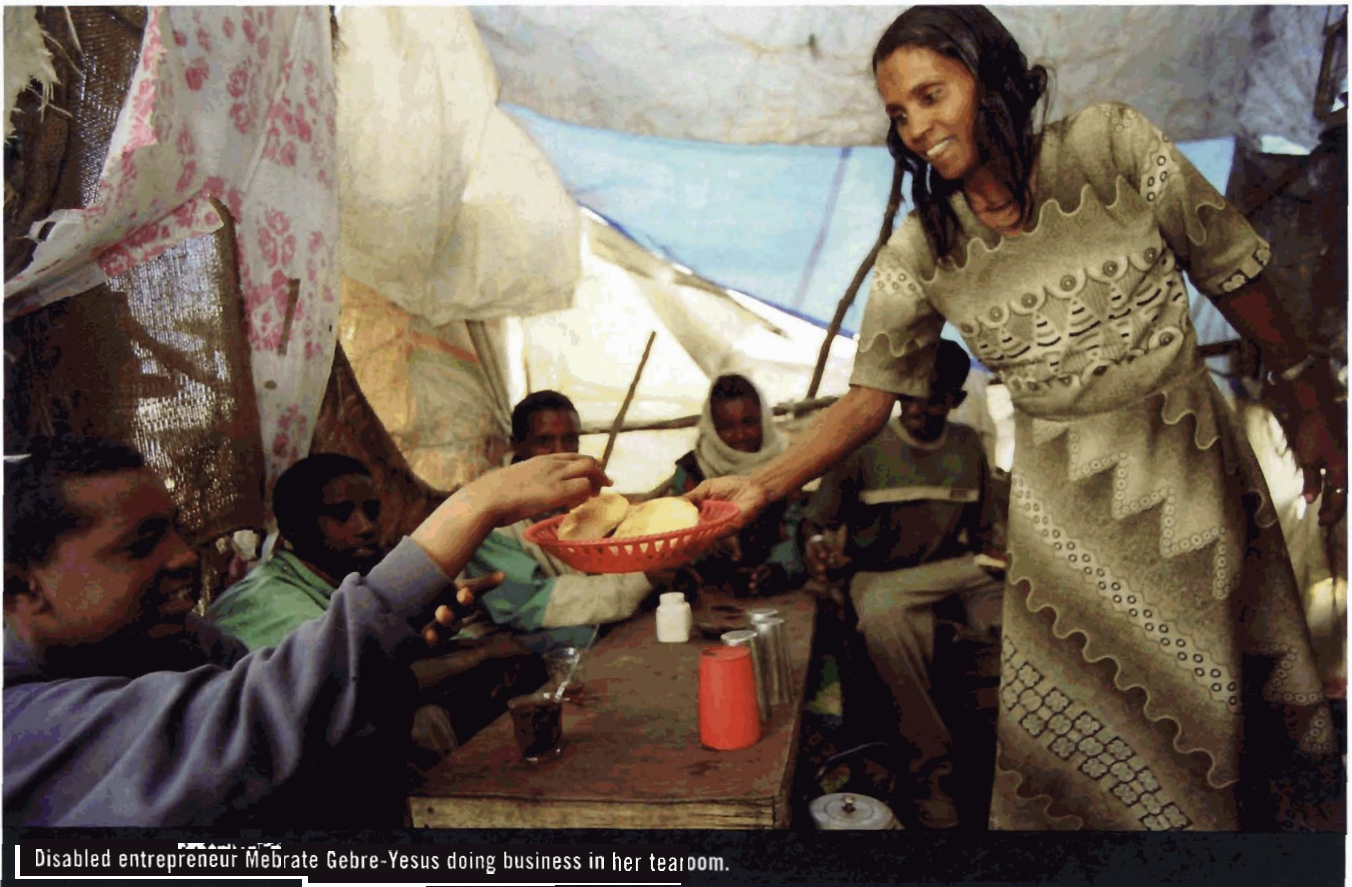
Women with Disabilities in Ethiopia

BY ROBERT RANSOM

MEBRATE GEBRE-YESUS was only 12 years old when she and her brother joined the opposition Tigray forces fighting the former Ethiopian government known as the *Derg*. "I was wounded for the first time when I was 14," she recalls. "When I was better, I returned to active service. It was the wound that

I received when I was 20 that disabled my leg." As a result of her disability, Mebrate's husband divorced her. "I have no children of my own, but I look after my niece," she says.

After the war Mebrate went back to school and finished 6th grade. "But I stopped going to school as I was finding it difficult to cope with my disability," she explains. "So, I decided to open a tearoom." I built it with the help of some of my friends.



Disabled entrepreneur Mebrate Gebre-Yesus doing business in her tearoom.

We made the framework with slats of wood and then covered it with blue and white plastic. I run the tearoom because I think this kind of business is easier than most for me to do. I need a better building for my tearoom, and I'd like to start a second business, selling clothes and shoes in the market."

Ten percent of the veterans from the war to overthrow the *Derg* regime are women, and ten per cent of these women are disabled. In the Tigray Region, the Tigray Disabled Veterans Association (TDVA) is working to assist women like Mebrate, as well as wives of men severely disabled by the war. TDVA teaches them to use their abilities to operate small businesses and generate income for themselves and their families.

Other women with disabilities in Ethiopia—including women with physical disabilities as well as mothers of intellectually disabled children—are also receiving entrepreneurship development assistance through another non-governmental organization, the Ethiopian Federation of Persons with Disabilities (EFPD). The initiatives of TDVA and EFPD are having an impact on reducing the poverty of this historically marginalized group.

"Entrepreneurship Development" project

WHAT DO MEBRATE and some 400 other Ethiopian women have in common? They are all business women benefiting from a Development Cooperation of Ireland-funded International Labor Organization (ILO) project entitled "Entrepreneurship Development among Women with Disabilities in Ethiopia." This project, being implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and regional authorities, is piloting a new ILO strategy in which responsibility for the management and implementation of project activities is contracted to local non-governmental organizations (in this case the EFPD and TDVA). Each in turn creates a Project Management Committee (PMC) composed of disabled women representatives who direct the project with technical guidance from the ILO Skills and Employability Department.

Under the project, selected women members of EFPD and TDVA analyzed the situation of 490 disabled women and mothers of disabled children already engaged in business activities, or wishing to do so, in Addis Ababa and Tigray Region, and prepared in-depth case studies of 50 of the women interviewed. Among other findings the survey found that the women with disabilities and mothers interviewed supported a large number of dependents, totalling some 1,668.

The EFPD and TDVA then each organized basic business skills training, follow-up business advisory services and access to credit for 200 disabled women and mothers, making use of locally available trainers and a micro-finance institution. Another 50 women took advanced "improve your business" training. In addition, to support the sustainability of their project activities, 20 leaders of the "women wings" of the EFPD member associations completed training as trainers and regularly make visits and provide advice to women who have started their own micro- and small-business activities. EFPD and

TDVA personnel also receive organization-building training and mentoring activities made possible by the ILO project.


Expanding the reach

EFPD AND TDVA ARE ACTIVELY INCREASING public awareness in Ethiopia about the abilities and economic potential of women with disabilities. The story of Mebrate and others like her have been documented and made available to a wide audience through publications, exhibitions and a radio program. Much is being learned from the project about the connection between disability, poverty and social exclusion. In seeking to survive, earn a living and play a role in society, women with disabilities face disadvantages arising from both their disability and their gender, in many cases compounded by poverty. In Ethiopia, as in most developing countries, the project has found that disabled women are more likely than others to be:

- extremely poor or destitute
- illiterate, often with little or no schooling without vocational skills
- unemployed
- underserved, often without access to public services
- unmarried, often with little family or community support
- socially isolated due to stigma, myth and fear

Government disability policy in Ethiopia encourages the development of representative organizations of persons with disabilities. The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs plays a leading role in creating the national Forum on Disability, to provide a channel for information exchange between NGOs and government. EFPD is the designated host of the Forum Secretariat. This partnership between civil society organizations and federal and regional government agencies is a key ingredient for effectively combating poverty.

The project strategy being tested in Ethiopia is showing that real empowerment of women and men with disabilities and their organizations comes when persons with disabilities are trained and assume total responsibility for the management of their activities and resources. It clearly demonstrates a way to effectively combat poverty through the economic empowerment of women with disabilities and mothers of disabled children.

The strategy of contracting disabled persons' organizations to help implement project activities is now being replicated in other ILO projects in Kenya, Malawi, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. Lessons from the Ethiopia project have also been used by the ILO to promote entrepreneurship development among women with disabilities in the Baltic States. As a result, poverty reduction strategies targeting persons with disabilities that are being developed in Africa are now also being applied to other regions of the world. 

Robert Ransom is Training and Employment Specialist on Disability, Skill Development Department, International Labor Organization (ILO)

From Norway with Love

Atlas Alliance's Initiatives

BY LARS ODEGAARD

NOT VERY MANY NORWEGIAN WORDS have been adopted by the English language. "Ski" and "telemark" are two words that come to mind—having to do with snow of course. But there is a Norwegian word, not snow related, which is gradually entering the global vocabulary. The word is *dugnad*. *Dugnad* means that people pull up their sleeves in order to do something free of charge for another person's benefit—a rare commodity in the age of individualism.

In Norway, every fall, a day is reserved for *dugnad* telethon, a national effort to collect as much money as possible for the benefit of poor countries. More than 90,000 volunteers hit the streets on the *dugnad* day. The aim is to visit every residence in Norway, to give all people an opportunity to contribute and participate in the *dugnad*.

By any measure the annual Norwegian *dugnad* is by far the biggest telethon per capita in the world. The Norwegian Telethon is carried out by the Norwegian Broadcasting System (NBS). During the day of the event, the NBS broadcasts six hours of programming, documenting and illustrating how the money will be used. All media channels in Norway are involved, ranging from local newspapers with a few thousand subscribers to the national newspapers covering the whole country.

In the fall of 2002, the Atlas Alliance—the non-government development agency for disabled people in Norway—was responsible for the telethon. But this was only one of the many initiatives sponsored by the Atlas Alliance. Norwegian disabled people and their organizations have a long tradition of working closely together with disabled people and their organizations in poor countries. The reason for this partnership is obvious. Norway is per capita among the richest countries in the world and the disability movement has had a major impact on the shaping of Norwegian society. We want to use our own experiences as disabled people, as well as Norwegian financial resources, in the struggle to improve human rights for disabled people in poor countries.


In Norway we have organized these development efforts in a foundation called the Atlas Alliance. The Atlas Alliance houses ten different disabled people organizations. It is a meeting place where disabled in Norway coordinate and

strengthen our own partnership with organization of disabled people in Lesotho, Uganda, Nepal and Jamaica to name a few locations. Within the Atlas-alliance there is room for all types of disability organizations. We believe that if we pool and share our resources as disabled people, we can make a bigger difference in the struggle to help disabled people in poor countries.

The main source of income for the Alliance is government funding. As a general rule, the Alliance has to supply one Norwegian kroner for every nine from the government. Its total budget in 2005 is approximately 15 million USD to carry out 50 different projects in more than 25 poor countries. Key areas for the Alliance's development efforts are grass root disabled peoples' organizations, community rehabilitation programs and tuberculosis & HIV/AIDS.

An example of Atlas Alliance in the field

MRS. PALESA MPHOLE in Maseru Lesotho has never accepted that her eldest son should be worse off than other children. Today their street is a zone of acceptance and tolerance: the street is named after her son Hlalele, a 15-year-old boy who's mentally handicapped. One day, Palesa heard someone talk on the radio about integrated/inclusive education. This inspired her to get in touch with the ministry about establishing Lesotho's first organisation for mentally handicapped people. Altogether, 21 parents attended the first meeting in 1992 to found the Lesotho Society of Mentally Handicapped Persons.

Activism and persistence was enough to get the snowball rolling. Economic support from sister organizations abroad made it possible to develop the resources in Lesotho. One of this organizations was the Norwegian Association for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (NFU), which is a member of the Atlas Alliance. Since then, the Society has grown. It has become a powerful organization—with hundreds of members and local organizations in seven of the ten districts of Lesotho. Together they fight for both their own rights as well as their children's rights—rights to health care, education and participation in society. 

Lars Odegaard is President, Atlas Alliance

Disability Enlightenment

Improving Services to Disabled People through Velugu

BY VENKATESH SUNDARARAMAN

VELUGU, MEANING ETERNAL LIGHT, is a fitting name for an innovative rural poverty reduction program in Andhra Pradesh which aims to bring *eternal light* to the disabled citizens of Andhra by enhancing the economic and social mobility of the

poor. The Society for the Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP), a quasi-government body, is entrusted with implementing all of Velugu's components, namely, conceptualizing the disability component, developing implementation strategies, relating lessons learned, and outlining future steps.



The genesis of the disability component

BEFORE THE 1970s, disability was viewed as a medical condition requiring treatment. Since then, the social model heralded a new vision which stated that persons with physical or cognitive impairments are *made disabled* by exclusion from full participation in society.

This view of disability forms the cornerstone of Velugu's strategy, which is based on three broad pillars—social identity, collective action, and advocacy. Social identity rests on village-based self help groups (SHGs) called *Gram Viklang Samakhyas* (GVS) and *Mandal Viklang Samakhyas* (MVS). GVS are village-level groups of disabled persons and MVS are federations of village-level groups at the mandal level—the lowest administrative area in the state, consisting of a cluster of villages and habitations. These groups build social awareness and social capital that empower disabled people to remove barriers to full societal participation.

Group formation combats issues of social exclusion and participation, which then leads to the second pillar—collective action. Through *mandal* federations, these *samakhyas* coordinate demands for unfettered access to basic government services. The remarkable growth of the *Viklang Samakhyas* illustrates how groups can engender an environment where individuals can effectively demand the entitlements they are due.

The road from darkness to eternal light

The strategies adopted under Velugu include:

(a) **Raising Self Awareness and Social Identity:** Velugu provides a forum for finding solutions for barriers disabled people face through SHGs linked into federations, or Sangams, that can elevate issues to higher-level organizations, facilitating convergence across different government programs.

(b) **Advocacy and Collective Action:** SHGs use the force of collective action to demand better government services. These include assistive devices, inclusive education and special training possibilities, bus and rail passes and disability pensions.

(c) **Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR):** CBR forms the foundation of mainstreaming disabled people into social and economic activities. Through identification and certification, children and adults with disabilities are provided with training and devices that allow for full participation. The CBR approach ensures convergence between institutional rehabilitation programs and the community rehabilitation centers.

(d) **Livelihoods Component:** This focuses on medical interventions, through community centers available to all disabled children. These facilities arrange special instruments for children, taking into account their specific needs.

(e) **Convergence Across Government Programs:** Through collective action, groups can gain access to government programs. For example, by demanding assistive devices, parents can ensure that children benefit from an inclusive environment in schools and full access to curriculum.

Achievements

NUMEROUS AWARENESS and multi-purpose service camps have been held where persons from the Medical Board of the Districts have provided disabled people with over 100,000 certificates. Through convergent schemes, other departments have issued bus and train passes for those with certificates while many have also received scholarships, pensions, assistive devices and appliances.

Trainings of personnel at the grassroots level focuses on poverty and disability, inclusive education, institutional strengthening and building, prevention and disability rights, as well as motion exercises, Braille and speech therapy, and language and communication skills. The program prepares monthly progress reports in consultation with the project staff. Monitoring and evaluation is being strengthened to fully capture achievements.

Institutional capacity is also being built. Nearly 107,000 disabled people have been mobilized into about 12,000 SHGs. About 9000 SHGs have opened Bank accounts, and nearly 5700 SHGs have been trained on SHG concepts and management, income generation activities, capacity building, strategy planning, identifying leadership qualities, importance of savings and knowledge on rights of persons with disability. Nearly 170 MVS are being provided guidance by the project staff.

Velugu provides livelihood opportunities through micro-credit programs. Nearly US\$ 2.2 million have been accessed by SHGs so far. About 475 SHGs have bank loans amounting to US\$ 271,000 and revolving funds and matching grants of about US\$ 390,000 have been given to 2045 SHGs. The CIF component of the total amounts is roughly US\$1.6 million reaching over 2365 SHGs.

Recognizing the power of effective networks, the project has enlisted the support of respected NGOs and resource persons. Disability focused NGOs such as ADD India, MORE, SACRED, Mobility India and Commitments are supporting project initiatives. Other NGO partners include Bhagavan Mahaveer Vikalang Sahayatha Samithi, for the provision of prosthetics and rehabilitation services, and Rogi Sahayatha Trust for polio-related interventions.

Next steps

MOVING FORWARD, key next steps include completion of certification, provision of assistive devices and other training, increased emphasis on prevention activities, and strengthening of the monitoring and evaluation system.

The main mantra for most *Velugu* staff is "...let us not rest on our achievements till date but focus on the tasks that need to be completed and lie ahead of us." This philosophy drives the *Velugu* program, and helps its supporters and participants continue to confront their tremendous challenges.

Venkatesh Sundararaman is an Economist with The South Asia Human Development Sector (SASHD), The World Bank

Towards Inclusion

Education for Persons with Disabilities

BY KENNETH EKLINDH

According to best estimates of international agencies:

- 90% of children with disabilities in developing countries do NOT attend school.
- About 40 percent of school-age children who are not in school have disabilities of one kind or another.

500,000 children every year lose some part of their vision due to vitamin A deficiency.

4.1 million babies are born each year at risk of mental impairment due to insufficient iodine in their mothers' diets.

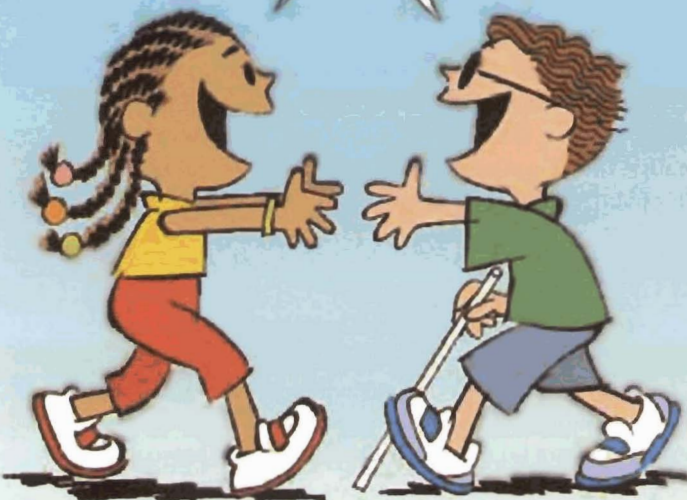
For every child killed in armed conflict, three are injured and permanently disabled. Forty percent out of 26,000 persons killed and injured by landmines every year are children. Over 10 million children are psychologically traumatized by armed conflicts.

Child labour and maltreatment such as corporal punishment, amputation, and blinding of detainees, are responsible for children becoming disabled.

The vast majority of individuals with hearing or visual impairments in developing nations lack basic literacy. Individuals with intellectual and psychiatric disabilities are often treated with cruel neglect. Children with mobility impairments are prevented from attending school by architectural and attitudinal barriers. There is a strong link between disability and poverty, and a large part of the explanation is educational opportunity. Individuals with disabilities, given educational and other opportunities, can lead meaningful, productive lives, and contribute to the social and economic well being of their families,

**WELCOME
TO OUR
SCHOOL!**

Zirald



INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

► ► ► ► *Welcome to Our School* is a World Bank project done in collaboration between the Bank's Latin American and Caribbean Vice Presidency and Zirald, one of Latin America's best known political cartoonists and writers of children's stories. This booklet on inclusive education features several disabled children and is being distributed to Brazilian mayors and secretaries of education. It has also been translated from Portuguese into English and Spanish.

communities, and countries.

Education and life-long learning opportunities can and must erase the gaps in economic and social development that effectively marginalize individuals with disabilities. The absence of resources and effective initiatives cannot be seen as consequences of a lack of money, but as a lack of will.

The Dakar Framework for Action, adopted at the Dakar World Education Forum in April 2000 by governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations, clearly sets inclusive education as one of the main strategies to address the question of marginalization and exclusion and made an engagement to "create safe, healthy, inclusive and equitably resourced educational environments conducive to excellence in learning with clearly defined levels of achievement for all" (art. 8. viii).

The goal of the Dakar Framework for Action is to achieve Education for All by 2015. The Dakar Framework followed the Salamanca and Jomtien Statements in 1994 and 1990, respectively. The Dakar meetings called upon the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UNESCO) to take the lead coordinating role in fulfilling the Dakar commitments to Education for All.

The Flagship on "The Right to Education for Persons with Disabilities: Towards Inclusion"

IN ORDER TO PROMOTE Education for All, stakeholders have organized programs called "Flagships." A Nordic initiative at UNESCO resulted in the establishment of a Flagship formally called "The Flagship on the Right to Education for Persons with Disabilities: Towards Inclusion". The Flagship is a joint effort of UN organizations, NGOs and donor countries to achieve Education for All (EFA). UNESCO and the University of Oslo jointly form the Secretariat. The Flagship seeks to unite all partners in its effort to reach out to children, young people and adults with disabilities, and to promote solutions that can translate universal rights into inclusive realities. Participating organizations have been encouraged to select their representatives among people from developing countries. To strengthen that representation more, representatives of some developing countries have also been invited.

The Flagship is about the right to education, aiming at full inclusion in society. In some cases, this means that inclusion becomes both the goal and the tool. In others, inclusion in society may require that some education (for example, for students with sensory impairments) can be provided in separate classes and schools, consistent with the UN Standard Rules and the Salamanca Statement.

In order to advance the overall EFA goal, The Flagship strives to achieve the following strategic objectives:


- to combat discrimination and remove structural barriers to learning and participation in education;
- to promote a broad concept of education, including essential life skills and life-long learning;
- to contribute to a focus on the needs of persons with disabilities when resources and activities address the realization of EFA goals.

In order to reach these strategic objectives, the Flagship will:

- Invite the full participation of persons with disabilities and families in the design of all Flagship activities.
- Promote the full participation of persons with disabilities and families in the development of policies and practices related to the education of persons with disabilities.
- Seek to ensure that all governmental entities, donors, and NGO's endorse the universal right to education for all children, youth, and adults with disabilities.
- Act as a catalyst to fully incorporate the Flagship Goal into national plans of action and regional policies.
- Work in partnership with all other EFA Flagships to fully endorse and incorporate the right to education for every person with disabilities into their efforts.
- Mobilize resources in support of the Flagship Goal through obtaining commitments of new resources from national and international entities and leveraging existing EFA resources.
- Seek to ensure that the EFA Monitoring Process includes specific quantitative and qualitative statistics and indicators related to persons with disabilities and resource documentation allocated for the implementation of EFA for these individuals.
- Identify and disseminate effective practices and stimulate research and studies related to the Flagship goals.
- Promote the right of every child and youth with disabilities to express his/her view pertaining to his/her education and life skills as defined by Article 23.1 of the *Convention on the Rights of the Child*.

Ten more years to prove that Education for All can be achieved

WE ARE NOW TEN YEARS AWAY from the date that the Dakar EFA goal should be met. Will this be possible? Many individuals argue that it is only a question of money. Yet whether children with disabilities or those otherwise marginalized in society will be included has more to do with attitudes and beliefs in society than with funding.

If we all join forces, it should be possible to reach the goal of free compulsory Education for All by 2015. The Flagship on Inclusive Education can help assure that disabled children are not left behind. 

Kenneth Eklindh is Head of Education Flagship, UNESCO.

For more information:

Dakar Framework for Action (2000):
http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/ed_for_all/framework.shtml

Salamanca Statement (1994):
http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=10379&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

World Declaration on Education for All (Jomtien, 1990):
http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/ed_for_all/background/jomtien_declaration.shtml

Flagship on Inclusive Education:
http://www.eenet.org.uk/key_issues/efa/flagship.shtml

“The Forgotten Tribe”

Persons with Disabilities and HIV/AIDS

BY AMBROSE MURANGIRA

HIV/AIDS IS THE GREATEST HUMAN CHALLENGE facing developing communities today. It devastates the development process, destroying and defying everything in its path. For developing countries like my own of Uganda, it has aggravated the poverty situation and has had a frustrating impact on the poor (World Vision Strategy 2002/4). Its effects are felt in almost all households and in every part of the country and across all sectors of Uganda's economy.

Uganda has been at the forefront of the fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic and, as a result, significant success in our ability to curb the scourge has been recognized. My country's international image has been boosted due to its open and positive approaches to controlling and eventually rescinding the incidence of HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa. It has proved that transparency, political will and full participation of all concerned can help reverse the impact of HIV/AIDS and its calamitous effects on society.

There is a tribe of Ugandans however whose issues and needs have not been given their due and appropriate attention in the fight. By all indications, persons with disabilities have been forgotten, consciously and unconsciously. They represent “the forgotten tribe” (Mwesigwa Martin Bbu) which consists of the deaf, blind, physically disabled, mentally disabled, epileptic, the deaf-blind, and a host of many other affiliate clans.

Why the gap?

POLICY MAKERS, IMPLEMENTERS and major actors on HIV/AIDS have failed to appreciate disabled people as a unique community with distinctive issues and specific needs that require special or specific interventions. As a consequence, society is not well informed of the fatal implications of this deadly disease and the remarkable number of disabled people who have died in silence (NUDIPU, 2003). We need commitments to affirmative action with a view of addressing imbalances that exist against marginalized groups on the basis of disability, gender and all other considerations.

To date, Uganda's planning and implementation of government programs geared towards empowering vulnerable groups and mainstreaming their participation into all sectors of government projects remains mostly on paper without exhaustive implementation. For instance, these very same

vulnerable groups are also the least provided for by our national HIV/AIDS intervention mechanisms to stop the spread of the disease (NYT, 2004). And a 2003 NUDIPU Commissioned Study on Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS found that “The exclusion of women with disabilities from the reproductive health sensitization and awareness raising programmes has created a bottleneck in the national programs on HIV/AIDS (NUDIPU, 2003b).

A growing amount of evidence now shows that the people most severely affected by HIV/AIDS are the poverty stricken masses, among whom are the disabled, and women and youths (NUDIPU, 2004). In a 2004 joint study undertaken by the World Bank and Yale University findings reveal that a cycle of disability and poverty exists where the poor are more likely to become disabled due to poor nutrition, lack of medical care, dangerous housing, injuries on the job and violence, while disabled people are resigned to being the poorest among the poor. Additionally, the study finds that disabled people are at increased risk of acquiring HIV/AIDS due to their susceptibility to physical abuse and the lack of intervention and appropriate preventive outreach (World Bank and Yale, 2004).

A triple burden: Disability, poverty, HIV/AIDS

MANY DISABLED PEOPLE are subject to what is known as the “Triple Burden” of disability, poverty and HIV/AIDS. The most prevalent causes are a lack of access to service provision, a lack of awareness of the disease, and the stigma that first goes along with being disabled, and additionally by having contracted HIV/AIDS.

The fact that disabled people are generally geographically scattered in urban and rural areas, creates accessibility problems in terms of mobilizing and sensitizing them in groups and for purposes of service provision. Those who live deep in the rural areas where health care is more of a luxury than a right, cannot, for example, access educational, health and other social services and facilities. This greatly predisposes them and affects their level of awareness in matters pertaining to HIV/AIDS, thus making them prone to the vagaries of the scourge.

Gross levels of illiteracy and a general lack of access to formal education (NUDIPU, 2004) also vastly reduce the ability and likelihood of persons with disabilities to access HIV/AIDS information and programs. There has been no effort made to repack-

age and adapt the Ugandan Health System and AIDS communication approaches into languages and mobility services that improve access by the disabled community. Failure to address such anomalies puts disabled people at very great risk. How, for instance, can a hearing impaired persons hear an HIV/AIDS public service announcement on the radio? Likewise, how can a visually impaired person read a pamphlet on HIV/AIDS, or distinguished between a damaged and a safe condom?

The lack of access to service provision and information is further compounded by the alarming levels of discrimination and stigma associated with being disabled and having HIV/AIDS. Disempowering cultural beliefs and practices, age-long stereotypes and stigmatization all serve to deny disabled people the opportunity to be properly treated for their ailments and to speak out.

Even when disabled people are able to access services,

problems arise. First, attempts to collect data on the disabled and HIV/AIDS are insufficient. A close examination of the cards given to VCT clients clearly shows that attempts are not made at gathering and recording statistics on disability and disabled persons in relation to HIV/AIDS, thereby creating a void on informed approaches and designs about dealing with them. Second, there is an unintended consequence of VCT counseling ethics rules. Due to the principle of privacy, the deaf are often excluded from counseling. Although it is well known that counselors rarely know sign language, the assistance of an interpreter is still considered a breach of privacy.

The glaring gaps in our understanding of the general health challenges disabled people face in many countries is exasperated by HIV/AIDS. We disabled people in Uganda are aware of the enormous commitment the country and various stakeholders have made in the struggle against HIV/AIDS and are aware

of the enormous financial constraints faced in alleviating the pandemic. But, in the area of our national health policy and services delivery, we believe there has been a tremendous oversight of the needs of disabled people and the impact that HIV/AIDS has on them. This article serves as a call for the inclusion of disabled persons in national HIV/AIDS processes at all levels, and to ensure that we are included in the HIV/AIDS information age as equitable partners and in the overall crusade to improve health service delivery to the disabled. ✎

Ambrose Murangira is the Representative of the National Council on Disability, Youth Unit, National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda

References:

"The Forgotten Tribe" is the title of a paper presented by Mr. Mwesigwa Martin Bbu, project coordinator of OD-NUDIPU at the 4th National HIV/AIDS Conference held at Speke Resort Munyonyo, Kampala, Uganda. It refers to the forgotten tribe as the community of disabled people living in Uganda

HIV/AIDS and Disability: Capturing Hidden Voices, World Bank and Yale University, 2004

NUDIPU Desk Study, 2003

NUDIPU Commissioned study on Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS among PWDs—2003b

NUDIPU Desk study—2004

NUDIPU Desk Study, World Bank, *HIV/AIDS and Disability: Capturing Hidden Voices*. Report of the World Bank/Yale University Global Survey on HIV/AIDS and Disability. Washington, 2004

The New York Times, March 28, 2004



Disability and Broadcasting in the UK

Past, Present and Future

BY SIMON MINTY

WHILE EATING BREAKFAST with the T.V. on in the background a few months ago, my eyes drifted upwards to see the show's guest presenter reviewing the newspapers. He was a disabled person called Mat Fraser, and was discussing the day's interesting stories. I watched, waiting for any disability references or comments on related topics, but they didn't come. It seems he was hired simply for his thoughts on the news.

A thirty-minute documentary about the Olympic and Paralympic Games was aired later that day, with Tanni Grey Thompson, Britain's most successful Paralympian. She related an anecdote about starting in wheelchair racing, in which her non-disabled day job boss had said he thought it an unfair sport. He explained this by saying success was dependent on how fast the person pushing could run! I now had seen two disabled people on mainstream British television in one day.

That Sunday was important for me. There was both disability related programming and disabled people in the mainstream. It made me think that perhaps visible and accurate representation of disabled people on screen was truly improving.

Does this mean UK Broadcasters finally, through gritted teeth, are accepting that a few overtly disabled people on screen won't have viewers switching off in droves? Or are talented (and not so talented, but immensely confident) disabled people getting in to the right places, saying the right things and playing the media game better than ever before?



In assessing what happened to bring this about, I will attempt to filter the past through the prism of my own personal experience. My involvement in the media starts in the mid-to late 1990s. That was when I started to get involved with trying to improve the visibility of disability on television. Being disabled myself, being 4 foot tall and with limited mobility, I was fed up with the pitiful, sentimental and predictable representations of people like me on screen. And working with broadcasters seemed like an exciting proposition.

We know disabled people have been featured on screen in the UK way before my momentous Sunday. A good medical documentary, featuring a radical doctor with a miracle cure narrative, was often helped along by the appearance of a grateful disabled person. Or, the triumph over tragedy, human-interest stories, ensured a disabled presence of sorts. But rarely was there a disabled voice in the mainstream media speaking for itself.

That said, there was the BBC's Disability Programmes Unit (DPU) producing, not surprisingly, programs about disability. These had a good time slot in the schedule but poor resources and limited ideas and ultimately therefore, appeal. The DPU was disbanded early this decade.

Broadcasters knew disability was an often-neglected issue but I suspect, beyond altruistic reasons, felt they didn't gain any by tackling it. In fact, when they did, they were criticised. The flaw in this avoidance tactic is how it ignores that disabled people, too, have talent and skills. It also forgets that broadcasters struggle for new ideas, innovation, talent and skills, and therefore are missing out on a source of this. Disabled people also make up a significant proportion of the population and viewing audience—we do care about what we watch.

In 1997, the Broadcasters' and Creative Industries Disability Network (BCIDN) brought together the UK's major broadcasters to explore and address disability as it relates to the media industry. The Network tries to make it easier for members to recruit and retain disabled people and to promote and share best practice across the industry. The members include all the major UK Broadcasters including BBC, BSkyB, Channel 4, Five and ITV.

I was the original Associate—the disabled person who went to committee meetings, acted as a sounding board, gave advice and ideas. Five years later, things moved on for the organisation and in May 2002, an event was held where all the major broadcasters published a manifesto of action and their Chief Executives publicly stated their commitment to the issue. This was a "tipping point" because the senior people were on board and had gone public. Not the end of the road but we now had a map.


To achieve this, the previous few years had seen innovative events, databases of talent created, dinners with CEO's and Government were held to win support, key decision makers attended auditions and showcases of disabled talent, mentorship systems developed and disability equality training became common place. This was aided by the Disability Discrimination Act taking root, and studios and venues having to consider improved access. Finally and probably most

importantly, disabled people were becoming a natural sight at the industry events and parties, we learned how to network and learned how to schmooze.

Our presence meant the fear of disability faded and confidence grew. Ignoring the dearth of disability presence on screen was no longer an option. My philosophy changed, too. I no longer asked program makers to let us in; I suggested instead they were missing out, on talent, on new creative ideas. If they didn't respond, they would be perceived as uncreative and others would get there first. I went further, explaining they were holding themselves back. When disability was set to appear as part of a programme, the producers either tried to block it or limited themselves by turning to formulaic and predictably "safe" representations. I challenged them on this, asking why were they so constrained by the past? Their perception was reshaped so that what was initially a chore or obligation became an exciting creative challenge.

In the last few years, Sky Television, the UK's major satellite broadcaster, revolutionized their customer service for disabled subscribers, through contact center operators, different format program guides, subtitling, sign language or audio description. Training for their commentators helps to remind them they might have blind viewers, and that silence isn't always golden. The disability niche marketing from Sky is remarkable, almost omnipresent. And the motivation? To win enough new disabled subscribers to pay for the changes and ultimately profit from them; a sustainable business model for improvement.

This year the BBC produced a thirty-five-page report highlighting what they have done on disability during the last year. Refreshingly, it isn't full of excuses or worthiness; it is justifiably proud in detailing some excellent dramas, comedies and radio shows. It explains the need for targets, both in front of and behind the camera for the time being to address chronic under-representation—only 0.7% of those shown in peak time on BBC One and Two in 2003 were disabled. To confirm the publications status, the Director General sent it out.

I don't want to mislead my readers; the above statistic shows that a lot of work still needs to be done. Excuses such as there being no disabled talent available; inaccessible buildings, health and safety 'issues' and 'people should do it for free' (disability is still undervalued) abound. While Sky and the BBC are leading, they are not alone with many British Broadcasters making steady progress. We haven't reached the summit yet, we're still climbing but the gradient doesn't seem so steep and what we are seeing is becoming a little more enjoyable. 

Simon Minty, Director, Churchill, Minty & Friend Ltd., Associate of the Broadcasting and Creative Industries Disability Network (BCIDN), UK

Visit:

www1.sky.com/accessibility/index.htm

www.bbc.co.uk

www.employers-forum.co.uk/www/guests/bdn/index.htm

Inclusive Development in Post-Conflict Societies

BY HER MAJESTY QUEEN NOOR OF JORDAN

THE IMPACT OF ARMED CONFLICTS on the state and its citizens is deep: added to the economic and human aftermath of conflicts is the urgent and immediate care of war victims. In some cultures, visible infirmities are unacceptable and the consequences—from society, communities and families—can be serious. Excluding people with disabilities from virtually every aspect of community life guarantees a cycle of poverty for survivors and their loved ones. This is especially true in post-conflict and developing societies, where they may be seen as

burdens to already impoverished families. In some cultures, the only option for people with disabilities is to become beggars, further demeaning them and pulverizing hope.

During the past six years, I have worked with the Landmine Survivors Network and the International Coalition to Ban Landmines in the global battle to eradicate not only landmines but the effects of landmines. The passage of the Mine Ban Treaty into international law on March 1, 1999 marked the first international arms treaty to encompass humanitarian obligations to weapons' victims worldwide. Many of the activists working on this campaign are, in fact, disabled and



are fiercely determined to improve the lives of persons with disabilities. What better example of the productive power of people with disabilities?

I have met hundreds of landmine survivors around the world—struggling to heal, recover and reclaim their lives: beautiful but scarred parents, young people and children in pain and despair, in hospitals and rehabilitation centers. . . all wondering what their lives will be after their wounds heal. Who will accept them? How will they survive?

Integration of disabled people

MUCH IS LOST when persons with disabilities are overlooked or, worse yet, discarded. Everyone's talents, ideas, and energies are needed in this interdependent world. The challenges and opportunities of the Twenty-first Century are immense. We cannot afford to dismiss the potential and possibilities of almost 10 percent of the world. We need them and they need us. The late civil and disability rights activist Justin Dart stated: "We must create a culture that guarantees...food, housing, education, healthcare, jobs, recreation, and of course full civil rights to all"—what he called "a revolution of individual empowerment."

Some nations, like the United States and Europeans, have incorporated economic integration into national law and culture. Mexico, Ecuador and Jordan are emerging economies that are leading the international effort to link human rights and the rights of people with disabilities. This enlightened attitude is a beacon to nations worldwide who have not yet made a commitment to promote social and economic parity, or to ensure equal rights and full participation of people with disabilities. Full participation in society cannot be achieved by "fixing" disabled people, according to some societal norm. Instead, we must treat them as capable, contributing individuals, endowed with the same rights we all have to pursue our dreams and live life as fully as possible. How can each of us bring about such a revolution?

Economic consequences of armed conflicts

THE ECONOMIC IMPACT of armed conflicts on a state and its citizens is immense. Landmines destroy human and material resources, and hinder humanitarian programs, economic reconstruction, and the internal movement and resettlement of refugees. Post-conflict societies struggle to solve the economic difficulties faced by war victims and others with disabilities.

For instance, minefields laid during warfare, and often remaining decades after, may reduce agricultural production by over 50 percent. For economies relying on crop and livestock production for domestic consumption and revenue generation, the loss of land, along with its related infrastructure (transport, processing and packing facilities, etc.), creates a cycle of reduced revenues and increased debt. And, when the cost of social services for the vulnerable and disenfranchised is factored in, the economic burden on post-conflict coun-



tries can be overwhelming.

People with disabilities have a profound desire to be productive and find meaningful work. As reported in findings from a recent review of assistance to the war-wounded in mine-polluted nations, "For years now landmine victims and other persons with disabilities and the professionals working to help them have been reporting that their top priority is to ... earn a living and take care of their families. That concern is usually far more powerful than concerns about medical care or mobility, per se" (Handicap International, 2004). Indeed, workshop participants cited "economic integration activities" by assistance groups working with landmine survivors as "the first priority for future funding."

A loss for the community

MY FRIEND NELSON MANDELA once observed of his disabled friends in prison that they were both "Barred In...and Barred Out." In other words, the confinement of prison walls is not the only kind of exclusion they faced. True freedom means not only freedom from oppression and imprisonment, but freedom to pursue one's dreams—and to give others the benefit of them. Everyone has an equal right to dream, and everyone deserves an opportunity to fulfill those dreams.



DEVELOPMENT
Outreach

Subscribe
to a flagship magazine that is on the cutting edge in the field of global knowledge for development, reaching 20,000 readers in 130 countries.

Advertise
to reach a unique international audience of business leaders, policy makers, government officials, academics, economic journalists, research institutions, and civic organizations.


About subscriptions, ad rates and deadlines, or for further information, email: devoutreach@worldbank.org
Visit: www.worldbank.org/devoutreach

For other World Bank publications, visit:
www.worldbank.org/wbi/publications.html

The need for increased financial opportunities for persons with disabilities goes beyond the plight of individuals. Adult war victims, landmine survivors, and others with traumatic injuries and disabilities, were often heads of households, productive workers, and significant members of their communities. Some of them may well have been injured in the course of serving in the defense of their countries. Their removal from the ranks of economically productive citizens radiates through communities. Their exclusion from productive work condemns whole families to poverty, and reduces the hope that neighborhoods, villages, even entire nations, will be able to rebuild and thrive post-conflict.

Likewise, restoring a survivor or other person with disabilities to economic independence produces benefits that extend beyond that individual and grow exponentially. Many of us have the ability to influence change on a systemic level. Providing the means by which people with disabilities can pursue and secure real economic opportunities, including access to financial institutions, private corporations, government and non-governmental organizations, can help strengthen and build civil society.

A disabled person can be the mainstay of a family, a productive worker, and a vibrant member of a community. I have met many people with disabilities who have not only reintegrated into their communities, but became leaders and driving forces for change in those communities. A few years ago, I got to know Jesús Martínez, the Director of Landmine Survivors Network in El Salvador. Mr. Martínez lost his legs in a landmine explosion. He thought he would rather die than live without legs, and, in fact, tried to kill himself by slamming a hand grenade against his chest. Fortunately, he was unsuccessful in this attempt. Instead, he found he wanted to make a difference for other people wounded by landmines. He now helps other amputees in job training and rights education programs. He lost his legs, but discovered new potential. His life is rich and fulfilling, and he is giving hope and a sense of accomplishment to his friends, neighbors and his community.

Denied hope, people with disabilities are condemned to dependency. But allowed to seize opportunity, they become part of the cycle of recovery and contribute much to their homelands. When persons with disabilities are able to fulfill their potential, whole communities can be more productive, heightening economic development. As long as there are people perceived as useless—there can be no recovery, no development, and ultimately no peace. 

Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan serves as Patron and Honorary Chair of Landmine Survivors Network.

References:

Handicap International, 2004, "Lessons Learned Workshop: A Review of Assistance Programs for War-Wounded and other Persons with Disabilities Living in Mine-Affected Countries."

Emmanuel's Gift

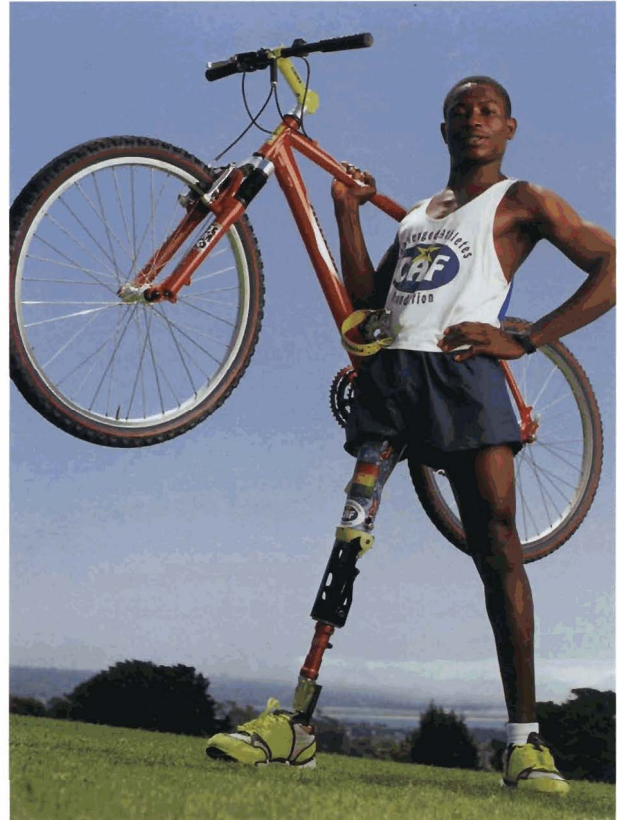
EMMANUEL WAS BORN IN GHANA, with a deformed right leg and meager expectations. Abandoned by his father and shunned by his community, his path was pre-determined—become a beggar and/or rely on others for survival. But Emmanuel chose a different road. He would not sacrifice his dignity and be forced to the streets like others in his situation.

At the age of 13, he took matters into his own hands and started a shoeshine business, earning \$2 a day. Building on the pride he felt in his work and accomplishment, Emmanuel set out to show the nation of Ghana that physically challenged individuals can actively shape their destiny—not just meekly accept it.

After receiving a bike from the Challenged Athletes Foundation, using his left leg only, Emmanuel pedaled 610 kilometers (almost 380 miles) across Ghana. He was determined to spread his message: disability does not mean inability. Impressed by Emmanuel's thirst for equality and his hunger for change, CAF flew him to the 2002 San Diego Triathlon Challenge to participate in the 56-mile bike portion of the event. There he met world-class athletes like Rudy Garcia-Tolson, Paul Martin and others, who accomplish tremendous feats with the aide of high-tech CAF and a key partner, Loma Linda University Rehabilitation Institute, wondered if such a prosthetic might be the answer for Emmanuel, too.

Even after a week's stay at the world-renowned rehab facility, Emmanuel was still having doubts about the surgery. In Ghana, such an operation could prove to be fatal. After sharing his fears with Rudy, who had both legs amputated above the knee at age five, he made up his mind. Emmanuel would undergo surgical amputation of his right leg above the knee, and receive a new prosthesis from Loma Linda. He would stand for the first time on two feet.

Today, Emmanuel can run, ride a bike using both legs, and wear trousers. He stands proudly, supported by his inner tenacity and strength of character—rather than the crutches upon which he once relied. After winning the prestigious Casey Martin Award from Nike, he

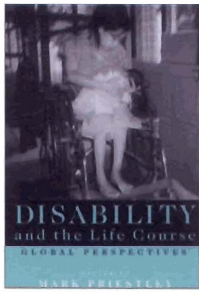


decided to apply his \$25,000 grant—matched by CAF — toward continuing to change attitudes and lives in his homeland, where one of 10 citizens is disabled. CAF's Emmanuel Fund provides education and sports equipment, and ultimately, Emmanuel hopes to build a sports center for physically challenged people of Ghana.

His story has been documented by Lookalike Productions in a film called Emmanuel's Gift. It's the story of how a bike changed one man's life and how he, in turn, changed a nation.

For more information, contact the Challenged Athletes' Foundation at www.challengedathletes.org

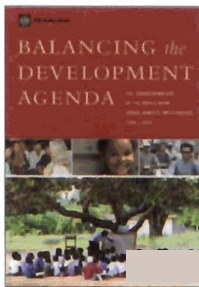
"Voices from the Field" provides first-hand insight into issues of current concern to the development community. To participate, send your stories to: devoutreach@worldbank.org. Make your voice heard.



DISABILITY AND THE LIFE COURSE: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES, Mark Priestley, ed. Cambridge University Press, 2001.

This book explores the global experience of disability using a novel life course approach. It provides a unique combination of analysis, policy issues and autobiography. There are contributions from

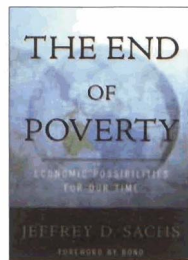
thirteen different countries bringing together established and emerging writers, both disabled and non-disabled.



BALANCING THE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA: THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD BANK UNDER JAMES WOLFENSOHN, 1995-2005, The World Bank, 2005.

This book examines the evolution of the World Bank and its operations during the presidency of James Wolfensohn. It examines the

modernization of this global economic institution which is now focused on home-grown development planning, where borrowing countries are in the "driver's seat" of their own development. It takes a closer look at the major development challenges addressed by the Bank during the past decade, such as debt relief, corruption, and HIV/AIDS, and provides a timeline of events that have shaped the Bank into the institution it is today.



THE END OF POVERTY: ECONOMIC POSSIBILITIES OF OUR TIME, by Jeffrey D. Sachs. The Penguin Press, 2005.

Marrying vivid eyewitness storytelling to his laser-like analysis, Jeffrey Sachs sets the stage by drawing a vivid conceptual map of the world economy and the different categories into which countries fall. Then, in a tour

de force of elegance and compression, he explains why, over the past two hundred years, wealth has diverged across the planet in the manner that it has and why the poorest nations have been so markedly unable to escape the cruel vortex of poverty.

NORDIC NETWORK FOR DISABILITY RESEARCH ISSUES REPORTS IN ENGLISH,

Three books documenting recent Nordic disability research have been translated into English: Resistance, Reflection and Change: Nordic Disability Research

(2005); Gender and Disability Research in the Nordic Countries (2004); and Exploring the Living Conditions of Disabled People (2004). Details: Rannveig Traustadottir, Ph.D., Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Iceland; email rannvt@hi.is



MY PATH LEADS TO TIBET: THE INSPIRING STORY OF HOW ONE YOUNG BLIND WOMAN BROUGHT HOPE TO THE BLIND CHILDREN OF TIBET, Sabriye Tenberken. Arcade Publishing, 2003.

This combination autobiography and adventure story recounts how a young, blind German student pursues

her dream to found a primary school for blind Tibetans. Obstacles are placed in her path by educators, bureaucrats and disability organizations based in Germany and China and there are numerous practical lessons to be learned from both the conflicts and their resolutions.

ILO REPORTS ON DEVELOPING ENTREPRENEURSHIP AMONG WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES,

The International Labor Organization has been exploring ways to support disabled women in obtaining credit and training to launch their own small businesses. Recent reports documenting their experiences thus far include: Case Studies of Women Entrepreneurs with Disabilities in Ethiopia (two reports, one on Addis Ababa and the other on Tigray); Developing Entrepreneurship among Women with Disabilities in Ethiopia: exploratory surveys in Addis Ababa and Tigray Region; and Developing Entrepreneurship among Women with Disabilities in the Baltic States: final summary report. To obtain copies, contact the ILO Disability Programme, Skills Development Department, fax: 41 22 799 6310 or email: disability@ilo.org

INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY RIGHTS MONITOR 2004: REGIONAL REPORT OF THE AMERICAS,

A comprehensive 444 page report, this regional overview of the situation of disabled persons provides details about 24 countries in North, Central and South America. The national reports follow a template that enables contrast and comparison, highlighting definitions, terminology, description of the disability population, rights and laws, inclusion, disability action and awareness. Published by and available from the Center for International Rehabilitation, 211 East Ontario St., Chicago, IL 60611 or on the web: www.cirnnetwork.org

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

The governments of the Asian and Pacific region declared the period 1993-2002 as the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons. This unique regional initiative focuses on the inclusion of people with disabilities in society and in all mainstream development programs to reach the Decade goal of full participation and equality of people with disabilities.

Visit: www.unescap.org/esid/psis/disability/decade/index.asp

AFRICAN DECADE OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, 1999-2009

was proclaimed by the African Union Assembly of Heads of State in July 1999. The intention of the proclamation is to enhance the quality of life of disabled persons, through capacity building, policy formulation and advocacy and lobbying.

Visit: www.africandecade.org.za

LANDMINE SURVIVORS NETWORKS (LSN) works to improve health, increase opportunity, and strengthen rights. It also advocates for the immediate removal of landmines across the globe. LSN's integrated programs focus on: physical and emotional wellbeing, economic integration and livelihood, and social integration and access.

Visit: www.landminesurvivors.org

WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF (WFD) is an international non-governmental organization representing approximately 70 million Deaf people worldwide. WFD priorities are deaf people in developing countries; the right to sign language; and equal opportunity in all spheres of life, including access to education and information. WFD has consultative status in the United Nations UN system.

Visit: www.wfdeaf.org

DISABLED PEOPLE INTERNATIONAL is a network of national organizations or assemblies of disabled people, established to promote human rights of disabled people through full participation, equalization of opportunity and development. Its goals are: a) promote the human rights of disabled persons; b) promote economic and social integration of disabled persons; c) develop and support organizations of disabled persons.

Visit: www.dpi.org

INCLUSION INTERNATIONAL (II) is a global federation of family-based organizations advocating for the human rights of people with intellectual disabilities and their families worldwide. II has acted as a vehicle for the voices of people with disabilities and their families to be heard for over 40 years. II is one of the largest international disability non-governmental organizations and 1 of 5 dis-

ability-related organizations to be officially recognized by the United Nations.

Visit: www.inclusion-international.org

REHABILITATION INTERNATIONAL is a global network of people with disabilities, service providers, researchers, government agencies and advocates promoting and implementing the rights and inclusion of people with a disability. RI is a federation of national and international organizations and agencies. It develops and promotes initiatives to protect the rights of people with disabilities, to improve rehabilitation and other crucial services for disabled people and their families, and to increase international collaboration towards these objectives.

Visit: www.rehab-international.org

ARAB DECADE OF DISABLED PERSONS, 2003—2012

The question of proclaiming the period 2003 to 2012 as the Arab Decade of Disabled Persons was considered by meeting hosted by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in Beirut from 2-5 October 2002. Conference deliberations focused on the ten main objectives identified for the Decade: education; health; legislation; rehabilitation and employment; the disabled woman; the disabled child; accessibility and transport; globalization, poverty and disability; information and awareness; recreation and sports.

Visit: www.un.org/esa/socdev/enable/disarabdecade.htm

THE WORLD INSTITUTE FOR DISABILITIES (WID) is a non-profit research, public policy and advocacy center dedicated to promoting the civil rights and full societal inclusion of people with disabilities. WID's work focuses on four areas: employment and economic development; accessible health care and Personal Assistance Services; inclusive technology design; and international disability and development.

Visit: www.wid.org

THE INDEPENDENT LIVING INSTITUTE (ILI) offers resources for persons with extensive disabilities and develops consumer-driven policies for self-determination, self-respect and dignity. It runs a virtual library, interactive services, feasibility studies and projects. The people at ILI are experts in designing and implementing direct payment schemes for users' self-determination and quality of life in the areas of personal assistance, mainstream taxi and assistive technology. ILI is a not-for-profit private foundation run and controlled by persons with disabilities.

Visit: www.independentliving.org

CALENDAR

JULY 2005

4-15 Disability Discrimination Summer Law School
Galway, Ireland
www.soros.org/initiatives/mhi/events/disability_20050420

12-14 10th International Conference on Computers
Helping People with Special Needs
Linz, Austria
www.icchp.org

17-20 20th International Congress on the Education
of the Deaf
Maastricht, The Netherlands
Cal.conferenceagency@wzs.nl
www.iced2005.org

30-
Aug. 8 World Youth Congress
Stirling, Scotland
www.scotland2005.com

AUGUST 2005

1-4 International Special Education Conference
(ISEC)
Glasgow, Scotland
isec.2005@strath.ac.uk
<http://www.isec2005.org.uk/>

2-7 6th DbI European Conference on
Deafblindness 2005
Presov, Slovakia
conference@dbiconference.sk
www.dbiconference.sk

SEPTEMBER 2005

25 World Bank and IMF Annual Meetings
Washington, DC
www.imf.org/external/am/2005/index.htm

30-
Oct. 1 International Conference of the World
Federation of the Deaf
Helsinki, Finland
info@congcreator.com
www.wfdhelsinki2005.org

OCTOBER 2005

17-19 International Conference on Accessible
Tourism
Nairobi, Kenya
isser@ug.edu.gh

31-
Nov. 2 WASLI: International Conference for Sign
Language Interpreters
Worcester, South Africa
francois@deafsa.co.za

DEVELOPMENT Outreach Subscription Order Form

**SUBSCRIBERS FROM DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES WILL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE
THE MAGAZINE FREE OF CHARGE.**

**SUBSCRIPTION FEE APPLIES TO READERS
IN THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPED COUNTRIES:**

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark,
Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland,
Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Luxembourg,
Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway,
Oman, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland,
United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United
States, and Vatican City.

Please print or type all information

YES, sign me up for
Development Outreach
for 2005 for just \$18
(three issues per
calendar year, January-
December)

NAME _____

TITLE _____

ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY AND STATE OR PROVINCE _____

COUNTRY _____

ZIP / POSTAL CODE _____

PHONE _____

FAX _____

E-MAIL _____

Please do not send cash. Make checks payable to Development OUTREACH/WBI.

Check no. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.

Mail order to:

Editor, Development OUTREACH
The World Bank
1818 H Street, NW, Room J2-200
Washington, DC 20433 USA

www.businessandmdgs.org



On the occasion of this year's United Nations Millennium+5 Summit, **InWent – Capacity Building International**, the **World Bank Institute** and **Instituto Ethos** invite leaders from business and business-driven organizations that are engaged or interested in issues of global sustainable development to participate in the

10th International Business Forum 11–13 September 2005

Helen & Martin Kimmel Center at the New York University,
New York City

Business and the Millennium Development Goals: An Active Role for Globally Responsible Companies

The 10th International Business Forum will host an intensive learning and networking process focusing on the business sector contribution to the UN Millennium Development Goals.

For details on the event and conditions of participation please visit www.businessandmdgs.org or contact either Jochen Weikert (Jochen.Weikert@inwent.org) or Michael Jarvis (mjarvis@worldbank.org).

The conference is the culmination of a broader learning process on business roles in development coordinated by InWent and the corporate responsibility program of the World Bank Institute (www.csrwbi.org).

Business and

WORLD BANK INSTITUTE
Promoting knowledge and learning for a better world

inWent
Internationale Weiterbildung
und Entwicklung gGmbH Capacity Building
International, Germany



INSTITUTO
ETHOS

GAP

Gobierno Abierto Participativo—Open and Participatory Government

A Learning Program in Central America

Devise, design, and implement
anti-corruption programs at the
municipal level

Knowledge—Country Experiences— Action Plans

This online-course is based on impact
and results from previous deliveries and
recent research. It is offered to
Local Public and Government Officials
in Central America.

September 26–November 22, 2005

Contact: Veronica Sanchez, vsm@itesm.mx
<http://www.worldbank.org/wbi/governance/municipal>

WORLD BANK INSTITUTE
Promoting knowledge and learning for a better world

Making Services Work for the Poor A Framework for Reforming Service Delivery

Distance Learning Course

www.worldbank.org/wbi/empowerment



This course uses an accountability
framework to teach participants
to identify the root cause of
service failure and to develop
appropriate reform strategies.



The course is appropriate for a
variety of delivery methods and
can be adapted to fit your needs.
Please contact Mary McNeil for
more information.



Email: mmcneil@worldbank.org



Investment Climate Capacity Enhancement Program

The World Bank's overall development strategy emphasizes two pillars for long-term growth and poverty reduction: improving the investment climate and empowering and investing in people. The **Investment Climate Capacity Enhancement Program** was established in 2003 jointly by the World Bank Institute (WBI) and the World Bank Private Sector Development (PSD) Vice Presidency to support the implementation of this development strategy.

The program's objectives are:

- To familiarize clients with the importance of investment climate to growth and poverty reduction.
- To promote new thinking, share knowledge and disseminate best practices on how to incorporate investment climate issues in policy formulation.
- To enhance clients' capacity in assessing and improving investment climate.
- To train local trainers and researchers to build capacity for policy research and training in investment climate.
- To provide direct implementation and capacity enhancement support to client countries and World Bank staff.

The target audience for the program includes: policy makers, practitioners and stakeholders in client countries, trainers and local partners, representatives from the international donor community, and World Bank staff.

For more information, please email icprogram@worldbank.org.

www.investmentclimate.org

REDEFINE THE GEOGRAPHY OF YOUR DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS

The Global Development Learning Network is a worldwide partnership of learning centers (GDLN Affiliates) that use advanced information and communication technologies and specialized distance learning tools to connect people working in development around the world.



GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT LEARNING NETWORK

GDLN Affiliates are located in over 50 countries worldwide. Their facilities include classrooms with videoconferencing and high-speed Internet resources such as email and instant messaging. These are combined with facilitation and learning techniques depending on specific users' needs. Through these technologies and techniques, GDLN Affiliates enable organizations, teams, and individuals to communicate across distances in a timely and cost-effective way.

Reach out to your counterparts and clients quickly and cost-effectively. GDLN Affiliates can connect you with your development partners around the world for meetings, coordination, and knowledge sharing events. Our clients include academic institutions offering

*GDLN in action:
Interactive video conferences
with participants in
Afghanistan and Latin America*

distance learning courses on development issues; development agencies seeking dialogue with key partners; governments discussing trade with other countries; and non-governmental organizations planning joint activities with partners around the world.

Rethink capacity building and technical assistance.

Through GDLN, you can deliver learning and training activities directly to your clients in the field at lower costs, and participants can immediately apply new knowledge and skills in their work. Leverage GDLN Affiliates' national and regional partner networks to mobilize

local knowledge and resources and to access the very best expertise in any field, anywhere in the world.

Mark your presence in local, regional, and global development dialogues.

Today, GDLN counts more than 70 Affiliates around the world, and an estimated 25,000 people participate in GDLN events every year. Dialogues and learning exchanges among developing countries have become a common feature. For example, development practitioners in Africa, Asia, and Latin America use GDLN to share experiences about education reform, HIV/AIDS prevention, community-driven development, and other key development issues.



GDLN Services
World Bank Institute
1818 H Street, NW
MSN J2-201
Washington, DC 20433, USA

Tel. +1.202.458.8196
Fax +1.202.522.2005
Email GDLN@worldbank.org
<http://www.gdln.org>