



Inclusion of disability in Dutch development co-operation policy and practice

Report of the invitational expert meeting held at the Hague, the Netherlands, on September 16th, 2003.

DCDD / Cordaid

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'Networking to make disability matter'

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Introduction and background

Every community in the world has its share of disabled persons. After all, people anywhere can become disabled for whatever reason. Moreover, as populations age, more people will experience disability at some stage in life. Yet, all over the world disabled people - children, women and men - are denied basic human rights and are marginalised, excluded and discriminated against. The WHO estimates disability at ten percent of the world population. The World Bank estimates that 17% of poor people in developing countries are disabled. This would mean that practically every family in a poor community is directly affected by disability.

Dutch policy

In spite of these facts, disabled people are on the whole 'invisible' and are not included in Dutch development co-operation policy and practice aimed at reducing poverty. Even when policy-makers are aware of the need to include disabled people in development co-operation activities, there is a lot of misunderstanding and ignorance about the practical implications. Many donors assume that it is a highly specialised area requiring many additional specialist resources. But inclusion of disabled persons could progress a long way if project designers would consult disabled people and take care not to put up barriers that exclude disabled people.

The Netherlands have no policy of integrating - or mainstreaming - disability into development co-operation from a human rights perspective. Although many (donor) organisations have experience with disability projects, their expertise is rarely shared or built upon. The trend actually seems to be towards lower budgets for disability. In other parts of the world, however, there is increasing attention for disability in the framework of development co-operation. The Nordic countries, for example, have a great deal of knowledge about disability inclusion, and in Norway a budget of 8.5 million euro is spent by Norwegian Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs) on collaboration with Southern and Eastern DPOs. The World Bank is adopting a human rights based policy



towards disability and a UN Convention on the rights of disabled people is in preparation.

It is of particular importance that policy-makers learn to think inclusively.

Time for change

With the foundation of the Dutch Coalition on Disability and Development (DCDD), an activating network came into being which can stimulate Dutch development co-

operation to 'go inclusive'. It is of particular importance that policy-makers learn to think inclusively and integrate the disability dimension into overall policy for poverty reduction. They will also need to find or devise practical tools for making their policies work in the field. DCDD strives to place disability on the agenda of development co-operation as an integrated element and provides a platform for debate and exchange.

The meeting

The meeting of experts held on September 16th, 2003, which was organised by DCDD and facilitated by Cordaid, was the first meeting on inclusion of disability to be held in the Netherlands. The goal of the meeting was to investigate and discuss the best ways of obtaining political and social support for integration of disability into Dutch development co-operation, meaning special as well as inclusive attention for disabled people. The added value of including 'disability' in diversity policy was debated, and the latest information and experiences concerning the current disability-and-development debate was presented in background documents and by means of presentations. A lobby workshop and a practical workshop were held in which the participants learned about practical tools for mainstreaming disability into development co-operation. Ten points of action were presented at the meeting, which will be used as a reference tool to measure changes in Dutch policy and practice. These action points can be found on page 8.

Almost sixty (senior) policy, regional and desk officers, representing (Dutch) donor agencies involved in development co-operation, NGOs, political parties and government agencies, participated in the meeting. During the plenary session in the morning the participants listened to contributions from Southern and Northern experts on the subject of inclusive disability. The workshops stimulated the lively debate the organisers hoped for. The full programme of the meeting can be found on page 9.

Meeting report

The report of the meeting is divided into two parts:

Part I: Executive summary - page 4

In the summary, opinions, views, recommendations and action points that came out of the presentations are presented in a condensed way. If you wish to read only about the main ideas and actions, we refer you to the summary (total of 4 pages).

Part II: Full report - page 9

The full report includes all presentations given at the meeting as well as the workshop reports. If you wish to read more about a certain topic or a certain speaker's contribution, please turn to this part (total of 19 pages).



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Part I - Executive Summary

Hereunder you will find the executive summary of the report of the September 16th expert meeting organised by DCDD and Cordaid. The full report can be found from page 9 onwards.

General principles with regard to working on inclusion

Many contributors at the meeting stressed the importance of participation of disabled people in development activities. **Yolan Koster** (director of Kantel Konsult) stated that, where change is desirable, the initiative for change has to come from the disabled themselves. Another task is to build solidarity among disabled people. The main message to put across to disabled people is that they can learn from each other. The way to achieve this is by empowering disabled people, especially children, to change their point of view, so that they look upon themselves and each other as 'powerful' people. It is therefore absolutely necessary to integrate empowerment programmes in development programmes. **Yolan Koster's** advice to the listeners: invest in empowerment programmes, because only empowered people can change the world.

In the lobby workshop, 'consultation of disabled people' was identified as a cross-cutting issue in lobbying. However, the debate shaping (Dutch) development co-operation takes place mostly in the West. **Huib Cornielje** (acting chairman of DCDD) warned that disability and development may all too easily become a toy for academics and activists. This concern was also expressed in the practical workshop: focus too much on the debate and you will forget about the people themselves. Be critical and ask yourself whether this involvement leads to any real improvements for disabled people in the South. In order to be meaningful it is first and foremost of importance to listen carefully to disabled people from these countries. Secondly, DCDD needs to build bridges between stakeholders, both in the South and in the West, and to convince the various stakeholders in development assistance that substantial attention should be paid to the needs and abilities of disabled people in the South.

Experience in Norway shows that involvement of Norwegian disabled people, and disabled people's organisations in particular, was crucial in pressing the government to make its development policy more inclusive. **Elisabeth Bruce** (Norwegian Alliance for the Disabled) described the continuing role of the Atlas Alliance as the government's watchdog, pointing out that the Alliance's activities have led to greater visibility of disabled people internationally. Implementation of the '*UNESCO flagship on inclusive education*' and the *World Bank trust fund on disability* are indirect results of the Nordic countries' progress in the area of disability inclusion.

The much-needed focus of seeing disability as a more cross-cutting development approach which has inclusion of marginalized and deprived groups in society as its starting point, requires a redirection of thinking, said **Huib Cornielje**. On the one hand, everything possible should be done to create a more inclusive society, while, on the other hand, affirmative action and special attention is required for the specific problems that people with disabilities experience on a daily basis. Other contributors also discussed this twin-track approach. **Rens Rutten** (Cordaid policy officer) explained why Cordaid has chosen a two-way strategy consisting of direct intervention with vulnerable groups besides inclusion of vulnerable groups in Cordaid policy. Direct intervention with vulnerable groups consists of care for these groups, strengthening of community activities related to care for these groups, and promotion of self-organisation of vulnerable people. Cordaid now intends to shift to interventions in care that are more related to community development, and to lobby and advocacy activities. Cordaid's thematic policy deals with the 'mainstreaming' of vulnerable groups in its overall policy: addressing inequalities between particularly vulnerable groups and non-vulnerable groups in all strategic areas of Cordaid's work.

Current Dutch governmental policy, although it is oriented towards structural poverty alleviation, does not include any policy on disability. **Aagje Papineau-Salm** (head of the social policy division, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs) explained that, at country level, poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSPs) will remain the basis for collaboration between governments, civil society organisations and other donors. This implies collaboration with all stakeholders to try to implement the sector plans, which were developed jointly. In practice there will be little room left for support of special activities through bilateral co-operation. The Dutch government's influence can be used to make sure that important



aspects are not forgotten, but Dutch Development Co-operation cannot dictate what should be in the policy. Especially with regard to cross-cutting issues such as gender, children in difficult circumstances and disability, this will be a 'handicap', Ms. Papineau said, but there are still two ways left for further strengthening the issue of inclusion of disability. One of these ways is to mainstream as much as possible. Two areas where this can be done and where things are already on their way are human rights and basic education. The second way is to work through NGOs and civil society organisations, both in the Netherlands and in developing countries.

Focal points

Jabulani Ncube (disability consultant, Namibia) declared that it is necessary to give specific attention to supporting disabled women and girls. As a practical measure to end the vicious cycle in which disability and poverty are inextricably linked, it is essential to recognise and support existing and emerging groups, organisations and networks of disabled women to promote their full inclusion within the disability movement. Building the disability movement by supporting efforts by disabled people to form their own organisations is another focal point. These are not attempts to create a separate world for disabled people, **Jabulani Ncube** emphasised. By beginning to organise from an internal perspective, the movement essentially builds the constituency for change. And anyway, if disabled people themselves are not involved, no momentum for change will develop either. By building the disabled people's movement, one actually contributes to strengthening the 'twin-track approach'. It means focusing on special measures of building the strength of the movement, and at the same time mainstreaming disability issues through the movement's advocacy work.

Maria Kangere (director of COMBRA, Uganda), in her contribution to the practical workshop, spoke about the disability movement in Uganda. In the beginning of the nineteen-nineties disabled people in Uganda came together to form the National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda (NUDIPU). The founders of NUDIPU were motivated by a local Ugandan saying, "*A gali awamu ge galuma enyama*", which means, "It is the teeth that are together that can bite the meat". About ten years after its foundation NUDIPU faces several challenges: In Uganda the election of more than 47,000 councillors representing persons with disabilities in 56 districts ushered in a new era of governance for persons with disabilities. However, many disabled people are still not aware of their rights. Some

categories of disabilities, specifically the deaf and women, have not enjoyed the same opportunities offered by the new developments. Finding employment is a nightmare. The disability budget is still regarded in terms of projects. There is a tendency to regard disability issues as donor responsibility and it is at the bottom of priorities.

In **Jabulani Ncube's** view, a key weakness in organisations of disabled people lies in the field of policy and legislation. It has therefore become a key priority for them to work in this area and to pay attention to advocacy and lobbying with local and national government authorities to pass laws and policies that will facilitate disability work and improve access to opportunities and resources for disabled people. What has changed? On the negative side, one sees that in some countries existing laws and policies are not implemented. Sufficient resources to allow implementation are rarely allocated. In this context tokenism is a challenge requiring constant vigilance. On the positive side, the Ugandan and South African examples show a definite improvement in the visibility of disabled people and their issues as they get to be represented on various levels of governance in their countries. We have seen the emergence of close relationships between the disability movements in Uganda and South Africa and the respective ruling political party or movement. We are, however, unsure what will happen if the ruling party is replaced.

Working on issues in disability advocacy

Although the necessity to include disability in development policy is emphasised time and again, lack of action on the part of politicians and policy-makers means that progress remains rather slow. Is it a matter of not hearing the message or is the message so confronting that people pretend not to hear?, **Huib Cornelje** wondered. In response, **Jabulani Ncube** made some suggestions for how people in the North may help the efforts to mainstream disability and thus contribute to raising the profile of disability issues. Firstly, he urged the audience to understand and take note of the agendas of the key players involved in disability, so that they may be able to align their strategies accordingly. Secondly, he asked them to seek to ensure the inclusion of the disability dimension into bilateral and, possibly, multilateral agreements between the Dutch government and Southern partners. Thirdly, the growth and development of organisations of disabled people should be supported.

Inclusion of children with special needs must be part of universal primary education.



An important way of promoting the rights of persons with disabilities is through setting international standards, spoke **Aagje Papineau-Salm**. In the United Nations context, the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on a *Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities* is of great importance. It is the intention of the Dutch government to contribute constructively to the negotiations.

In the Dutch government's new development policy there will be a strong focus on basic education, aids, reproductive health and environment. As regards basic education, Dutch policy is geared in the first place to supporting governments in their efforts to implement national education reform programmes designed to meet Education-for-All objectives for basic education. In those plans, in the opinion of the Dutch government, it is required to take account of the needs of the poor and the disadvantaged, including working children, ethnic minorities, children affected by conflict or HIV/AIDS, and children with special needs. In other words, the inclusion of children with special needs must be an integral part of strategies to achieve Universal Primary Education by 2015.

Inclusion through mainstreaming should be the main focus when influencing Dutch governmental policy, Ms. Papineau-Salm continued. Although it is not certain what will happen on country level, no special targets or earmarked funding are foreseen. The help of civil society organisations and NGOs is needed to promote continuous attention for the inclusion of disability. Not to start all sorts of projects, but to fight for the rights of disabled people.

Maria Kangere, in her contribution to the practical workshop, asked: What are the issues that need to be incorporated in a policy for mainstreaming disability from the perspective of a developing country? When countries in the North offer aid, the negotiators from the Southern countries usually lack the necessary knowledge or have a negative attitude towards disability. Disability issues are usually lowest on the agenda because people with disabilities are a minority and have no voice. Disability will thus not surface in the dialogue unless the programme is specifically aimed at disability, which again segregates disability interventions further. For members of the DCDD coalition, as concluded in the lobby workshop, this underlines once more the need to strengthen, capacitate and empower disabled people's organisations in developing countries and to build and strengthen civil society

organisations in which disabled people are included, in order that their perspectives on, for example, PRSPs are included.

The lobby workshop provided concrete examples and strategies of how to lobby for disability inclusion and how to advocate disability issues in general. **Elisabeth Bruce** described how the political process in Norway was influenced by Norwegian disabled people's organisations. The lessons learned in Norway may well apply to the Dutch situation. In the lobby workshop the following basic question was investigated: "What are good strategies for mainstreaming disability awareness in the practices of Dutch actors in development co-operation?" The answers to this basic question can be divided into four categories: 1) Tools and examples showing "we can do it!"; 2) Creating win-win situations for decision-makers; 3) "Inclusive policy promotes development"; and 4) How to put disability on the agenda.

Tools and examples showing "we can do it!" (1) include integration of disability issues in the training of development

Involvement of disabled people was crucial in pressing development policy to become inclusive.

workers. We could use the experience of gender-mainstreaming. It is important to demonstrate that disability inclusiveness works, by highlighting good examples, for instance. Other ideas are to develop joint projects across organisations and to develop a disability checklist to analyse organisations (see below). In lobbying work it is important to create win-win situations for decision-makers (2). Methods include direct confrontation with policy-makers using a single clear message. We have to work with allies to influence actors. We need to stimulate partner organisations to consult disabled people's organisations. We need to learn to speak the language of the planners. Besides creating critical mass it is important to have legitimacy to be able to speak on behalf of disabled people from Southern countries. We should influence MPs to change minister's policies. The lobby workshop facilitator, **Henk van Apeldoorn**, suggested that DCDD's advisory group on lobbying and advocacy should study these ideas. "Inclusive policy promotes development" (3) should be promoted as the central idea. Disabled people are ambassadors for this concept. Central issues include: "nothing about us without us", "inclusion comes first". Lots of ideas were collected in the workshop on how to put disability on the agenda (4). Among these are: connect with policy priorities; set up a multi-theme



working group; inclusion of disability increases the quality and quantity of results; know which actors to connect on which "hot issues"; making the position of the disabled visible.

Offering a 'checklist' can be a useful lobby tool, a present that can be used by decision-makers. But the checklist can also show whether the decision-maker is favourable to 'disability issues' or not. Then it is more like a pressure tool. The idea of using a checklist was discussed at length in the practical workshop. Common ground was found in that developing such a checklist could work well in advocating disability at several decision levels.

Concluding remarks

The presentations, workshops and discussions at this invitational expert meeting were fruitful and dynamic. The large number of participants from various Dutch and foreign organisations associated with development co-operation promise potential for change in Dutch policy and practice. The contents of the contributions and debates are rich and will provide DCDD with sufficient material to work with in the coming years. DCDD hopes that the participants in the meeting will want to share in the work on disability inclusion.



Disabled children sitting in front of a school (photo: Huib Cornielje)



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10 points for action

In the Netherlands the time has arrived for making development co-operation inclusive. It is of particular importance that policy-makers - at government level as well as at NGO level - think inclusively and integrate the disability dimension in overall policy for poverty reduction. Disability, like gender, deserves structural and pro-active attention from donor organisations. For Dutch development co-operation policy in the coming period this should entail the following:

1. Three years from now, the Dutch government and co-financing NGOs (donors) pay considerable attention to disability from a human rights perspective in their strategic policy plans.
2. Three years from now, an operational network exists, between policy-makers, service providers and persons with disabilities themselves, which is aimed at increasing knowledge of disability and good practice in projects targeting inclusion of disabled people.
3. Five years from now, major donor organisations agree on working towards incorporating disability in development co-operation.
4. Five years from now, Dutch persons with disabilities and their organisations are involved in development co-operation policy and practice.
5. Five years from now, donor organisations have and use tools for effectively designing development projects and programmes incorporating disability inclusiveness.
6. Ten years from now, the Dutch public in general has knowledge of the need for improvement of the position of disabled people in developing countries from a human rights perspective.
7. Ten years from now, three to five percent of the budget of donor organisations is earmarked for disability projects and programmes.
8. Of this budget, ten percent is aimed specifically at empowerment of persons with disabilities.
9. Ten years from now, development projects and programmes can be tested for being 'disability-inclusive' by means of an agreed evaluation tool.
10. Ten years from now, Dutch donor organisations are in the forefront of organisations advocating 'disability' within a wider diversity policy.

Note to the meeting's participants:

This discussion document is intended to channel the discussions held at the expert meeting. It has been sent to all speakers and facilitators of the plenary and workshop sessions with the request to pay attention to (some of) the action points. The document does not necessarily reflect DCDD's or Cordaid's opinions or policies but translates the call for inclusion into practical action points. The action points may evoke much discussion, please use this document as a reference for reflection and discussion; and for future reference.



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Part II - Full report

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| Programme |

Plenary session - morning

09:30:	Registration and welcome
10:00:	Opening by the expert meeting's day chairperson Christina de Vries (health consultant Kerkinactie and ICCO)
10:10:	DCDD: development concern or remaining deaf and dumb for these issues?" Huib Cornielje, interim chairperson DCDD
10:15:	Cordaid policy on vulnerable groups. Rens Rutten, policy officer Cordaid
10:25:	Some issues and approaches informing the mainstreaming of disability issues into development co-operation: experiences from Southern and Eastern Africa. Jabulani M Ncube, disability consultant Namibia
11:00:	Break, coffee and tea.
11:30:	The new policy of the Dutch Minister for development co-operation. Aagje Papineau-Salm, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
11:55:	Liberating borders. Yolana Koster, director Kantel Konsult
12:20:	The experience of including disability in Norwegian development co-operation. Elisabeth Bruce, head international department Norwegian Association of the Disabled (NAD)

Workshop session - afternoon

13:00:	Lunch
14:00:	Registration afternoon session
14:30:	Start workshops
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobby workshop. Facilitator Henk van Apeldoorn. Contributions by Elisabeth Bruce (Norwegian Alliance for the Disabled) and Mark Raijmakers (DCDD). • Practical workshop. Facilitator Jabulani M. Ncube. Contribution by Maria Kangere (COMBRA, Uganda).
16:50:	Exchange of workshop facilitators and reporting back from other workshops.
17:00:	Some drinks and networking
18:00:	End



Plenary session – morning

Opening by the expert meeting's day chairperson

Christina de Vries (health consultant Kerkinactie and ICCO)

Chairperson of this morning Christina de Vries welcomes all participants on behalf of DCDD and Cordaid, organisers of this expert meeting. She welcomes especially the guests who will give a speech. Christina de Vries is very grateful that so many participants travelled to The Hague for this meeting and hopes that the main questions can be answered today.

Christina de Vries tells a short tale of three masons working at a brick wall. A foreigner passes by and asks the first mason what he is doing, on which the mason answers "I am working at a brick wall". The foreigner asks the same question to the second mason who answers, "I am earning a living". When the foreigner asks the question to the third mason, he answers proudly: "I am building a cathedral". This tale symbolizes the wish to build great things today. There is already extensive knowledge of inclusion of disability in Nordic countries. A paper with ten points of actions has been sent to all participants. The guest speakers have been asked to comment on these points. The contributions of these speakers will be taken down; the minutes will be published on the DCDD-website. The chairperson invites Huib Cornielje as first speaker to the stand.

DCDD:DCDD. Development concern or remaining deaf and dumb for these issues?"

Huib Cornielje, interim chairperson DCDD

(full presentation text is published online --> www.dccd.nl?1920)

Huib Cornielje is acting chairman of DCDD. Huib Cornielje has given his talk the subtitle "Development concern or remaining deaf and dumb for these issues?" To illustrate the reason for this subtitle, he tells the following story

Once there was a lion who was so old that it became difficult for him to catch his prey. He realized however that human beings move quite slow, in spite of being large. Therefore he decided to hunt people. One day the lion killed someone who was on his way to the village Tsiawa. The villagers in dismay called their chief and he climbed that day on the roof of his house and shouted. "Listen people. There is a lion in our surroundings. Nobody is allowed to go to the fields or the river. Did you hear this well?" The villagers listened well and obeyed their chief, except for one person. Meta's buckets were empty and she didn't know how to cope that day without water. She decided to go to the river as quick as possible. There the lion jumped on her and killed her. The lion pulled her along the road to his hiding place. He met there a leopard who offered him some assistance. At first the lion refused, but he had to admit he was getting tired. He asked the leopard to take care of his prey, so that he could drink some water and rest a bit. The leopard had to promise not to eat any of the prey. The lion left and the leopard became hungrier and hungrier. At last he thought, if I just eat one ear that would not be a problem. The old lion will not even realize this. But one ear is not a lot and so the second ear was eaten as well. When the lion came back, he noticed the leopard ate the ears. He demanded an explanation. The leopard answered, "Excuse me, mister lion, people don't have any ears and I will prove it". He took the lion to the junction near the village at sunset. The villagers had looked for Meta that evening, but couldn't find her. Soon, the chief called his people and said: "Why don't you listen? Don't you have ears?" The leopard turned to the lion and said triumphantly "Now did you hear what the man said? People don't have ears!"



The reality of the struggle of people with disabilities in lesser developed countries makes Huib Cornielje to be increasingly pessimistic about the effects of all conferences, reviews, publications, policy papers, legislation and discussions. These debates to a large extent take place in the West. Disability and development may all too easily become a toy for academics, researchers and activists, if all their involvement doesn't lead to any improvement in the lives of disabled people. Therefore the DCDD activities need to become meaningful to disabled people in the South. In order to become meaningful it is first and foremost of importance to listen very well to disabled people from the South. Secondly DCDD needs to form bridges between and among various stakeholders, both in the South and the West and convince the various stakeholders in development assistance that the time has come that substantial attention is being paid towards the needs and abilities of disabled people in the South. Substantial is meant in terms of commitments to seriously address disability from within a development perspective. The much needed focus of seeing disability as a more cross-cutting development approach that has inclusiveness of marginalized and deprived groups in society as a starting point, requires a redirection of thinking. This means that on one hand all should be done to create a more inclusive society; on the other hand it needs also affirmative action and special attention for the specific problems which people with disabilities experience on a daily basis.

DCDD in its three years of existence is a coalition of three groups: disabled people's organization, development aid organization and service providers. DCDD may become a movement that increasingly takes an advocacy role since people in general find it so difficult to listen. The message from DCDD is not a new one; it is a message for more righteousness, a more egalitarian society with chances and opportunities for everyone, irrespective of a disability. The problem however is that although this is a point of view which is repeated time and again, little action from the side of politicians and policymakers mean that progress remains rather slow. Is it a matter of not hearing the message or is the message so confronting that people just remain dumb? Huib Cornielje advises the listeners to tell those who are in powerful positions, but are still deaf for the messages of today, that the time has come for more pertinent attention for the struggle of disabled people in the South.

The chairperson asks Huib Cornielje, whether the stated action points are too optimistic, as it seems that he in his contribution tends to be more realistic. Huib Cornielje refers to action number 2 and encourages the optimism to realize a network.

Cordaid policy on vulnerable groups

Rens Rutten, policy officer Cordaid

(full presentation text is published online --> www.dccd.nl?1922)

The next speaker, Rens Rutten, gives a presentation on the work and policy of Cordaid. Cordaid came into being in 2000 with the merge of three development organizations; Mensen in Nood, Memisa, Vastenactie and Bilance. In 2002 Cordaid formulated its strategic plan for the period 2003-2006. In this plan Cordaid opts for an organizational approach and a thematic approach.

The organizational approach stands for a shift from individual projects to the support of social organizations. The effectiveness of Cordaid's work depends to a large extent on the organizational capacity of local partner organizations and the degree to which they are integrated in civil society in their country. The thematic approach implies a concentration on four themes: quality of urban life, access to markets, health and care, peace and conflict, and HIV/aids.

In this plan Cordaid has chosen to set priorities, because spreading out over a too large number of sectors of countries reduces effectiveness. This concentration on themes however led to a concern about the policy and practice related to the specific target groups, like children, elderly, disabled people. Historically Cordaid has considerable experience in the field of welfare and therefore considers the attention for vulnerable groups and its relation with partner organizations that work on community level with these groups, as a very important part of its identity. At this moment the Cordaid policy on vulnerable groups is being defined, of which the policy on disability forms part.

Cordaid intends to maintain the 3% expenditure directed to disability.

Vulnerable groups refer to people that are not able to participate in the mainstream social life. Possible reasons for exclusion are discrimination of groups of people

with a certain common characteristic, government policy or mechanisms of people that are not willing to participate in society. Cordaid has defined as its mission to work for poor people and for those deprived of their rights throughout the world and for social and economic justice. A special policy on how to reach vulnerable and marginalized groups is



therefore indispensable. The basis for this policy is the following principles:

1. Respect for the own dignity of the individual as a social being;
2. Respect for the own responsibility of an individual;
3. Responsibility of a society at all levels to enhance a full participation of all people.

The prerequisite in this approach would be to enable the excluded vulnerable groups to enter the mainstream society. This can be realized by involving vulnerable people in identification of their needs and in making the social, cultural, political, physical and economic infrastructures of society fully accessible.

The target group "vulnerable people" has been defined as groups of people that temporarily or structurally lack the capacity to take care of themselves, and/or that are temporarily or structurally not able to participate 'normally' in their own society, and therefore are socially excluded or have an increased risk to be excluded.

The most important target groups in Cordaid policy are children at risk, older people, disabled people and psychiatric patients.

Cordaid has chosen a two-way strategy; direct interventions with vulnerable groups and inclusion of vulnerable groups in Cordaid policy. Direct interventions with vulnerable groups consist of the care for vulnerable groups and the strengthening of community activities related to the care of vulnerable groups and the promotion of self-organization of vulnerable people. It deals with specific initiatives related with the care for and empowerment of certain vulnerable groups. The focus can be on three levels:

1. The direct care to those, who are not capable to care for themselves because of their physical or mental condition.
2. The empowerment and self-organization of vulnerable people to create a better living for themselves through awareness raising and training. In addition empowering the community to take an active role in the care for the most vulnerable in their midst.
3. Advocacy and lobby for a more equal society by getting and maintaining the position of the vulnerable people on the political agenda

General strategies that can be identified for care:

- Emphasizing community rather than institutional care

- Strengthening the care and coping capacities of families and communities
- Involving vulnerable people as part of the solution, not part of the problem
- Building broad collaboration among key stakeholders in all sectors
- Application of long-term perspective
- Integration with other services
- Linking care and prevention

Formerly the accent for support was on the more traditional form of care. Cordaid now intends to move to interventions in care that are more related to community development and to lobby and advocacy activities. However, this shift should not imply that Cordaid loses its relation with partner-organizations that are directly involved at community level.

Inclusion of vulnerable groups in Cordaid policy refers to the principle that as a result of an intervention by Cordaid or a partner organization, no vulnerable group will be worse off, and at least some vulnerable groups will be better off than before. In each of Cordaid's thematic policy attention should be paid to the position and interest of vulnerable groups. The improvement of the income of vulnerable groups, the strengthening of their self-organization and the recognition of their rights are the central issues. It deals with the 'mainstreaming' of vulnerable groups in the overall-policy: addressing inequalities between particularly vulnerable groups and non-vulnerable groups in all strategic areas of Cordaid's work.



As objectives for inclusion of vulnerable groups, Cordaid has formulated tools for inclusion and developed internal learning and capacity strengthening strategies. Theme and regional policy documents include attention for vulnerable groups and indicators are developed to monitor progress of inclusion vulnerable groups. Cordaid's policy on disability follows from the above-mentioned strategies. The direct interventions in the field of disability consist in general of community based rehabilitation



programmes, with which Cordaid has a large experience in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malawi, Uganda, and Nicaragua. As far as the inclusion of disability into the other themes is concerned, at this moment there is little insight at this moment. However, within the theme peace and conflict and quality of urban life there are examples of projects related with disability.

The expenditures on welfare have remained at more or less the same average of 7-8% during the last four years. The expenditure on disabled people is more or less 3%. Cordaid intends to maintain the 3% expenditure directed to disability, therefore it is important to monitor critically the small decline (from 3,4 % to 2,6 %) in relation to 2001. Cordaid doesn't intend to identify 'new' partner organizations in the field of disability, because it very much depends on the context of the different regions/countries, the history of the programme, presence of local organizations, etc. Cordaid will try to achieve that the attention for disabled people and other specific groups is one of the issues in the discussions with the partner organizations about their programmes, regardless of the issue they are dealing with.

Cordaid now intends to move to interventions in care that are more related to community development and to lobby and advocacy activities.

Important to notice in this process of policy formulation is: there is a group of people within Cordaid, working within the different regional project-departments and within the fundraising departments, like

Mensen in Nood, very much involved with and experienced in the issue of vulnerable groups. On the other hand strategic co-operation with organizations like DCDD is important to support and promote the integration of disability within our work.

Christina de Vries thanks Rens Rutten for her contribution.

Mrs. Barbara Oosters (CBM-I, Brussels) enquires if Cordaid is part of Concord. Rens Rutten is not familiar with Concord. Barbara Oosters explains that Concord is a European network of similar organizations as Cordaid. Rens Rutten replies that Cordaid carries out its thoughts of mainstreaming also towards other NGO's.

Ton Millenaar (De Hartekamp Groep) asks if the mentioned group of vulnerable people is the same group as the group of disabled group. Rens Rutten answers that disabled people are a part of the group of vulnerable people. Cordaid deals with marginalized people; disabled people are a part of this group.

The chairperson introduces the next speaker, Jabulani M. Ncube, as a first hand expert in the field. Jabulani Ncube is also member of DCDD's international advisory council.

Some issues and approaches informing the mainstreaming of disability issues into development co-operation: experiences from Southern and Eastern Africa

Jabulani M Ncube, disability consultant Namibia

(full presentation text is published online --> www.dccd.nl/?1916)

Jabulani M. Ncube acknowledges the host and his fellow guest speakers. Jabulani Ncube, originally from Zimbabwe, has worked full time in disability in different roles. As the greatest and the most enriching experience that has shaped his thinking he names the time that he has spent with disabled people in their own living circumstances. Jabulani Ncube welcomes the opportunity to speak today, and hopes that the deliberations will go a long way to shaping the agenda regarding international cooperation involving the Dutch people and their government in general, the Dutch disability movement, with disability and development practitioners in the South.

Instead of recounting the known facts and figures relating to how poverty and disability are inextricably linked, Jabulani Ncube recounts his experiences of a two-week stay in Ethiopia early this year. There he met a 16 year old disabled young woman named Meseret Abe with whom he had a profound exchange. Meseret lived with her sister in a very poor slum part of town. Both their parents were dead. She relied on her sister for a lot of things on an hour-by-hour, day to day basis. For example, her sister





carried her on her back to the one toilet serving hundreds of families in the neighbourhood. Her sister baked buns that she sold in the neighbourhood. Both lived on the meagre proceeds from this activity. Meseret had not been to school. Her elder sister recounted now that Meseret was becoming older, she was getting heavier and therefore it was more difficult to carry her on her back. Even if Meseret obtained a wheelchair, negotiating it over that inaccessible terrain would pose a major challenge. When asked what she wanted to do with her life, Meseret told that she wanted to go to school, if she could obtain a wheelchair. She was surprised that he had come to meet her at all, let alone discuss the range of things they did. As the discussion progresses, she became more confident, she was very pleased that she had met another disabled person from some far away country, who had taken time to come to her. Meseret sums up a lot of what is already known to those of us gathered here today, by reason of our close association with disability issues: vulnerable, African young black woman with a long life ahead of her, but largely unprepared for it, dependence on another young woman whose circumstances are not stable either, risk of HIV/AIDS, no access to education, little chance of finding a job, inaccessible physical environment, lack of appliances, isolation and lack of stimulation and extremely fragile day to day bare existence.

One sees in some countries the lack of implementation of the existing law and policy.

As practical measures to end the vicious cycle that inextricably links disability to poverty, and poverty to disability Jabulani Ncube names:

1. Supporting disabled women and girls

Within the context of the African Decade, it is important that development partners across the North/South divide work in ways that recognize and support existing and emerging groups, organizations and networks of disabled women to promote their full inclusion within the disability movement. Disabled young women need to be targeted for special support in order to build their capacity through various programmes of DPO's to increase their influence on decisions, the planning, design and implementation of programs.

2. Policy and Legislative Approaches

This is a key weakness that organizations of disabled people have identified in their countries. It has therefore become a key priority for them to work in this area and to advocate and lobby local and national

government authorities to pass laws and policies that will facilitate disability work and improve access to opportunities and resources by disabled people. Where such policy environment exists, there has been an increased focus on the needs of the disabled section of the population. Measures have been taken to implement supportive programmes and policies cutting across some key social and economic aspects of human development, such as education and training, employment and job creation through preferential treatment in the allocation of government tenders. Over time organizations have articulated a need to be supported in advocating for legislative changes in the countries in which they operate. This has been expressed in the form of a need to improve their advocacy skills, to learn from the experiences of other countries which have such legislation and how it was developed, the role that disabled people played in the formulation of those laws, and what the impact has been.

Jabulani Ncube is currently involved with colleagues in Southern Africa to design an initiative to study in selected countries in Southern and Eastern Africa the results from the specific laws and policies on disability that have been passed in countries ranging from Uganda, South Africa, to Zimbabwe, Zambia and Namibia. The main question to be asked following such policies and laws is: "What has changed?"

On the negative side, one sees in some countries the lack of implementation of the existing law and policy, respectively. Sufficient resources are rarely allocated to allow implementation. The implementation structures that are provided for in the law are at times not instituted. In this context tokenism is a challenge to be vigilant about. On the positive side, we have seen from the Ugandan and South African examples, a definite improvement in the visibility of disabled people and their issues, as they get represented onto various levels of governance in their countries. We have seen the emergence of close relationships between the disability movement and the ruling political party or movement in both Uganda and South Africa. We are however unsure what will happen if such ruling party is replaced in government.

Clearly, laws and policies play an important role in creating environments that promote disability issues. This can be done through specific non-discrimination clauses that outlaw disability as a basis for discrimination. Taking cue from the State Constitution, other laws would then ensure that they mention disability specifically as an area requiring special attention as well as mainstream attention. But the lesson from the disability movement is about the need to avoid bad laws and policies



being passed in the first place, as the path of amendment has been known to be a difficult one.

3. Building the disability movement

Efforts by disabled people to build their own organizations are not attempts to create a separate world for disabled people. Organizations of disabled people create the platform on which disabled people analyse their own situation, craft and sharpen the philosophy that will form the bedrock of future advocacy campaigns. They give each other strength in their own organizations. They also analyse internal weaknesses, external threats and opportunities facing disabled people's organizations on this platform. It is the platform of the collective disability movement that

We have seen a definitive improvement in the visibility of disabled people.

ensures that advocacy efforts are sustained into the future, and it is this platform that gives the movement the legitimacy and authority to determine on an on-going basis the agenda for action

that gets pushed to the public domain. It is this internal strength that drives the movement's ability to effectively engage with the environment and decision makers about disability issues. The objective is not the mere existence of the movement. Rather its objectives are judged best from what a movement does and achieves in the public domain to advance the people's objectives. By beginning to organize initially from an internal perspective, the movement essentially is building the constituency for change. And if disabled people themselves are not involved, the momentum for change will equally falter. By building the disabled people's movement, one is actually contributing to increasing the efforts of the "twin - track" approach, focusing on special measures of building the strength of the movement, whose advocacy work in the public domain will mainstream disability issues. It is here where our partners in the North can play an important role of forging alliances with the disability movement in the South, on the basis of which experiences, resources and knowledge can be shared.

4. Keeping an eye on the bigger picture: the African Decade of Disabled Persons, (1999-2009)

The decade 2000-2009 was declared in 1999 by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) as a Decade for Disabled Persons, during which efforts would be redoubled by African governments, working with civil society organizations, international agencies including the United

Nations, and government agencies to focus resources and political attention on problems facing the population of disabled people in Africa (estimated by WHO at more than 60 million people, or 1 in every 10 Africans). The African Decade was declared against a background that the World Program of Action Concerning Disabled Persons (1983-1992), and before it the International Year of Disabled Persons (1981) had not benefited much disabled people in developing countries. Disability continued to be treated as a welfare issue, not as a human rights nor a development issue. Among its key focus are, building the capacity of the African movement of disabled people, creating conducive policy environment to enhance the socio-economic development of disabled people, increasing disability awareness and making available sufficient state resources to support the disability agenda.

The key objectives of the African Decade are therefore to bring focus to bear on:

- creation of conducive policy and legal environment to support measures aimed at improving the life conditions of disabled people in the population
- increased awareness of disability and support of the growth and development of organizations of disabled people, promotion of strategies toward poverty alleviation, education, and inclusion of disabled persons in mainstream social and economic activities.
- promotion of appropriate research into disability issues that feeds into finding solutions and strategies to support disabled Africans.
- increased responsibility for the funding of disability programs by African governments, in partnership with the private sector, in addition to any international support available.
- promotion of the right of access to information with particular reference to deaf and blind persons.

The expected outcomes from this increased activity in disability are expected, among others, to be the following:

- emergence of strong organizations of disabled people, which are capable of working in partnership with other key stakeholders such as governments for the further advancement of disabled people.
- improved mainstreaming activities, including increased access to education and training opportunities for women, children and youth with disabilities.
- increased funding toward disability programs by African governments.



A number of focused activities within the Decade need to be undertaken, which include the following:

- increasing the awareness of the African Decade by disabled people's organizations.
- increasing the engagement by DPO's with their governments in order to influence the policy and legislative frameworks of local as well as national governments in the field of disability.
- links by DPO's and other actors with regional bodies in and outside disability need to be undertaken, including the work to support the currently underway process in the UN to develop a comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities.
- special measures to support Youth with Disabilities
- HIV/AIDS & disabled people in general; there is a need to promote knowledge about the disease among disabled people.

In conclusion, Jabulani Ncube gives some suggestions regarding how people in the North might help the efforts to mainstream disability and thus contribute to raising the profile of disability issues. Firstly, he urges the hearers to understand and take note of the agenda of the key players involved in disability, so that you may be able to align your strategies appropriately. Secondly, he asks them to seek to ensure the inclusion of the disability dimension into bilateral and possibly multilateral agreements between the Dutch government and Southern partners. Thirdly, the growth and development of organizations of disabled people should be supported.

Christina de Vries thanks Jabulani Ncube for his contribution and praises him for covering so much material in half an hour. Marlies van der Kroft (Save the Children UK) wishes to ask Jabulani Ncube the following question: even within Europe there appears to be cultural differences in dealing with disability, what does he advise Dutch development organizations in changing the point of view as a part of moving towards inclusion? Jabulani Ncube answers that this is a very important question. He suggests that the organizations first have to make very clear for themselves what has to be changed. His second advice is to share experiences between the Dutch organisations and their counterparts in the rest of the world. However, first analysis must be started from within the organizations themselves.

The chairperson announces a short coffee break.

After the break the chairperson invites Aagje Papineau-Salm to the stand for her contribution. Aagje Papineau-Salm is head of the Social Policy Division of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The new policy of the Dutch Minister for development co-operation.

Aagje Papineau-Salm, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Aagje Papineau-Salm congratulates the organization with this session on this important subject and hopes that the hearers will not be too disappointed after her speech.



Today is an important day in Dutch politics, Prinsjesdag, on which the budgets for the following year are presented. When the date for this meeting was fixed, it seemed very likely that there would be clarity about the new policy of the minister for development cooperation. Unfortunately, this is not yet completely the case, but there are indications about the framework. After being installed, Minister van Ardenne wanted to review the policy of the foregoing years. This process is still ongoing. On the 17th of June of this

year the minister has sent a letter to the parliament in which the big lines for the coming four years are drawn. After the letter was sent, an intensive process of consultations took place, within the ministry and with representatives of civil society organisations. The process has been nearly completed and in the coming weeks a more detailed policy document will be presented to the parliament. The direction is clear; there is a balance between continuity and renewal. In The Netherlands this is a period of scarcity of funds. So although 0,8% of the budget will still go to development projects, there is nearly no growth in the total budget at the moment.



Sustainable poverty reduction will remain the main focus. Leading principle in this area are the Millennium Development Goals; within this context there will be special attention to basic education, HIV/aids, reproductive health and environment. To achieve these goals inclusion is important in all these areas. Much more than in the past development cooperation will be an integral part of the foreign policy of the Netherlands.

An important focus is that there should be more coherence in the Dutch policy. Unfortunately the WTO conference in Cancun didn't bring the results hoped for. This will surely effect the situation in developing countries.

In the new policy more attention will be given to Africa, since this continent is lagging behind in many ways. There will be special attention also for the war and post-war situations in this continent. A document about the Africa policy is still being written. A very important part of the new policy is that the private sector will play a more important role, not only the non-profit sector but also the business sector. So called partnerships are a new way in organising the work.

There will clearly not be a focal point on disabled people as the subject of financial targets.

At country level the poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSP's) will remain the basis for collaboration together with governments, civil society organisations and other donors. In the sectors the organising principles for support to developing countries will remain the sector wide approach. This means collaboration with all stakeholders to try to implement the sector plans, which were jointly developed. In practice there will be little room left for support of special activities through bilateral cooperation. Influence can be used to make sure that important aspects are not forgotten, but there can not be dictated what should be in the policy. Especially for crosscutting issues like gender, children in difficult circumstances and disability, this will be a 'handicap'.

There will be a strong focus on basic education, aids, reproductive health and environment. For basic education and environment a so-called input target has been accepted by the parliament, for aids there is a strong intention to double the budget in the coming years. Formulation of new target groups will be very unlikely. For the inclusion of disability in Dutch

policy this means that there will clearly not be a focal point on disabled people as the subject of financial targets.

There still are two ways left for further enhancing the issue of inclusion of disability. One of these ways is to mainstream as much as possible. Two areas where this can be done and where things are already on their way are human rights and basic education. Mainstreaming can be done even without extra funds, within the chosen sectors at country level, but also internationally. The second way for further enhancing is to work through NGO's and civil society organisations, both in the Netherlands as in developing countries.

An important way of promoting the rights of persons with disabilities is through international standard setting. The objective of such an exercise is to obtain consensus States about the need for equal rights and equal opportunities for persons with disabilities. Once such norms have been agreed upon, each government can and will be held responsible for their implementation. Such an approach goes hand in hand with the principles of the Netherlands development policy; when the Netherlands develops partnerships with certain developing countries, the responsibility of the government of those countries comes first. The governments are asked to set the right framework and to formulate such policies that it becomes possible to support these in full partnership. In the case of persons with disabilities, we must aim at the situation, whereby their interests are automatically taken into account, when the sector-oriented policies are drawn up. This is fully in line with the human rights based approach in development policies; everyone is entitled to human rights and fundamental freedom. In certain cases, specific measures must be taken to make it possible to enjoy human rights. This holds in particular for persons with disabilities. International standard setting can support this process and it can help countries in focussing on the specific needs of groups to actually provide them with equal rights and equal opportunities.

In the context of the United Nations, the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on a *Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities* is of great importance. This Convention can provide a legally binding framework setting out the general principles and emphasising certain rights that are of particular importance to persons with disabilities. It is often a matter of tailoring existing human rights and fundamental freedoms in such a way as to ensure equal rights and equal opportunities.



At first the Netherlands Government was hesitant in respect of this new initiative. After all, there already is a large number of existing international human rights instruments and each new codification effort brings with it the danger of renegotiating or even of diminishing the existing body of human rights. However, the arguments of those in favour of a new instrument proved to be convincing; it is the intention of the government now to contribute constructively to the negotiations, of course in close cooperation with the EU-partners. Non-discrimination, equality of opportunities, autonomy and participation and integration are the key concepts, which the EU will focus on when dealing with the Convention effective. It will also be necessary to foresee a proper monitoring mechanism, without, however, overburdening the already

In the case of persons with disabilities, we must aim at the situation, whereby their interests are automatically taken into account.

existing system of international supervisory bodies. Aagje Papineau-Salm is optimistic that it will be possible to make swift progress with the negotiations. Although the Netherlands does not itself participate in the expert group, it shall be active in the Committee and in the ongoing consultations within the EU.

Aagje Papineau-Salm also wishes to draw attention to the work of the Special Reporter on Disability of the Commission for Social Development. This work, which is largely based on the standard Rules on the equalization of opportunities for Person with Disabilities, is equally important in the context of international consensus building. The Netherlands Government has actively, also financially, supported the work of the Special Reporter. At the moment, the standard rules are being examined in order to see if they need to be extended. Since the rules are not legally binding, they can go in more detail than the future Convention. For policymaking they provide therefore a more detailed framework, the importance of which cannot be overestimated.

Dutch development policy has adopted a broad definition of the term 'basic education', as used internationally since the Jomtien education conference; "basic education meets people's learning needs and enables them to acquire the basic knowledge, and the essential skills and values they need for their personal and social development, and to play a useful role in society". Dutch policy on basic education contributes to the sustainable improvement of education systems in developing countries. Its aim is to ensure high quality education, which is accessible and

relevant to all, opens up opportunities for the most disadvantaged sections of the population and contributes to a more democratic and equitable society. The specific objectives of policy on basic education are:

- to maintain and improve the quality and relevance of basic education
- to achieve social justice by providing equal opportunities for people from disadvantaged groups in order to help them gain a basic level of essential knowledge, values and skills necessary to ensure a productive, peaceful and equitable existence
- to reduce gender disparities in educational achievement and to enhance gender justice through education by promoting empowerment of women.

Dutch policy is geared in the first instance to supporting governments to their efforts to implement national education reform programmes designed to meet Education for All objectives for basic education. In those plans it is in our opinion required to take account of the needs of the poor and disadvantaged, including working children, ethnic minorities, children affected by conflict and HIV/AIDS and children with special needs. With other words, the inclusion of children with special needs must be an integral part of strategies to achieve Universal Primary Education by 2015.

Next to these two aspects, other sectors have to be found to include disability. The help of the civil society and NGO's is needed to ask continuously attention for the inclusion of disability. Not to start all sorts of projects, but to fight for the rights of disabled people. After all the MDG's will never be reached when they are not included in the development process.

The inclusion of children with special needs must be an integral part of strategies to achieve Universal Primary Education in 2015.

Concluding, inclusion in Dutch policy through mainstreaming should be the main focus. Although it is not certain what will happen on country level, no special targets and earmarked funding are foreseen.

The chairperson thanks Aagje Papineau-Salm for her presentation and asks her if trusting other governments in bilateral agreements isn't a bit naive. How are governments monitored for example? Aagje Papineau-Salm answers that the Netherlands government require from the partner government that there is consultation of civil society organisations.



During the process every two years will be looked at what is happening in the country. Marlies van der Kroft (Save the Children UK) hopes that the Dutch government will be inspired after this meeting to undertake more actions than just mainstreaming.

The chairperson announces the next speaker, Yolan Koster, director of Kantel Konsult and former DCDD board member.



Participants having lunch

Liberating borders

Yolan Koster, director Kantel Konsult

Yolan Koster apologizes for not having written her speech down. She starts by sharing a memory of twenty years ago in China. She was invited by the Chinese government to address the concept of independent living during a conference in Beijing. As she had learned a little Chinese she was trying to translate a part of her speech when she discovered that there are no Chinese words to translate the term "independent living". It was odd to find out that an important culture like the Chinese is not able to share an important western approach towards disability. Therefore she tried to make a collage of other approaches to make clear what she meant. The reactions were very interesting as the disabled hearers were shocked to be portrayed as independent individuals. In their minds they were part of a family system. This was a good personal learning moment.

Yolan Koster states that today in this room there are not many disabled people present. If a change has to be made, the initiative has to come from disabled people themselves. It seems that disabled people are worst of everywhere. It is very sad that they are not able to behave as a solidarity group on meetings like this one. Sometimes it seems very hard to share information with other disabled people, since everybody has their own problems. This makes it difficult to think about poor sisters in other countries, still exchange is very important. As a role model she names Kalle Könkolla from Finland, who is an outstanding advocate of creating development policy from the perspective of disabled people themselves. He is severely disabled, but he travels a lot and shares his love for life.

Since the founding of the DCDD the aim was to get people interested in what is happening abroad. Another task is to build solidarity among disabled people. The main message is that disabled people can learn from one another. This should be done by empowering disabled people and especially children to change their points of view, so that they can look upon themselves and each other as powerful people. Therefore it is



absolutely necessary to integrate empowerment programmes into development programmes. It is important that disabled people look upon themselves as worthwhile, instead of as victims. Yolán Koster advises the hearers to invest in empowerment programmes, because only empowered people can change the world.

If a change has to be made, the initiative has to come from disabled people themselves.

The chairperson thanks Yolán Koster for her contribution. Pien de Lange-Lunenburg (ICCO) would like to know how to empower a child with a double

handicap. Yolán Koster answers that this can be done by communicating and finding out what it wants. If the child cannot communicate, its parents should be asked about its needs.

Maria Kangere (COMBRA - Uganda) points out that empowerment should not come before primary needs as food. Yolán Koster agrees and explains that by putting children in the Netherlands on special schools, they are kept away from mainstreaming too. There is no difference between disabled children in Uganda and in the Netherlands on that point, they are excluded from empowerment. In developed countries children are extra vulnerable.

Mark Raijmakers (DCDD) makes clear that this meeting was meant for people from the development sector; this is the reason why they're a so few disabled people present. Yolán Koster answers that her remark was not meant as criticism, but purely as an analysis. There are still very few disabled people working in development co-operation.

The chairperson thanks Yolán Koster for pointing out there is still a long way to go. The next speaker, Elisabeth Bruce, comes from the Norwegian Alliance of the Disabled (member of Atlas Alliance), where steps in the right direction have been taken. Hopefully something can be learnt from her contribution.

The experience of including disability in Norwegian development co-operation

Elisabeth Bruce, head international department Norwegian Association of the Disabled (NAD)

Elisabeth Bruce starts by rectifying that in the background documents there is mentioned that Norway has a twenty-year experience of inclusion of disability. This is not completely true, although some steps have been taken. She will point out the steps after deciding to take up this issue.

In 1994 Norwegian DPO'S involved in development co-operation for the first time joined together in the Atlas Alliance. The aims of the Atlas Alliance are:

1. to improve the quality of our own development support
2. to strengthen the disability aspect in Norwegian development co-operation, i.e. both governmental and non-governmental

At the time disabled were only mentioned as one among many so-called vulnerable groups in Norwegian development co-operation. The question posed was how to reach the second aim. In order to make what used to be called a plan of attack, or what is now mainly called a strategy analysis was needed of the Norwegian political scene, own experiences and network as lobby organisations and own experiences and network as development organisations.

Due to the marginalized position of disabled in Norwegian development co-operation, it was found that there existed only a small network in this area. But apart from that it was found that there could be fought from a position of strength, being respected organisations with good knowledge, ample experience and influence in the political milieu.

With this as a basis it was decided that first the support of the politicians had to be obtained for them to make sure that the government would express its prioritisation of disabled. When this was in place the ministry of foreign affairs would have to decide on how to follow up the decisions made by the parliament. Then NORAD would have to decide their follow up in the bilateral development co-operation. It is also NORAD that will

decide how to put a sort of pressure on NGO's. Last it had to be made sure that any good intentions would give practical results for the target group.

The Norwegian political system works as follows: Each year the government presents a proposal for the national budget to the parliament. In connection with the budget the government also gives a presentation of its political priorities. The parliament will then discuss these documents and propose changes – both in the text and the figures. The committee for foreign affairs in the parliament discusses the development co-operation. In other words the members of this committee would have to be the target of the lobby work. The first year the arguments were presented in writing and through a meeting with the committee, there was no support of the majority. The minority however, commented in writing that the situation of disabled should be a greater concern of Norwegian development work.

The next year however, there was a new government – and a new majority in the parliament. And to great satisfaction, the government had taken the wording from last year and made them their own. Accordingly the foreign committee agreed on the following text: "the committee has noted that development assistance for persons with disabilities is to be given priority. The committee refers in this connection to the need for a coherent and coordinated effort, in which the rights of persons with disabilities are included in both bilateral and multilateral assistance. The committee stresses the need for guidelines and an overall plan to ensure that development assistance for persons with disabilities is in accordance with sound principles and principles of human rights."

Not long after this, the government presented a white paper. This was actually the third paper of its kind, but for the first time there was a chapter on disabled in development

Development assistance for persons with disabilities is to be given priority.

cooperation. This meant that the disability aspect would be in focus for at least three years. After these two events, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) followed up through making a plan. A few of its points are:

- the plan is quite brief, but also quite succinct.
- it tells a little bit about the background and it states that inclusion is the main goal and it emphasises measures that will ensure that the existing services provided for the local community are also available to disabled.

- then the plan treats the aspects that the multilateral aspects, the crisis and conflict situations and the Nordic co-operation are the responsibility of the MFA
- further it gives the following direction to NORAD: NORAD will draw up a plan for the operationalization and use of measures in the efforts to provide bilateral aid to persons with disabilities, the plan will ensure that these efforts are carried out in accordance with sound principles and principles of human rights.
- the plan also states that the Atlas Alliance and other Norwegian expertise must be drawn into the efforts of including disabled.

All this was extremely important and represented significant steps towards making disabled people visible in Norwegian development cooperation. But in spite of this, major steps still remained to be taken. As the agency responsible for all the bilateral co-operation and for the support to the Norwegian NGO's, NORAD plays a crucial role in this field – and there was concern about what they would do – first on the paper, then in practice.



Unfortunately it became obvious quite soon, that those in NORAD who were given the responsibility for the follow up of the MFA plan, were not too happy with the task and with the way it was formulated. The Atlas Alliance was involved, but in spite of the arguments, NORAD decided that the plan of operationalization should concentrate on some basic disability and development issues, rather than a practical plan for the implementation of the MFA-plan.

This means that the document, that is called "*The inclusion of disability in Norwegian development co-operation*" and which is divided into two parts (part 1 "*Basic disability and development issues*" and part 2 "*Some*



practical guidelines") was initially thought only to have the first part. This should be the total "plan of operationalization".

The writing of this first part was done through quite a comprehensive process involving a NORAD staff, representatives of the Atlas Alliance and a consultant. When completed, it was presented to NORAD's board for their approval. Luckily the board did not agree that this input concurred with what NORAD had actually been asked to do. So it was sent back, with the message that all was well, but something more concrete was needed in addition. Then the work on part two was started, "Some practical guidelines, a new comprehensive process", which actually meant that the document was delayed with more than a year. The guidelines were finally adopted at the end of 2001.

Leaders in the disability movement in Norway have got a new perspective on rights through their contact with Southern disabled people.

Then, to the obvious question what has happened afterwards in MFA and in NORAD. To the opinion of the Atlas Alliance not enough has happened. The positive results were that disabled are more visible in general, they are mentioned

more often - there is a concern and there are questions. There was a MFA follow up, a Nordic conference, a *UNESCO flagship* on inclusive education (Nordic pressure) and a *Worldbank Trust Fund*. In spite of these annual plans, there were problems with follow up and reporting. One problem is the constant change of staff that results in what is happening is often quite haphazard. So far very little has happened at NORAD as a follow-up. The guidelines for support to Norwegian NGO's can only be given if the projects include the disability aspect and this only came about as a result of pressure from the DPO's.

Elisabeth Bruce has realised that the job as a 'watchdog' will never end. After giving the government agencies some time to "show their good will" and see that not much happened, initiative had to be taken to new meetings and discussions. This has resulted in the following:

- a contact forum between MFA, NORAD and DPO's has been established. The forum will meet twice a year. The purpose of the forum is to discuss follow up of plans and guidelines and other issues of mutual concern
- NORAD has asked a consultant to give input on the status of the disability work: what can be done to find out what has happened

(this shows reporting routines have not been established). The consultant has proposed two ways to go about this:

- a field study in one of the main co-operation countries.
- a review of the work of the 5 largest NGO's involved in development co-operation

Elisabeth Bruce concludes her presentation by thanking the hearers for their attention.

The chairperson thanks Elisabeth Bruce for her contribution. Koos Kingma (NOVIB) asks which role the disability organizations had in putting form to the strategy. Elisabeth Bruce answers that the idea came from themselves, and they were the ones that pushed it forward and put it on the agenda. She was part of this movement, as a mother of a disabled child. After the political pressure Norwegian DPO's were frequently invited to take part in the formulation of the plans and guidelines. We have learned a lot from this process. I think it is quite correct to say that quite a few of the leaders in the disability movement in Norway have got a new perspective on the concept of rights through their contact with Southern disabled people.

Caroo Torfs (Platform Disability and Development Co-operation Belgium) enquires to what extend the second plan for NORAD was supported by training. Elisabeth Bruce replies that training is very important. The entire problem was that all the people she met left after a short while. Training has not been given yet, but is indeed very relevant.

Irma Zwarteveen asks how the Dutch organizations can get support from the politicians as has happened in Norway. Elisabeth Bruce answers that allies must be found first. The organisations must think about how, when en where to lobby.

The chairperson asks Elisabeth Bruce to comment on the action points. She thinks it is good to be ambitious. She cannot be sure about the action point on the budget (7). The reporting should be watched upon and there should be looked from a more international point of view.

The chairperson thanks Elisabeth Bruce and the other guest speakers for their contributions. She also thanks Cordaid, the working group that organised this meeting, and all attendants, especially those who came from far. The chairperson states that the plenary morning session has come to an end and there will be workshops after lunch. She invites those who are not a member of DCDD yet, to become one. Flowers are handed to the guest speakers and gifts to the working group.



Workshop session – afternoon

Lobby workshop

Facilitator Henk van Apeldoorn. Contributions by Elisabeth Bruce (Norwegian Alliance for the Disabled) and Mark Raijmakers (DCDD).

Henk van Apeldoorn introduces the aim of the workshop: to brainstorm the ideas of participants regarding the following basic question:

What are good strategies to mainstream disability awareness in the practices of Dutch actors in development co-operation?

This basic question was further introduced by looking at the following interpretations and definitions:

Strategies = plans, ordered ideas and steps

Mainstream = make normal, make into a dominant trend. Compare gender & diversity. Twin track: AND inclusive thinking, AND special attention

Disability awareness = Knowledge of and realization of the importance of the issues surrounding disability

Disability (according to WHO) = A limitation in a persons functioning and abilities as a result of a disorder of body and/or mind or chronic disease.

Practices = way of doing that is common or habitual. As in "best practices" = a selection of useful ways to deal with an issue.

Dutch actors = MFO's: Cordaid, ICCO, Novib, HIVOS, Plan Nederland, Terre des Hommes. SNV, Embassies, governments. But in total some 2000 (!) initiatives in the Netherlands. Which ones are strategic partners to work with?

Development Co-operation: *Development* = Fight poverty. Poverty can be measured in degrees of control people have over their lives and future. *Co-operation* = Working or acting together for a common purpose

After this general introduction of the aim, basic question and subject this afternoon, Elisabeth Bruce gave some examples of how in Norway the disability movement achieved successes. Mark Raijmakers of DCDD

presented an overview of current state of affairs in Dutch development co-operation regarding the inclusion of disability. Dutch government has no policy on inclusion of disability. In the parliament some MP's are interested in DCDD's message and there is potential for change. The six NGO donor agencies that receive co-funding from the Dutch government vary extensively in their degree of attention to disability. Cordaid is the agency that takes disability issues most seriously at the moment, it is in fact the only one that has 'disabled people' as a target group in its policy.

Participants then introduced themselves in each of the four groups with the following introduction questions:

- Who are you? (name, group or organization you represent)
- What can you bring to this workshop? (bring = work)
- What would you like to take home? (take = shop)

Participants then wrote 5-7 ideas/answers to the basic question and starred their 3 clearest ideas. These ideas were discussed in the subgroup and the best ones were selected and put on cards. Ideas on cards were presented to the plenary on the sticky wall, clarified, clustered. Each cluster was named by a subgroup using questions like: What do we say here? What is our vision? What is the heading we should give to this cluster of cards?

Soon in the process it became clear that in every cluster we needed the participation of the main concerned themselves: people with disabilities; mainly those in the South but also here in the Netherlands (and other parts of the affluent part of the world). This crosscutting issue appears in every cluster below as " Consultation of Disabled People".

The following Cluster names or headings emerged:

1. Tools and examples show "we can do it!"
2. Create Win-win for decision makers
3. Inclusive policy enhances development and as second name for the same cluster " Disabled people as ambassadors"
4. How to put disability on the agenda

1. Tools and examples show "we can do it!"

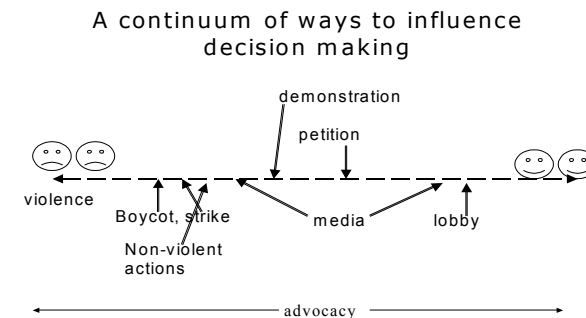
The ideas in this cluster were explicitly intended to be used to help "Dutch actors" to mainstream disability issues in their 'awareness' and policy.



- *Integrate Disability Issues in Training.* Deciders and workers from 'Dutch actors' could be trained by institutions like MDF (Management for Development Foundation, Ede), Enablement and Hogeschool Leiden, by the Working group Internal Training (WIT) from Nedworc (an association of more than 400 consultants in the Netherlands). Key persons in these institutions are present today and are willing and able to develop together a "diversity module", highlighting disability as a typical example in Gender & Diversity training. And to try to integrate this module in institutions they work with.
- *Use mainstreaming gender as an example.* This idea is related to the previous, the mainstreaming and cross cutting qualities that (should) be characteristic for gender are an existing «good practice» that can be copied.
- *Demonstrate that disability inclusiveness works.* This is like how Farmer Field Schools work. Successful practices tempt people to imitate.
- *Highlighting good examples (visibility).* This idea is similar to the previous but the presenting subgroup stressed the importance of role models when one aims to make 'normal' a certain practice.
- *Share + Successes* is again a similar idea. Make sure that good, successful stories are known and advertised. It is also hinting to the theory of Success Focus.
- *Develop joint projects across the organizations.* Like the previous idea this idea is hinting to sharing. Joint project should however be handled with care because "good practice" in MFO's is not to duplicate or co-finance each other's projects. Some smaller donors however are very good in sharing projects and co-operation.
- *SMART + Program plans Result based.* This card comes from some Development Co-operation participants present and stresses the importance to adapt to the present culture in Development Co-operation where plans should be result oriented and goals and indicators should be SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable /or Agreed upon, Realistic and Time defined.)
- *Develop disability checklist to analyse organizations.* A very practical tool that can be linked to training in diversity, to the Rapid Handicap Analysis and other tools that are presently discussed in the other workshop.
- *International Exchange with disabilities + other interested.* Again stressing the idea that disabled people themselves best convey the message. This idea promotes exchange visits between persons from the North and the South. For DCDD the challenge is to find donors willing to subsidize such exchange.

2. Create Win-Win for decision makers

The cluster of these cards relates to lobby and advocacy strategies. Most ideas mentioned relate to the broad spectrum of actions, methods and pressure used to influence decision makers. Let us call that «Advocacy». Other ideas aim at the creation of Win-Win situations with decision makers. This is a narrower dimension of influencing decisions and may be called «lobby»⁽¹⁾.



Suggestive ideas were:

- Direct confrontation with policy makers
- One clear message, disability movement -> policy makers
- Working group with allies / partners to influence actors
- Promote partner organizations to consult associations of disabled
- Speak language of the planners
- Legitimacy and accountability
- Creating a critical mass
- Have MP's change policy of minister
- And of course Consultation of Disabled People

¹ There is much confusion about the words Lobby and Advocacy. Some say there is no difference. Lobby however is mostly associated with direct and systematic influence on decision makers in an often informal manner. Requiring a not too wide gap between points of view and the possibility to create «common ground» and «shared interest», leading to the creation of WIN-WIN solutions. While advocacy is linked to the wider sense of «advocare = crying out your message» with less concern for harmony of interest, but aiming more at putting pressure. Often both are needed in efforts to influence decision making and can be used to work complementary. Even if not always by the same actor! The above defined difference can be a useful distinction between the two approaches, but many people continue to use the words interchangeably.



The facilitator suggests that DCDD's advisory group on lobby and advocacy studies these ideas.

3. "Inclusive policy enhances development" and as second name for the same cluster " Disabled people as ambassadors"

Ideas on cards were:

- Nothing about us without us
- Make it Normal
- Before normal comes inclusion
- Personnel policy to recruit disabled people.

The general idea of this cluster is well summed up in both titles.

4. How to put disability on the agenda

Ideas in this last cluster were put on cards as summed up below:

- Connect with policy priorities
- Multi – theme working group
- Consultation of disabled people
- Active involvement of (southern) disabled people
- Develop disability checklist to analyse organizations
- Inclusion of disability increases quality and quantity of results
- Know actors on what « hot issues » to connect
- Be aware of figures
- Make visible position of disabled

Many ideas in this cluster are similar to those the other clusters. Knowledge of actors in person and intimate knowledge of the issues the people you want to influence are dealing with is essential in "lobby". In this way it is possible to connect disability awareness to policy priorities. The offering of a 'checklist' can be a useful lobby tool, a present that can be used by the decider. But the checklist can also show that the image of the decider is favourable or not favourable in the light of "disability issues". Then it is more like a pressure tool. Figures are important to show "objective evidence" and appeal then to "higher or shared values" like equal treatment, requiring an extra effort. Indeed very often disabled people remain "invisible". They themselves and their position in Southern society has to be put "on the map" or "in the lime light" before they will ever take a place in "agenda's".

Practical workshop

Facilitator Jabulani M. Ncube. Contribution by Maria Kangere (COMBRA, Uganda).

Jabulani Ncube opens the workshop. A video is watched brought by Maria Kangere. She's asked to present her contribution to the expert meeting.

Development in Disability: The Uganda Experience

By Maria Kangere, Executive Director - COMBRA- the Community Based Rehabilitation Alliance, Uganda (*full presentation text is published online --> www.dccd.nl?1918*)

Brief history of disability in Uganda

Disabled people in Uganda, like most developing countries in the world, face extreme conditions of poverty, they have limited opportunities for accessing education, health, suitable housing and employment opportunities. In most cases persons with disabilities are not aware of their rights and potentials.

During the era of colonialisation, persons with disabilities in Uganda were objects of charity and institutionalisation that disconnected them from their families, a practice that was rampant in the 1950 and 1960s. In addition, persons with disabilities were divided on medical grounds. They were labelled according to a particular diagnosis and isolated from the public depending on the seriousness of the disability for example the mentally ill and the 'lepers' were conveniently looked up in institutions to protect members of the public. The long separation from their families meant that the inmates became total dependants of these institutions.

Disability Movement in Uganda

Inspired by the UN decade of Disabled Persons of 1983-1992 and the World programme of Action concerning Persons with Disabilities, disabled people in Uganda came together to form a National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda (NUDIPU). NUDIPU founders were motivated by a local Ugandan saying that "*a gali awamu ge galuma*



enyama” with a literal meaning that it is the teeth that are together that can bite the meat.

NUDIPU has made great strides in bringing disability on the national agenda. Highlights are:

- representation in the review of Uganda Constituent Assembly
- councillors representing persons with disabilities are elected through an electoral college in the Uganda local governance structure from the village to the Parliament.

The representation of persons with disabilities in high profile committees such as the Parliamentary Social Services Committee has ensured that the disability agenda is not left behind.

What are the challenges to these developments?

- the election of more than 47,000 councillors representing persons with disabilities in 56 districts ushered in a new era of governance for persons with disabilities. This has meant that many went into these councils unprepared and without adequate confidence to compete with non-disabled councillors.
- many disabled people are not aware of their rights.
- some categories of disability have not enjoyed the same opportunities of the new developments. The deaf and the women with disabilities, who have fewer opportunities for education and marriage.
- getting employment is a nightmare.
- disability budget is still looked at as projects. There is tendency to look at disability issues as donor responsibility and being on the bottom of priorities.
- there are no national indicators for measuring success and no studies have been carried out to see if these changes have improved the quality of life of persons with disabilities.

Community Based Rehabilitation Experience in Uganda

Uganda adopted Community Based Rehabilitation as a service strategy for reaching more persons with disabilities in 1990. Currently the country runs a CBR model district in the eastern part of the country. Activities include identification of persons with disabilities; assessment, referral, rehabilitation and home programmes. Families of persons with disabilities are also encouraged to participate in income generating activities. The uniqueness of this project is that it involves multisectoral committees at National, District and Sub county levels. All these

committees are geared to mainstreaming disability in general community development.

The model district is facing the following challenges:

- the budget for disability is still looked at as donor responsibility.
- persons with disability will opt for handouts rather than looking at long-term development.
- convincing the district authorities that disability is a district responsibility, is still a long way.

Inclusion of Disability in Development Policies from the Global Perspective

United nations has put forward a ten-point checklist for facilitation assessment of development programmes and projects to ensure 'guidelines for disability sensitive project planning are included as follows:

1. Are there disability-relevant projects or activities in the plan/programme?
2. Has the degree to which each of the proposed projects is disability relevant studied and specified?
3. Have all relevant stakeholders whose cooperation is needed for the inclusion of disability concerns been identified? Have they been involved?
4. Are the objectives in line with the spirit of the international conventions, commitments and programmes?
5. Are the project, all its activities and outputs such that people with disabilities with functional limitations able to participate in and benefit from the project on equal terms with other groups?
6. Have the sensitivity of the disability dimension (or component) to changes in external conditions, or possible negative developments with the project studied?
7. Are the involvement of disabled people in the project organisation and activities adequate in light of the disability relevancy of the activities?
8. Does the activity result in sustainable improvements from the standpoint of people with disabilities?
9. Has the whole planning process been adequately sensitive to disability issues?
10. Are monitoring and evaluation arrangements sensitive to disability issues
(for the checklist on the internet:
www.stakes.fi/sfa/rhachecklist.htm)



What are the issues that need to be incorporated in a policy for mainstreaming disability from the perspective of a developing country? When countries in the north come with Aid, the people who are negotiating for the support from the developed countries usually lack the knowledge or have a negative attitude towards disability. Disability issues are usually lowest on the agenda because people with disabilities are a minority in numbers and have no voice. Disability will thus not surface in the dialogue unless the programme is specific for disability, which again isolates disability interventions further.

Conclusion

A need to balance mainstreaming and special interventions will always be needed.



Workshop discussions

Jabulani Ncube presents three discussion themes for the practical workshop participants after which the group is divided in three. Hereunder are the reports from these sub-groups.

1. Access to Services

Question for the group: The main entry point to services for most disabled people is access to assistive devices and appliances. Considering access to such important services as health, education and training and employment, how could access to these be promoted for disabled people?

We have to make sure that people will be able to go to schools, that we provide them with devices, etc. There is too much focus on the debate and we start to forget about the people themselves. At an individual

level: get the things they actually need! At an empowerment level: create accessibility, the possibility to go to shops and so on. Debating about the need to look at disability from a social model is fine, but don't forget the people themselves. This is a major concern of the group.

2. Empowerment of disabled people

Question for the group: Discuss the role development agencies can play in supporting the empowerment of disabled people.

The role of donor agencies:

- The paradox of donor aid: aid is mostly oriented at taking care of people with disabilities (charity) but on the other hand they have to be helped to help themselves.
- Change of mentality of:
 - a) People with disabilities and their families
 - b) Local communities
 - c) Society
 - d) Donor Agencies themselves
- The process of:
 - a) creating political infrastructure
 - b) lobbying
 - c) advocacy (create a voice for disabled people)
 - d) supporting individual persons with disabilities, DPO's through financial (e.g. loans, credit schemes) and technical support, also consultancy & training.
 - e) Also empowering families of disabled people and extended families

The process of empowerment takes time. Time is needed for people with disabilities to create cultural-specific solutions.

3. Criteria to promote disability inclusion

Question for the group: Study the rapid handicap analysis of development activities and also consider this afternoon's presentation before you develop a critical criteria checklist for disability inclusiveness in development projects and programmes.

(for the checklist on the internet : www.stakes.fi/sfa/rhachecklist.htm)

The group decided to discuss the principals of analysing instead of discussing this specific instrument.

Why should we need a checklist for disability inclusion?



| Your notes |

To provide a baseline assessment tool:

- In the Netherlands – on an organisational level (vision, mission statement, goals and strategies of organisations in the development field including government)
- To research the present national support / legislation in the target land – is there structural support for disability inclusion?
- Is disability included in project proposals from the South?
- DPO's – how far are DPO's focused on inclusion?
- For advocacy and awareness raising with the results of the screening and also by having to use a 'disability inclusion checklist'.
- As a criterion to estimate the support for a proposal / as a screening tool.

When is screening necessary?

- Before any proposal: screening the portfolio of the involved organisation(s). How disability-friendly are those organisations? Do they promote disability inclusion in their present-day activities? This could be a goal itself for some organisations.
- During the writing of project proposals.
- After receiving project proposals (by the receiving organisation)
- While monitoring the progress
- For evaluation / reviewing the impact of the interventions.

Who should do the screening?

- The executing NGO's
- Funding organisations
- The government
- DPO's

What kind of checklist?

Adjust the checklist or develop a new one depending on the target country.

- For some targets a simple question could be enough: 'What are the specific disability inclusion components in this proposal?'
- There shouldn't be too many different checklists.
- Organisations should use standard tools as much as possible to stimulate comparing criteria and results.



| Contents background reading material |

these documents were handed over in print on September 16th

- EDF Policy Paper '**Development Cooperation And Disability**'. Doc EDF 02/16 EN, Brussels - without annexes, full document to be downloaded from www.dcdd.nl?1663
- **Guidance Note on Disability and Development for EU Delegations and Services**. EC DG Development March 2003. Download from www.dcdd.nl?1698
- **"It's a matter of attitudes, political will and practical know how"**. Inclusion of the disability dimension in Nordic development co-operation. Copenhagen November 2000 (mail to dcdd@dcdd.nl for a copy)
- **Plan for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Development Cooperation**. The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, endorsed 10 November 1999 (mail to dcdd@dcdd.nl for a copy)
- **The inclusion of disability in Norwegian development co-operation. Planning and monitoring for the inclusion of disability issues in mainstream development activities**. NORAD January 2002 (mail to dcdd@dcdd.nl for a copy)
- **Development co-operation without restrictions**. Position paper DCDD, May 2002. Download from www.dcdd.nl/default.asp?action=article&id=disability1
- **Rapid Handicap Analysis of development activities. An Instrument for Inclusive Project Design**. Version 3/2001. Download from www.stakes.fi/sfa/rhachecklist.htm.

| About the organisers |

About DCDD -->

DCDD goal is inclusive development co-operation policies. DCDD regards disability as an important theme that deserves much more attention and emphasis than it has had up to now. DCDD tries to create more opportunities for integration of disability in (Dutch) development co-operation, specifically by raising awareness and increasing knowledge about the connection between disability and poverty and the nature of this connection, and by disseminating knowledge about strategies for influencing it. DCDD is an NGO and a coalition of many organisations, and works towards improving the condition of disabled people in developing countries from a human rights perspective. DCDD is a member of the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC - www.iddc.org.uk). For more information on DCDD, visit: www.dcdd.nl.

About Cordaid -->

Cordaid is one of the biggest international development NGOs. Together with more than a thousand local organisations, Cordaid fights poverty and injustice in over forty countries. Every year, Cordaid spends around 150 million euro on projects in developing countries. Inspired by Catholic social doctrine, Cordaid focuses on solidarity: everyone is entitled to a dignified existence irrespective of their income, age, sex, gender, origin, beliefs or political convictions. For more information, visit: www.cordaid.nl.



| Abbreviations |

DPO	Disabled People Organisation
PRSP	Poverty Reducation Strategy Papers
MDG	Millenium Development Goals
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MFO	Mede-financierins Organisatie (Co-funding agency)
NORAD	Norwegian Development Assistance

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