

THE DISABILITY ACTION COUNCIL (DAC)

ANNUAL REPORT 2002



Sport activities foster integration of people with disabilities



Welcome to DAC

DAC Secretariat

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Action on Disability and Development (ADD) works with groups of people termed “disabled” to build their capacity, to raise public awareness on disability issues, to advocate and influence Government, policy makers and development institutions to include people with disability into their programs. ADD also develops inclusive policy and effective disability acts, which respond to the need of people with disabilities.

In the last decade, a number of Disabled People Organizations (DPOs) have been established in various sizes and at different levels. Although there is a similarity in their long-term vision statement it seems that the sense of unity has not been seen. The establishment of Disability Action Council (DAC) in 1997 created a forum for DPOs and government institutions to meet and discuss the matters of people being called “disabled”.

In the case of Cambodian Disabled People’s Organization (CDPO), ADD makes use of the forum, promoted by DAC, to provide effective support to reform this organization to a democratic, representative and self-sustaining organization by linking it with all existing DPOs in the country.

DAC plays a very important role in the Disability Movement in Cambodia through the establishment of specific working groups (subcommittees) that work in responding to the strategic needs of people with disabilities.

We see that DAC has complemented ADD’s vision of a world where all people with disabilities are able to participate as fully as they choose at every level of society.

By Mr. Srey Vanthon
ADD Country Representative

General Overview

The Royal Government of Cambodia has complied the World Program of Action Concerning Disabled Persons UN Resolution 37/52, 1982 and the United Nations Standard Rule on Full Participation and Equality of Opportunities For Disabled Persons, December 1993. Cambodia has signed the United Nations Economic Social Commission in Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP) Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002, on October 20th, 1994. The Government is committed to implementing the Agenda for Action of the UN-ESCAP Decade.

The Government of Cambodia also confirmed its position in supporting and participating in the implementation of the extended Decade of Disabled Persons “Biwako Millennium Framework for Action Towards an Inclusive, Barrier-Free and Rights Based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific”. The Declaration states that the Government of Cambodia has agreed to adopt and comply with the United Nations principles and the UN-ESCAP guidelines on disability.

To fulfil its obligation, the Government of Cambodia has co-ordinated and approved the establishment and operation of the Disability Action Council (DAC) as a National Semi-autonomous Co-ordinating Body with mandate to build national capacity, facilitate the inclusion of persons with disabilities into the planning cycles of government ministries and civil society, and develop, implement, monitor and evaluate a national plan of action in the disability sector. The DAC has been officially formalised through PRAKAS issued by the M0SALVY on 26 October 1999. Its current legal status is protected by the Sub-decree on organisation and functioning of the Cambodian Mine Action Authority (CMAA) dated on 08 August 2001.

DAC's Shift of Focus

The year 2002 was the bridging period for DAC from the first three-year cycle to the second one, marked by a strategic shift of focus from effort in "Supporting the Co-ordination and Initiation of Services and Assistance for and with People with Disabilities" to the "Capacity Building for DAC, Securing Rights and Services for Persons with Disabilities in Cambodia". The achievements, important gaps, priority areas of focus and resources as well as structure of the DAC assessed and necessary action was and is being taken including the reviewing of the DAC Executive Board and transforming it to the Governing Board for effective governance of the DAC including DAC Secretariat, Technical and Specialised Committees, and Working Groups.

What DAC Does?

DAC continued to co-ordinate services being provided to persons with disabilities by its affiliated members and to provide necessary information and key recommendations as requested. Continued to provide co-ordination, technical and secretarial support service to the DAC Committees and Working Groups and to co-ordinate the development and implementation of the sub-sectoral plan and national plan of action for the sector. DAC also continued to build up national capacity in various areas with relevant government ministries and NGOs member organisations through engaging them with the co-implementation of DAC partnership projects i.e. inclusive education, capacity building for women with disabilities, database, medical rehabilitation, etc.

DAC Strategic Plan and 3-Year Planning Framework

The findings and recommendations of the DAC external assessment and the DAC strategic planning workshop conducted in 2001, led to the development of the DAC Strategic Plan, 2002-2005 and beyond. The plan was intended to provide directions and recommendations for consolidation and development of the DAC in the future based on achievements and lesson learned from the first three-year cycle of operation.

Guided by the Strategic Plan, the DAC 3-year Planning Framework was developed and is being implemented under extended core funding received from USAID/LWVF for the second 3-year cycle starting from June 01, 2002. DAC decided to focus on two interdependent elements: its strategic goal and delivery mechanism. Efforts towards the DAC's new strategic goal in addition to further development of legislation included of DAC organisational development, capacity building for DAC Secretariat and Government/local NGO members, and fundraising.

Effort Towards DAC Organisational Development

Terms of Reference for the Organisational Development Consultant and Concept Paper were developed with input and feedback from DAC key stakeholders regarding the reform of the DAC Executive Board and review of the DAC structure. An Interim Steering Group was established and mandated by the DAC Reviewing Committee to act in transition until a new Board is in place in the near future.

DAC Secretariat staff policy, financial management procedures and staff appraisal regulations were reviewed and updated to reflect the needs and improvement of the Secretariat to effectively serve its clients.

Development of Long-term Strategic Plan and National Plan of Action and Priority Areas for the Disability Sector

Many indicators show that Cambodia, including the disability sector is now moving from the emergency situation to a long-term development phase. A number of NGOs have experienced difficulties in getting the same level of funding from donors to support their programmes activities. Some NGOs are trying to hand over part of their activities or some of their programs to the Government while the Government is not ready or does not have enough capacity to take over. DAC is very cautious about this trend, and is looking for a long-term strategic plan and a national plan of action for the disability sector.

The DAC Secretariat has co-ordinated a number of meetings between Ministers including senior officials of MoSALVY and DAC key players to discuss the possibility for the development and implementation of the long-term strategic plan. A Task Force consisting of 5 senior officials from MoSALVY and 6 country representatives from VI, HI-B, HI-F, CT, AmCross, ICRC was established to look at specifically mobilising resources and steps to be taken with regards to physical disabilities.

The Biwako Millennium Framework for Action (UN-ESCAP extended the Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012) as well as based on the needs of the disability sector for a long-term development, the DAC semi-annual meeting and a number of DAC committees' meetings took place to review the existing programs, gaps, resources in the sector, and to identify priority areas for the development of the National Plan of Action for the Disability Sector. The following 8 priority areas were identified as priorities:

1. Legislation
2. Education (children with disabilities)
3. Physical and Medical Rehabilitation
4. Self-Help Groups and Community Based Work with Disabled Persons
5. Women with Disabilities
6. Training and Employment
7. Information, Communication and Database
8. Disability Awareness and Access to Built Environment.

Donor Information and Fundraising

- ❖ *Cambodia Donor Information booklet comprising donors contact address and funding policy and criteria was updated for information and possible use by the DAC affiliated members to seek funds for supporting their program activities. The updated booklet is available and distributed to all DAC members.*
- ❖ *A DAC Secretariat Proposal Assessment Team (PAT) together with its ToR, procedure and criteria was established to help in assessing project proposals for support and submitting to potential donors for funding.*

DAC Financial Status for 2002

For the year 2002, DAC received total funding of US\$284,953.38 from all donor agencies, in which about US\$279,643 had been expended for various categories, i.e. disability database project, inclusive education project, medical rehabilitation project, office operation, equipment, seminars/workshops, field visits, salary, etc. See table 1 for details of each category of expenditures.

Table 1: Source of Funding Supported to DAC and Category of Expenditures for 2002

Source of Funding Supported to DAC for 2002	Amount of Funding for 2002	Category of Expenditures for 2002											Amount of Expenditures for 2002	
		National Salary	International Salary	Training, development	Seminar, workshop	External workshop	In country visits	Information, public relations	Equipment	Operation, maintenance	School construction	Support Rehab Dept. Staff		
4 NGOs	\$7,600.00			\$360									\$6,200	\$6,947
Accumulated Fund	\$8,536.60	\$12,649		\$410	\$32	\$815		\$7,411	\$1,071	\$4,300				\$26,688
ADD	\$1,330.00				\$510	\$820								\$1,330
AmCross (Supported Database project)	\$29,497.00	\$8,182	\$20,150	\$2,490						\$3,123	\$1,678			\$35,623
Australian Embassy (Supported women with disability project)	\$3,999.00			\$12	\$695		\$1,542	\$4		\$71				\$2,324
British Embassy	\$13,284.00											\$13,286		\$13,286
Cambodia Trust	\$5,078.00	\$4,611												\$4,611
CBM International (Supported Medical rehabilitation project)	\$19,724.40	\$5,940			\$3,163	\$27	\$378	\$12	\$1,670	\$2,116				\$13,306
FAO (Reimbursement)	\$1,500.00													\$0
JICA (AF)	\$1,372.00			\$545	\$57					\$288				\$890
Maryknoll	\$374.00				\$374									\$374
Membership Fees	\$5,558.45	\$362		\$383		\$1,379	\$332		\$150	\$692				\$3,298
NCDP	\$200.00				\$200									\$200
Nippon Foundation	\$15,842.00	\$2,256		\$10,535				\$1,866	\$270	\$915				\$15,842
UNESCO (Supported Inclusive education project)	\$4,000.00			\$89	\$3,803	\$15				\$40				\$3,947
UNICEF (Supported Inclusive education project)	\$39,930.00		\$21,400	\$6,164	\$1,771	\$4	\$737	\$133	\$4,887					\$35,096
UNICEF (Supported Database project)	\$9,245.00	\$3,252		\$3,642						\$518				\$7,412
USAID (Support DAC's core running costs)	\$117,882.93	\$71,063	\$7,902	\$2,650	\$1,274			\$3,082	\$9,670	\$12,828				\$108,469
Total	\$284,953.38	\$108,315	\$49,452	\$27,280	\$11,879	\$3,060	\$2,989	\$12,508	\$20,841	\$23,833	\$13,286	\$6,200	\$279,643	

Development of the Cambodian Law for Persons with Disabilities

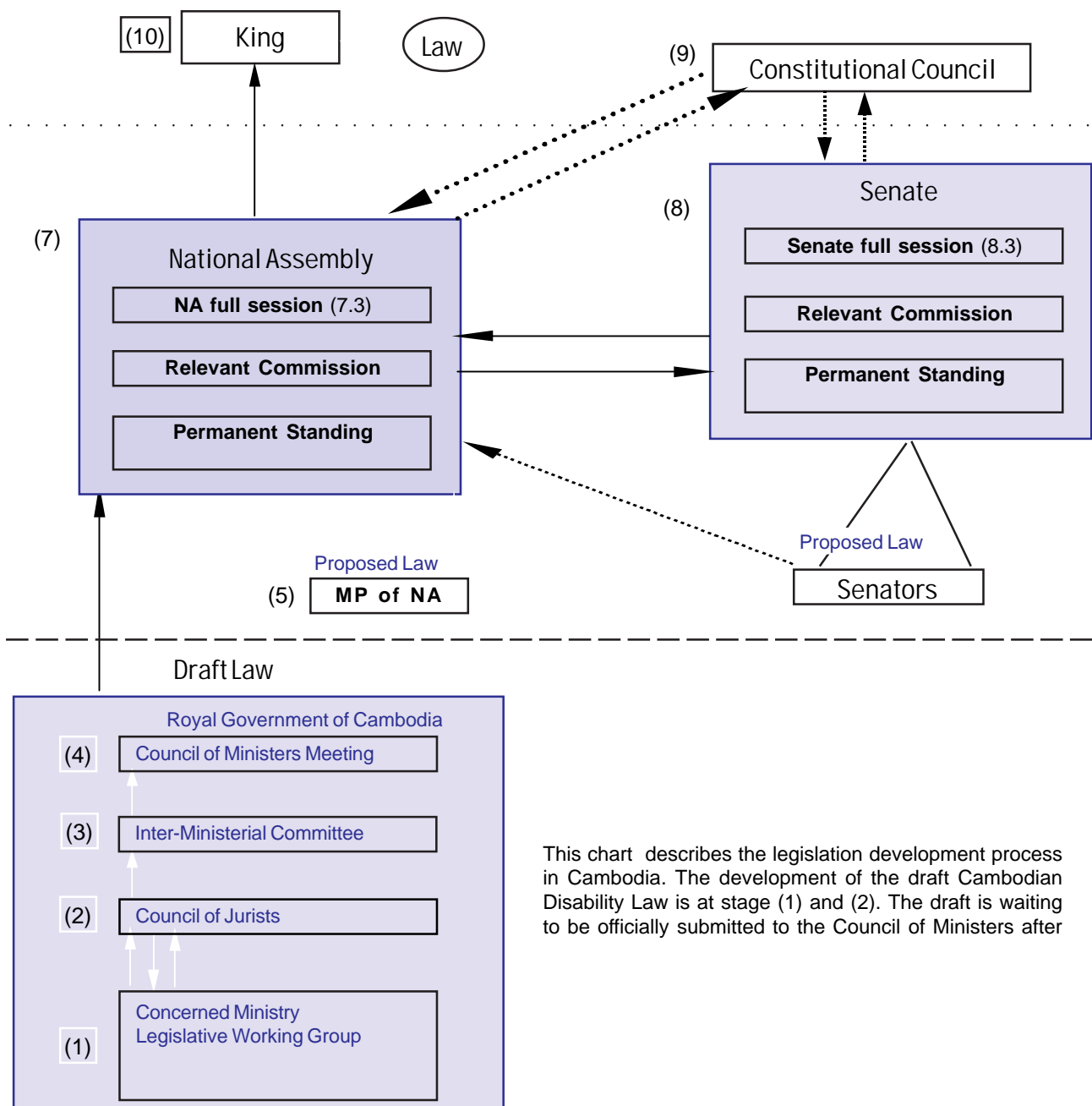
Cambodia people with disabilities began to claim for rights instead of privilege and charity.

Cambodia does not have separate disability laws at present, but disability issues have been addressed in some existing Cambodian Laws and Regulations. A Draft Cambodian Disability Law is being developed. The draft law with 70 articles aims to promote integration of people with

disabilities into mainstream development programs/activities to ensure the protection and promotion of the rights of all people with disabilities and prohibition of abuse and neglect of people with disabilities and discrimination against them.

The final draft law (both in Khmer and English) initiated by Cambodian Disabled

CHART OF LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



This chart describes the legislation development process in Cambodia. The development of the draft Cambodian Disability Law is at stage (1) and (2). The draft is waiting to be officially submitted to the Council of Ministers after

People's Organisation (CDPO) has been reviewed and revised by the Legislation Working Group based on inputs and comments from Cambodian legal experts and senior staff of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Labour, Vocational Training and Youth Rehabilitation. A workshop was organised to get further input from stakeholders and people with disabilities on the contents of the draft law at the beginning of the 2002. DAC assisted MOSALVY in preparing the support documents and references for official submission to the Council of the Ministers.

The Government's implementation of policy

as well as the provision provide benefits and opportunities to people with disabilities to participate in the national development to promote well being for themselves, their families, communities, and society will be seen as a positive step in the development of future services for Persons with Disabilities to be included.

The Prime Minister and policy makers always expressed strong support to get the draft law adapted and implemented. Due to the election 2003 the draft law is expected to be submitted for debate by 2004.

Children with Disability Committee

The Committee has been productive in all output areas. The Committee meets on a monthly basis in routine venues to share activities and relevant information. The outputs that have been made in the past year are the following:

In March a representative from AusAID presented information on the Community Development Fund. The fund supports community development initiatives that target the poor. AusAID are eager to support initiatives to help people with disabilities.

A workshop on Teaching and Training Materials was held on 13th February at Handicap International to introduce the new INSET course "Children with Special Needs in the Classroom".

In May a representative from British Embassy explained the DFID Small Grant Scheme. This stipulates that DFID's purpose is *"to improve the quality of the people in poorer countries by contributing to sustainable development and reducing poverty and suffering"*.

The Committee has helped organise and facilitate the involvement of children with disabilities in national events such as Children's Day and the International Day for the Disabled Persons.

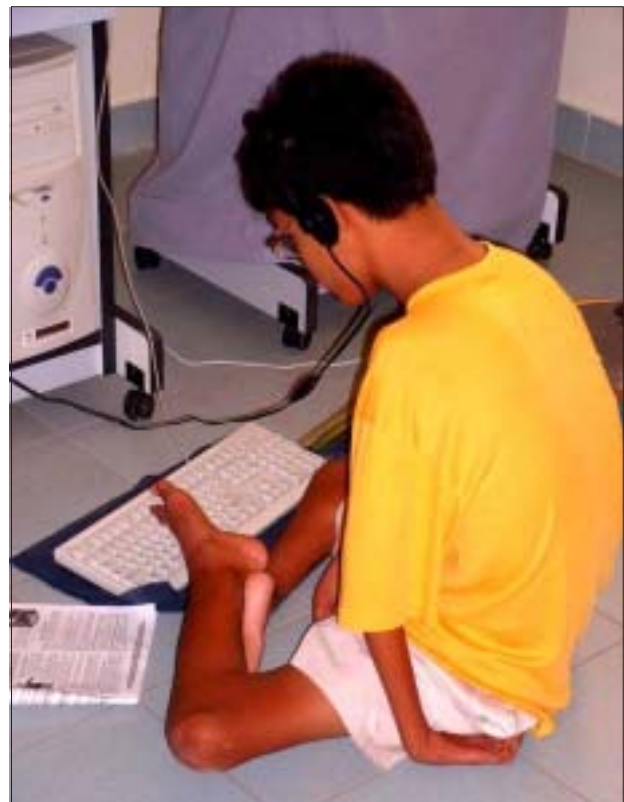
All members agreed that NGOs working with/ for children with disabilities should send their 3 and 6 month activities report to the Department of Children's Welfare of MoSALVY and the Special Education Officer of MoEYS.

New term of reference have been revised and approved by all members.

Congratulations to Mr. Hun Touch from Rabbit School who was selected by members as

chairperson. Also thanks given to Mr. Kol Vanna who has been actively involved and improved the Committee since he was selected as chairperson in last mandate.

We hope 2003 will bring success in the sector wide approach to promote the wellbeing of children with disabilities to be free of discrimination, to have access to good education and be able to fully participate in society.



Can you type like me?

Inclusive Education

Developing Educational Opportunities to Meet the Specific Needs of Children with Disabilities in Cambodia “

In the first three years, the project has achieved its objectives: MoEYS and key stakeholders in the education system are aware of the rights of disabled children and the role education plays in their development. MoEYS has outlined policy commitments to address the needs of disabled children in the ESP 2001-2005. The Ministry established the Special Education Office to support these aims.

A Provincial Implementation Team (PIT) was established to co-ordinate work in the Inclusive Education Pilot sites. Members of PIT are including representatives from MoEYS, MoSALVY and an NGO. MoSALVY and NGO representatives are responsible for social welfare and rehabilitation. Awareness raising events were held prior to the start of the school year in October and throughout the year. The PIT identifies children with disabilities and refers children for assistive devices or surgery as required. Each school is visited every month.

Nippon Foundation funds have supported the programme. Eight children have received prosthetic/Orthotics devices and bicycles and four children with cleft lips have been referred to Wat Sarawan for corrective surgery.

PIT members conducted afield visits to Phnom Penh, Pursat, Battambang, Pailin, Banteay Meanchey and Siem Reap to study project management.

PIT members, helped by village chiefs, began to identify disabled children who are not in school. The PIT visits families to encourage parents to enrol the child for the new academic year and then monitor the academic progress of each child.

Mrs. Sieng Sovattanna, Director of the Primary and Pre-School Department and two of her staff visited the pilot site. She has been a strong supporter of the Project and we are grateful for her support. Other visitors include people from UNICEF EAPRO and VSO London.

In January 2002, 33 MOEYS staff from the central Ministry and 11 provinces trained as course tutors at a workshop funded by UNESCO.



Help each other

In March 2002 the new Project Co-ordinator, Kong Vichetra, attended a Project Management course. In November 2002, he went to Bangkok with Mrs Sieng Sorvathana to attend the “Regional Meeting on Lessons Learned and Initiatives for Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities”.

The DAC and MoEYS held training workshops on INSET training using the in-service course “ Children with Special Needs in the Classroom” for its new cluster and NGO partners in Battambang, Kompong Thom, Kompong Speu, Prey Veng, Svay Rieng new cluster and Sihanoukville.

The Project has also produced new teaching and training materials including a Child story flipchart, behaviour management booklet, special needs manual and Child-to-Child materials.

The ESSP Review 2002 in September highlighted the need to train people with disabilities to become teachers and the need to increase teachers’ and Ministry employees’ knowledge of special education.

The DAC is involved in providing technical support via NEP to the “Education for All” Plan.

Conclusion:

The DAC has secured funding from UNICEF for a further 3-year programme. This will allow us to expand the Inclusive Education Programme and increase capacity building of MoEYS.

The Project appreciates the commitment, enthusiasm and support of its partners in MoEYS; its donors and affiliated NGOs and we look forward to working together in the future.

Disability Database Development

Disability Database Working Group

The co-operation between AmCross, UNICEF, Department of Rehabilitation/MoSALVY, DAC Secretariat and affiliated member organisations resulted in the completion of the **Second Pilot Phase Survey on Disability Socio-economic/Demographic/Services Accessible Data Base** in Kampong Speu province. The project was aiming at designing, developing and testing data gathering tools, methods and installing a functional sustainable computerised database system with updateable data and to obtain more data on the situation of persons with disabilities as well as service availability of that province. An appropriate analysis of data from the database will enable all relevant stakeholders, institutions and individuals to access the reliable and consistent data for decision-making, planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation the impacts of their intervention to support the disabled person. Actually, the aforementioned project ended in November 30, 2002. It was a one-year project.

Financial Support

The project was possible with financial support received from UNICEF in the amount of USD 9,245 and USD 42,440 from AmCross, as well as the technical, moral and logistic support from these two donors and relevant DAC affiliated members.

Actual Achievement

The main outcomes of survey are:

- ⊙ Developed standard typology of disabilities, its definition and implementation within the rehabilitation sectors in reflection to the international classification system.
- ⊙ Designed and developed an applicable data gathering tools and methodology for nation wide survey.
- ⊙ Disability Database System had been successfully installed in a stand by computer, which is located at the DAC Secretariat/MoSALVY office in Phnom Penh and DoSALVY office Kampong Speu

province. This database system contains practical and up to date information on the relevant Socio-Economic /Demographic, Service Availability (Mapping), Service Accessibility, Resource Manual on Disability Issues. This database system is accessible by advanced users and common users during working hours.

- ⊙ The survey report and CD-ROM loaded with survey data was disseminated to all stakeholders.
- ⊙ 81 village Demographic Statistics (Age Group according to UNICEF standard)
- ⊙ Capacity building for 27 staff from 8 institutions DAC Sec., MoSALVY, DoSALVY, OSALVY, NCDP, CRC, JSC, SSC)
- ⊙ 8 staff from MoSALVY, DoSALVY, DAC Sec, HI, CT, SSC, HI/CRC, received training on the operation of the Disability Database System and basic knowledge of the database soft wares.
- ⊙ Awareness and ownership are introduced by increasing the understanding on the importance and usefulness of this database to assess, plan and strategize any action for the benefit of the disabled persons.

Perspectives

Consensus of the replication survey model to other provinces throughout the country would depend upon the financial support from various donors and it is being sought for. However, the scope of an immediate expansion will depend on the resource manual and gathering data on service providers in Phnom Penh.

In addition, the Ministry of Planning / National Institute of Statistics was contacted and discussed for the possibility of integration of the tested disability database questionnaires into their nation-wide Household Socio-Economic Survey 2002-2003.

Part of Key Findings:

Table 2. Distribution of respondents by gender

Male		Female		Total	
Num.	%	Num.	%	Num.	%
640	60.66	415	39.34	1,055	100

Figure 1: Distribution of Respondents by Gender

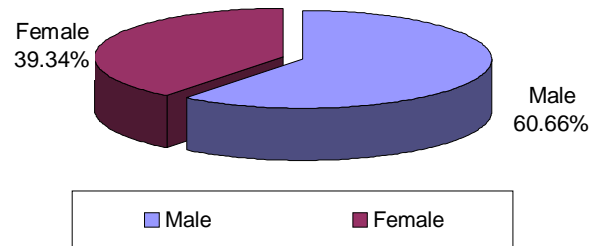
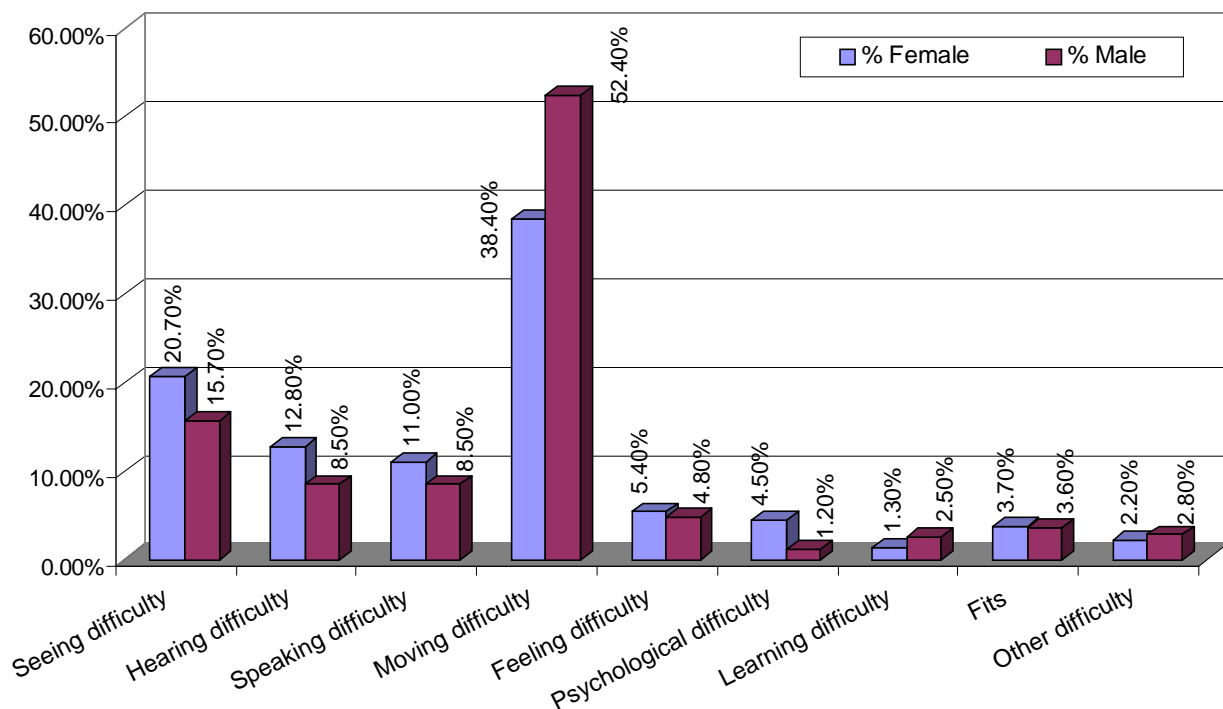


Table 3: Distribution of disabled persons interviewed with at least one specific disability, by gender and type of disabilities

	% Female	% Male	Num. Female	Num. Male	Total Num.
Seeing difficulty	20.70%	15.70%	111	126	237
Hearing difficulty	12.80%	8.50%	69	68	137
Speaking difficulty	11.00%	8.50%	59	68	127
Moving difficulty	38.40%	52.40%	206	421	627
Feeling difficulty	5.40%	4.80%	29	39	68
Psychological difficulty	4.50%	1.20%	24	10	34
Learning difficulty	1.30%	2.50%	7	20	27
Fits	3.70%	3.60%	20	29	49
Other difficulty	2.20%	2.80%	12	23	35
Total	100%	100%	537	804	1341

Note: Total respondents 1055

Figure 2: Distribution of disabled person with at least one specific disability, by gender and type of disabilities



Medical Rehabilitation



Community based rehabilitation training

The Programme began with field visits to some provinces to meet with the staff of MoSALVY and Ministry of Health (MoH). Visits were conducted in collaboration with The Preventative Medicine Department of MoH and MoSALVY. Discussions were held with The Provincial Health Directors, Referral Hospitals, Provincial Rehabilitation Centres and NGO's working in the provinces to establish what links already existed between the two ministries, how they could be strengthened and what the gaps in service were and how this could be resolved.

Throughout the year the MoH (Preventative Medicine Department) developed a curriculum and conducted Training of Health and Community Centre Staff on Community Based Rehabilitation-CBR (WHO Model) and Disability Awareness Training. This supported by WHO.

On January 28, 2002- February 8th 2002 in collaboration and sponsored by CBM, a training was conducted for Planners, Managers and Field Supervisors in CBR. There were 42 participants including representatives from the MoH, MoSALVY, and NGO's involved with CBR and two participants from the Philippines and Thailand from the Social Services Ministry. Contents of the course included Single and Comprehensive Cross Disability Services in CBR, How to Plan and design a programme, Management of a CBR Programme and Leadership Skills. A certificate was issued on completion of the course.

Several teams visited Cambodia to try and establish services with the Ministry of Health/ NGO's and Medical and Rehabilitation facilities to offer training/capacity building of staff in the hospitals in collaboration with the MoH and NGO's.

Good links have been established with the



Kratie Center Team

Kossamak, Hospital, Russian Hospital National Paediatric Hospital and Hope Hospital. This has resulted in developments in service for Ear Care, Orthopaedic Surgery and the future possibility of providing training in the provinces. One of our priorities is to develop services in the provinces, which are in line with the MoH Strategy.

A result of this collaboration and a request from Veterans International, Professor Chris Lavy visited Kratie Hospital the Provincial Health Department and the Rehabilitation Centre in Kratie run by Veterans International to discuss the possibilities of training for the surgical unit for selective orthopaedic services. This is still under discussion but it is hoped that the training could start either this year or next.

COTCAM/ Spain is looking at Orthopaedic training and a team from France for Ear Care.

Meetings with various NGO have meant continued collaboration in areas including Eye Care Services, ENT, Plastic Surgery, Low Vision Services and Spinal Cord injuries.

Collaboration with MEDICAM for the Equity Fund Working Group to look at the possibilities of this new scheme in relation with the work already existing through the NGO's; continued support of the Eye Care Service Providers and the National PBL Office in Phnom Penh. Participation in the World Sight Day and NGO's working in Eye Care.

Completion of the MoH Strategic Plan will help to priorities areas of service and improve standards of Health Care for the vulnerable and poor of Cambodia. In line with this we hope MoSALVY plan will enable us to strengthen this important area of service for People with Disabilities.

Physical Rehabilitation

The DAC Physical Rehabilitation Committee consists of three different subcommittees: Prosthetic & Orthopaedic, Physiotherapy and Wheelchair which are aiming to ensure maximum and equitable distribution of quality physical rehabilitation services to all physical disabled persons in Cambodian society. The key committee members are MOSALVY, VI, CT, CSPO, ICRC, HIB, HIF, TSMC, and AmCross. The committee operates within its own sectoral planning framework, which involves a move towards more complete physical rehabilitation services. The major outstanding achievements of the Physical Rehabilitation sector are:

- ❖ A complete assessment of the 16 Cambodian Physical Rehabilitation Centres was conducted in close co-operation with the Rehabilitation Departments of MOSALVY. The third phase entitled "Data Analysis and Recommendations" is still ongoing.

- ❖ 12 PRC regular meetings were arranged among all key NGOs working in physical rehabilitation sector and MOSALVY to address the issues regarding the structure/administration of the Physical Rehabilitation Centres.

- ❖ Since the 92 PRAKAS of MOSALVY was outdated, a number of meetings were arranged by PRC key members to workout technically the role and function of each level of rehabilitation centres (National, Regional and Provincial rehab centres). The final version will be presented.

- ❖ A document of MOSALVY' guidelines for Physical Rehabilitation Centre's budget proposals is being worked out (ongoing).

- ❖ 36 regular meetings were arranged by the three subcommittees (Prosthesis & Orthopaedic, Physiotherapy and Wheelchair) to work on the issues regarding standards of practice of rehab service within centres. The

minutes of the meetings and documents of these standards and quality of services are available. The PRC will recognise standards of practices and certificates will be issued to physical rehabilitation centres that meet the standards levels.

- ❖ A number of ongoing training courses in specific areas were arranged by PT, P&O subcommittees for upgrading the staff and technical personnel who working in the rehab centres

- ❖ A number of meetings were arranged among all key players to address the sustainability of rehab services. PRC will carry on the discussion among and between relevant agencies and MOSALVY on the development of National Plan of Action on Disability and Rehabilitation sector according to the new UNESCAP decade (2003 – 2012).

- ❖ MOSALVY prepared a document of guidelines and national strategy on rehabilitation. The document is available.

- ❖ The 2nd P&O congress was conducted on the 26th to 27th December 2002. The congress aimed to define future objectives for Cambodian Association of Prosthetists & Orthotists (KHAPO), to elect a new Association board, to validate members association and to identify training needs for PO upgrading.

- ❖ A sector action plan for the Physiotherapy sub committee was reviewed. The committee will continue to develop an action plan.

- ❖ Technical School for Medical Care (TSMC) intends to upgrade the Physiotherapy courses to a bachelor degree and teachers are currently working on the curriculum. They are interesting by receiving curriculum from other countries to be able to compare. TSMC is requesting support to all NGO supporting PRC for the internship of PT students, which will be done in February 2003.

Training and Employment

During the year of 2002, Vocational Training/Job Placement/Income Generation Committee conducted 9 meetings. The accomplishments of VT/JP/IG committee are as follows:

- ◆ A strategic plan for the sector
- ◆ A concept paper on standard curriculum was developed and approved by members of VTC.
- ◆ The ToR for research on standard curriculum development was also written. The final approval will be made by the end of January 2003

- ◆ An article on disabilities issues published in Reaksamey Kampuchea newspaper

- ◆ Seven Vocational Training Centres were visited.

- ◆ VTC co-ordinator participated in the project evaluation of WVI-BTB.

DAC helped to co-ordinate the Cambodian Volunteer for Community Development (CVCD), which is supported by International Clear Path, to have an agreement with the Department of Rehabilitation (MOSALVY) to have a mobile training in Stung Trang District, Kg. Cham province. The first training was successfully completed in November 2002.

Proposal Assessment Team

Proposal Assessment Team was set up within the DAC secretariat. The purpose of having this team is to help the affiliate and non-affiliate members in terms of providing technical input into their proposal development. There are 5 people in this team. This team has met 5 times already since it started and discussed about some document related to the procedure of the team that should be follow. There are three funding proposals that this team has reviewed.



Assisted Fish Farm Association in Takeo

This team will conduct a one-day workshop with the Fish Farm Association (FFA) in Takeo in order to have an understanding of the situation. It is hoped that the outcome of this workshop is a funding proposal for FFA.

Business Advisory Council:

The business advisory council (BAC) is a voluntary group of representatives from businesses that has a primary purpose of facilitating the training and job placement of people with disabilities in Cambodia. BAC conducted a National Workshop on "Improvement the training and employment of people with disability". A wide variety of agencies participated in the workshop. BAC funded 2 trips for people with disability from Wat Than and AAR-Japan.

Employment record:

Based on the database from IRS-information and referral services the statistic of placement of job seeker indicated that the total of job seeker is 1936 from that there are 1441 (74%) skilled and 495 classified as others. During 2002, through NCDP there were 124 skilled and 14 others who were placed in jobs.

Women with Disabilities

In year 2002, with funding support from AusAID (DAP), the Women with Disability Committee of the Disability Action Council (DAC) developed its work plan which included a number of activities to fit the needs of women with disabilities.

Strengthening the communication among disabled women and others

The Women with Disability Committee, comprised of disabled and non-disabled members, meet every six weeks as a forum for information sharing, team building, learning from each other and monitoring its activity plan. As a result the members can be good key informants for the information sharing sessions.

Several training courses were conducted for committee's members such as facilitation skills. They had opportunities to practice facilitation leadership skills through different meetings (committee meeting, working group meeting, community meeting etc...).

Integrating disabled women in income generation project

The Women with Disability Committee arranged a six-day Study Tour to Kampong Thom and Siem Reap. Members had opportunities to visit CWARS and Banteay Srei organisations in order to learn about the experiences of integrating women with disabilities into an income generation project.

As a result, the following points have been indicated by most of the committee's members as lessons learned about women with disabilities from the field visit:

- ◆ The project demonstrates the practice of mainstreaming disability when women with disabilities have opportunities to attend village meetings where the disabled and non-disabled help each other.
- ◆ Even with disabilities, the women had the ability to involve in development programmes.
- ◆ Training in loan management, animal husbandry, and vegetable cultivation are appropriate skills for women with disabilities both for their own development and for that of their communities.
- ◆ Promoting women with disabilities only in income generating activities is not enough in order to make their lives better but they need to involve in other sectors.
- ◆ Counselling is the best way to promote women with disabilities to be involved in development programmes.



Women with disabilities forum on domestic violent at vulnerable protection Law, 15 August 2002 at MWVA

Advocacy and awareness raising on women with disability issues:

A workshop on "***Women with Disabilities, Discrimination and Acceptance***" was conducted with participants who came from different Ministries and NGOs. After having participated in the workshop, there were five NGOs interested in becoming the members of Women with Disability Committee. The total number of Women with Disability Committee added was 18.

A training workshop on "***Gender Development and Disability***" enabled members of Women with Disability Committee and community of self-help group of disabled persons at Kampong Speu to understand broadly about the topic. As result, the disabled families improved their knowledge on gender sensitivity. Actually, one disabled family started to rebuild a good atmosphere within its own family without domestic violence that they had before.

The participation of women with disabilities in special events (International Day of Disabled Persons, International Women's Day, and National Conference) has been promoted in order to raise their voices.

The case study of women with disabilities and their needs were published in some magazines such as: Gender Watch, KWV (Khmer Women Voice) and Disability Action Council's Newsletter.

Disabled Women said in Gender Watch, "Disabled Women can be a good wives and mothers, just like all women"

Acknowledgement

The Women with Disability Committee would like to express our deep acknowledgement to AusAID (DAP) for funding support of the committee's activities.

Community Based Work with Disabled

The CwD Committee still meets on a regular basis to update information on programs and activities related to the work at the community level.

- ◆ The idea of the Project of Community Development for Disabled Persons in Treng Trayeng was the main topic of discussion. A field visit was conducted in the Veal Thom village in Treng Trayeng commune, Phnom Srouch district, and Kampong Speu province to see the activities of people with disabilities living there.
- ◆ Terms of Reference has been revised and approved by the committee.
- ◆ A year plan for the committee has been revised and approved.
- ◆ The training needs for the members of the committee has been identified and discussed.
- ◆ The Standard of CBR in Cambodia has been discussed and a survey is planned.

Case Study:

Community Development for Disabled Persons (CDDP) is a project of the Save Cambodian Disabled People Association (SCDA). Due to lack of land for rice cultivation, a group of people with disabilities (most of them are mine victims) came together to form this association. It was set up in 1999 and registered at the Ministry of Interior in 2000. **The main purpose of the Association is agriculture production for their own consumption and daily needs.** Approximately 20 families of persons with disabilities have resettled in an area, which was an old village abandoned during the civil war. It was also the Khmer-Rouge zone. It is located in Treng Trayeng commune, Phnom Srouch district, Kompong Speu province about 105km from Phnom Penh. Each family was given 1.5 hectares of land for their home building and agriculture activities by the Association.

Through the support of the members of DAC CWD Committee, especially Mr. Pen Mony who is deeply involved the Association; the project

has developed quickly. More than 160 families of persons with disabilities have been resettled. One bridge has been built (by NCDP) and other one has been renovated. The road from National Road No 4 to the CDDP village, approximately 6km, has been renovated and enlarged. Five wells have been dug to get clean water. The office space has been enlarged. The structure and logo of the Association have been revised and the funding proposals have been taken into consideration for submitting to other donors. The communication between the SCDA and outsiders has been opened. People with disabilities and their families are getting more and more support such as food, mosquito nets, blankets, clothes etc. from generous persons including Buddhism Patriarch Samdech Songkareach Tep Vong. The SCDA has linked with other NGOs such as AMDA, AHC, AmCross, and ADD. These organisations did their outreach activities to the area. Local authorities especially Commune Council have recognised this area as a village and named it Veal Thom village code number 5061308.

The SCDA is looking for further support from and collaboration with other NGOs, Government, private companies as well as individual generous persons.

“WE ARE DISABLED PERSONS FIGHTING FOR EQUAL RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES”



Six kilometers to the market

Disability Awareness Raising

The Awareness Raising Working Group has been set up and the first meeting was held on 16 January 2003. Terms of Reference has been drafted and discussed during the first meeting but not finalised yet. Catalogue for Disability Awareness has been updated and revised. It is planned to discuss it in the next meeting. International Day of disabled person for the year-2002 has been arranged successfully with co-operation and



Awareness Working Group

collaboration with relevant NGOs, Government and private companies. The Funding Proposal of Baseline Survey on Attitudes of Cambodian Public and Decision-Makers towards People with Disabilities has been revised and submitted for funding and support.

Community Based Worker Training Working Group (CBWT):

- ❖ *The CBWT Working Group meets on a regular basis every 6 weeks to update information on programmes and activities related to training of community workers.*
- ❖ *Training information has been shared amongst the members of the CBWT working group. The training needs has been discussed and identified. Plans are being developed and need to finalise in next meeting.*

DAC Library

DAC has established a library with collections of books and information related to disability and rehabilitation. We welcome any interested people who would like to use our facility for the study, survey, and research; People with disabilities are especially welcome to use this facility. Our friendly library clerk will assist you if you need help.

Khmer Sign Language

The Khmer Sign Language Committee resumed its work in September 2002 after a three-month break and is now making significant progress. An important event was a two-day workshop on sign language, which explained the nature of sign language and especially the difference between signing, and sign language. A sign language linguist led this workshop from Vietnam, Dr. James Woodward, who has become a consultant for the Committee.

In the past years under the support of the DAC by closely collaborate with Deaf Development Program of Maryknoll, Krousar Thmey and guidance of Dr. Woodward, the Khmer Sign Language Working Group documented and recorded 1474 signs. The Maryknoll Deaf Development Program (DDP) published two sign language booklets. A sign language alphabet poster was also produced in co-operation with Krousar Thmey and was distributed to the DDP chapters in 5 provinces, to the Krousar Thmey deaf schools and deaf classes, and to the deaf community within the country and to other interested people and organisations. 1998 Krousar Thmey published 2 subject textbooks, grade one and distributed to deaf students also.

Under a proposed new structure, the Committee would have twelve members and would remain under the DAC. The Sign Language Working Group (now called a Development Team) would move under the DDP but would follow a plan of action set by the Committee. A new Term of Reference is being finalised to show these changes.

DAC created a new position of Co-ordinator of Deaf Programs as part of its structure. Charles Dittmeier is the new co-ordinator, working with Punya Droz as a local counterpart. The DDP has fully restructured its programs and is now under the local administration of the Maryknoll NGO. DDP at present is providing intensive training to its staff in sign language research, sign analysis, teaching of literacy and sign language, and management and administration skills. At the same, Krousar Thmey has built its 4th Deaf/Blind School in Kampong Cham and in October took over support for the deaf classroom previously run by AFSC in Sihanoukville.

“Communication, education, and advocacy are very important for both deaf children and adults. Be watching for a deaf education workshop in 2003!”



We have access to communication

Group Home Project

Accommodation Needs of Children with Disabilities

The Group Home was started in August 2000 in order to provide community based care for orphaned/abandoned children with disabilities. The Group Home cares for five children with disabilities in a neighbourhood of Phnom Penh. The children formerly lived in a government orphanage.

In August 2002, the management of the Group Home changed from DAC to Hagar. Hagar is an international non-governmental organisation working with women and children in Cambodia. The DAC will continue to provide technical assistance to the Group Home in the areas of long term planning for the children and the weekly staff training. MOSALVY will continue its role in monitoring the children's development and progress. With the change of management for the Group Home there also came a new name: **House of Smiles**.

Since the opening of House of Smiles (HOS), the children have progressed in their development. One of the children of HOS successfully completed grade one and entered grade two at the local

public school. The other children attend special schools including the Rabbit School. During 2002, the children also attended several social events in the community including International Day of Disabled Persons held on December 3rd.

Participants from the *Empowering People with Intellectual Disabilities and Autism through Community Based Approaches* international workshop, sponsored by the Japanese League for Intellectual Disabilities and the Centre for Child Mental Health (CCMH), visited HOS in order to see one way to assist children with disabilities in Cambodia.

It is hoped that HOS will still serve as a model for alternative care for orphaned/abandoned children with disabilities. A second group home was opened in December 2001 and continued its activities in 2002. Plans for HOS in 2003 include increasing community awareness of the rights and needs of children with disabilities.



Life is wonderful and fun

The Rabbit School

“A place where all children can learn and grow!”

Since the beginning of the Rabbit School in May 1998, the Rabbit School has provided educational and plays activities for over 30 children with multiple disabilities. The Rabbit School is located in the Nutrition Centre, which is a government-operated orphanage in Phnom Penh.

During 2002, the Rabbit School expanded its activities to include a playroom for children with severe disabilities. The playroom was designed to provide educational activities for the children who were not able to attend the regular activities of the Rabbit School.

The Rabbit School also continued to assist in training of the Nutrition Centre staff. Training was held on behaviour management from September 12-13, 2002. The staff learned alternative ways to help children with disabilities behave in a more appropriate ways.

It is hoped that in 2003, the Rabbit School will expand and become a training centre for public school teachers in the area of education for children with multiple disabilities including intellectual disabilities

Victim Assistance

Following the successful completion of the National Workshop on Victim Assistance in Phnom Penh in September 2001 and Cambodia's participation in the Regional Conference on Victim Assistance in Bangkok in November of that year, DAC began preparations for the second phase of the regional initiative on victim assistance. In accordance with the recommendation of the Regional Conference, Handicap International appointed a Regional Co-ordinator for Victim Assistance in 2002, Mr Philip Coggan, based at the DAC and is advising on further steps. A national Co-ordinator for Victim Assistance, supported by HI, was engaged by DAC towards the end of 2002 and was to take up duties in the New Year.

The position of Co-ordinator for Victim Assistance is intended to help DAC prepare its national presentation for the 5th Meeting of States Parties to the Ottawa Convention (the landmines ban treaty) to be held in Bangkok in September 2003. The holder of the position will also act in close co-operation with CMAA to co-ordinate mine victim policy and data for Cambodia.

DAC Future Challenges

It is recognised that the DAC has to adopt and apply a more realistic strategic approach in developing and implementing its plan of action for the next three years and beyond. During this crucial period, the DAC-Secretariat will focus on two complementary elements: its co-ordination services and co-implementation of partnership projects.

Co-ordination

The DAC role will continue to work hand in hand with all groups working with people with disabilities, at the same time acting in a professional advisory capacity to the Cambodian policy makers and legislators. DAC will continue to bring government, national and international organisations, as well as business, religious, and local communities together with disabled persons to develop, implement, monitor, and evaluate a National Plan of Action on Disability Issues founded on the Guiding Principles of the Task Force (1996), UN-ESCAP Decade of Disabled Persons 1993-2002 and UN-ESCAP Biwako Millennium Framework, 2002-2012.

Co-implementation of partnership projects

DAC seeks to enable government and NGOs to act in favour of people with disabilities. It seeks no ongoing role as program or project implementers. Guided by this policy, and within the planning period, DAC will nonetheless take a time-limited, direct role in the implementation of some activities, but will only implement in the following ways:

⊙ *Through government or NGO partners (more responsibilities and ownership would be taken by partners)*

⊙ *In partnership with government or NGO partners as co-implementers (more responsibilities and ownership would be taken by DAC Secretariat).*

In both cases, DAC will focus on two deliverable services/intervention:

⇒ *The successful implementation of a time limited project.*

⇒ *Significant investment in the development of partner capacity during the life of the project.*

The co-implementation of partnership projects will be taken into account unless they are identified as priority requiring intervention and within the framework of the National Plan of Action for Disability and Rehabilitation Sector and they have not been covered by the existing programs/services of DAC members. More importantly, they have to be approved by the DAC Governing Board.

In addition, the following strategies have been taken into account towards this effort:

❖ *Identification of appropriate partner/s (Government institutions or NGOs) for the recommended co-implementing activities*

❖ *Development and implementation of an Agreement or MOU between the DAC and partner/s on the co-implementing activities*

❖ *Promotion and development of partners' capacity building and ownership to take over fuller and complete responsibilities accordingly.*

❖ *Application of withdrawing and back up strategy step by step based on assessment as appropriate.*

Involvement of ADB and World Bank in disability

Why is it important to include disability in the poverty reduction strategy?

The UN estimated that two-thirds of the world's disabled people live in developing countries. It figured out nearly 20 percent of the general population is in some way disabled. It is important to have a clear understanding of the links between poverty and disability, as disability is a good proxy indicator for poverty. Poverty creates conditions for disability. Poor people are more likely to have poor

health as well as poor living and working conditions. They live in lower quality housing and work in more dangerous occupations. They suffer from malnutrition and hunger, and they also lack adequate health services including maternity and trauma services. Social unrest and communal violence, even civil wars are also more prevalent in poor countries. Violent crime is also more common in poor communities.

Exclusion and marginalisation of people with

disabilities reduce their opportunities to contribute productively to the household and community, and thus increase the risk of poverty.

How to address the concerns?

The Social Development agenda of the World Bank and Asian Development Bank (ADB) points out the key objective to ascertain that through their activities the Banks do not exclude and harm vulnerable categories of people including people with disabilities. The World Bank and ADB recognise that there is a need to consult people with disabilities and their organisations on their concerns more closely in making development more inclusive.

What has actually been undertaken?

The World Bank has involved Judith Heumann as a full time Advisor for Disability and Development in June 2002. A conference on Disability and Development is a jump-start of the Bank's activities. The Conference was organised for the first time at the World Bank Headquarters, in Washington, D.C,

on the 3rd December 2002, in celebration of the 20th International Day of the Disabled Persons 3rd December.

The ADB has undertaken a regional study on Identifying Disability Issues Related to Poverty Reduction RETA No 5956-REG. Four countries including Cambodia, the Philippines, India and Sri Lanka have been selected for the pilot study. The objectives of the study are as following:

- ❖ To familiarise developing member countries with ADB's overarching objective of poverty reduction and other related ADB policies to help address the vulnerability and poverty situation of disabled people;
- ❖ To identify national policies which can be used as a basis for action plans; and
- ❖ To provide a forum for ADB, Government and disabled persons' groups to discuss needs and concerns.

International Day for Disabled Persons (IDDP)

The 20th International Day of Disabled Persons 3rd December 2002 was organised successfully. The event was celebrated at Samdach Hun Sen Park in Phnom Penh and in 5 other provinces. This was the 4th time DAC facilitated and co-ordinated this event.

There was more participation and support from both the private and public sector. More than 35 organisation and companies contributed, supported, and participated in the event. Around 2,000 people with disabilities including 600 people registered for 18 sporting activities and 4 folk games. An exhibition involving more than 20 organisations showed the provision of services available for people with disabilities.

The International Day of Disabled Persons 3rd December is one of the effective tools to promote public awareness on disability issues. His Majesty the King and Samdach Prime Minister Hun Sen strongly supported the event. The Government shared the financial support through the MoSALVY.

DAC would like to acknowledge the generous support, contribution and participation from organisations, companies, individuals, and people with disabilities without which it would not been possible and such a success.



MOSALVY Minister, H.E. Ith Sam Heng, Heads of NGOs & High ranking government officials visited the exhibition

Important events/conferences on disability-related concerns that took place in 2002 attended by DAC members and Secretariat staff

- ◆ *Technical Meeting of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Re-integration, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, 28 January-01 February 2002.*
- ◆ *4th Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, 16-20 September 2002.*
- ◆ *ADB Regional Workshop on Disability and Development, MANILA, PHILIPPINES, 02-04 October 2002.*
- ◆ *UN-ESCAP High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to Conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002, Otsu City, Shiga Prefecture, JAPAN, 25-28 October 2002.*
- ◆ *14th International Seminar on Social Welfare in Asia and the Pacific, by Japan College of Social Work, TOKYO, JAPAN, 12-15 November 2002.*
- ◆ *20th International Day of the Disabled Persons (4th time for Cambodia) Phnom Penh, CAMBODIA, 03 December 2002.*
- ◆ *Regional Meeting on Lessons Learned and Initiatives for Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities in November 2002, BANGKOK, THAILAND.*
- ◆ *Embracing Diversity: A Toolkit for Creating Child-Friendly, Inclusive Learning Environments on 18-20 July 2002 in BANGKOK, THAILAND.*
- ◆ *ICEVI Education for Visually Impair/Blind Conference, July 2002 in NETHERLAND*
- ◆ *Vision 20-20 Conference, July 2002 in LONDON*
- ◆ *Funding Visit to CBM Donors, November 2002 in AUSTRALIA.*

Important events/conferences on disability-related concerns that have, or will be taking place in 2003

- ◆ *ILO/Japan Technical Consultation Meeting on Vocational Training and Employment of People with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific, BANGKOK, THAILAND, 14-16 January 2003.*
- ◆ *ILO/Ireland Consultation Meeting on Employment of People with Disabilities-the Impact of Legislation in Asia and the Pacific, BANGKOK, THAILAND, 17 January 2003.*
- ◆ *Technical Meeting of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Re-integration, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, 02-06 February 2003.*
- ◆ *Technical Meeting of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Re-integration, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, February and May 2003.*
- ◆ *International Seminar and Regional Demonstration Workshop on Accessible ICT and Persons with Disabilities, on 03-07 March 2003, Manila, Philippines.*
- ◆ *5th Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, 16-20 September 2003.*
- ◆ *21st International Day of the Disabled Persons (5th time for Cambodia) Phnom Penh, CAMBODIA, 03 December 2003.*

DAC Secretariat Staff



- From left to right front row: Mr. Pring Pech, Mrs. Korm Chanthan, Mr. Pen Mony, Mrs. Helen Pitt*, Mr. Srey Chan, and Mr. Ang Narit
- From left to right standing second row: Mr. Ouk Sisovann, Mr. Ngy San, Ms. Philippa Thomas**, Mrs. Punya Droz, Ms. Liz Cross, Mrs. Vath Samnang, Mr. Kong Vichetra, Mrs. Nou Vouch Hun
- From left to right standing third row: Mr. Oung Tivea, Mr. Dave Joan, Mr. Chhem Vuthy, Mr. Men Sinuoen, Mr. Chhay Phally.

* Mrs. Helen Pitt was DAC Secretariat Director from 1997 to 2000 and became an Advisor from 2000 to mid 2002 and still strong support to raise fund for the salary of the teachers at the Rabbit School-Nutrition Centre, which is the only school provides education for children with intellectual and multiple disabilities in Cambodia.

** Ms Philippa Thomas work with the DAC on the Inclusive Education from August 2000 to August 2002 and hand over her position to Mr. Kong Vichetra. Her hard and active work are highly appreciated with respect.

*** Staff are not in the picture included: Ms. Rachel M. Smith, Mr. Hem Chhun, Fr. Charlie Dittmeier, Mr. Navuth Ya, and Mr. Philip Coggan

Special acknowledgement to the following DAC donors



AusAID

Cambodian War Amputees Rehabilitation Society (CWARS) vision is to support the DAC in its position of National Co-ordinating Body. It is necessary to have DAC to co-ordinate the affairs of disability issues in Cambodia as well as acting as a Library containing all kinds of information relating to disabilities. But what should be strengthening is to publish the work of the DAC members internally so the world knows what has been done or remains to be done for disabled people in Cambodia. In this case a media publication is necessary.

**By Mr. Sam Oeurn Pok
CWARS Management Director**



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