

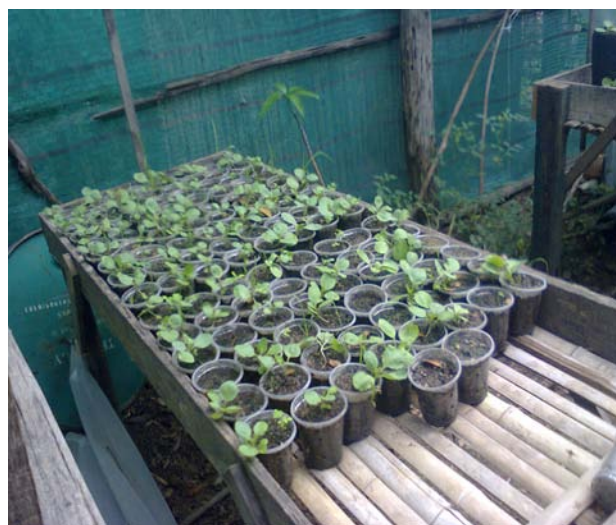


POSITION PAPER ON GOOD PRACTICES IN INCLUSIVE AGRICULTURAL SKILL TRAINING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES



**Position Paper
On**

**Good Practices
in Inclusive
Agricultural
Skills Training
for Persons with
Disabilities**



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Introduction

The **Cambodian Disabled People's Organisation (CDPO)** represents persons with disability (PWDs) in provinces/municipalities in Cambodia. CDPO's mission is to support, protect, serve and promote the rights of persons with disability as well as to promote the interests of persons with disability so that they can fully and equally participate in society. CDPO was established in 1994. Currently, CDPO has over 10,000 members (men, women, boys, girls with different types of disability) belonging to 47 Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs), including 8 Women with Disability Forums in provinces.

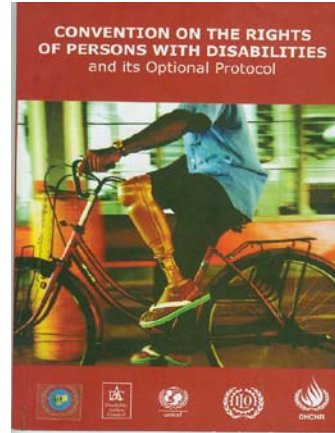
In order to promote inclusive development and poverty reduction for persons with disabilities, CDPO conducted a survey to identify good practices in inclusive agricultural skills training for persons with disabilities. The objective of this policy position paper is to present the findings of this research and outline a series of key recommendations for policy-makers within the Royal Government of Cambodia and key decision-makers representing donor agencies and non-governmental development organisations.

Working for Success

UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Article 27, "Work and Employment" stated that (d) *Enable persons with disabilities to have effective access to general technical and vocational guidance programmes, placement services and vocational and continuing training.* (f) *Promote opportunities for self-employment, entrepreneurship, the development of cooperatives and starting one's own business.* (k) *Promote vocational and professional rehabilitation,*

job retention and return-to-work programmes for persons with disabilities.



The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) signed the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on October 1, 2007 and commit to ratifying in 2012.

Law on the Protection and the Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PPRPD)

In the chapter 3, article 10, stated that *The State shall give due attention, as appropriate, to promoting livelihoods for persons with disabilities in conformity with the national economic situation.*

Chapter 7, article 39, *The State shall give due attention to establish vocational training institutions for persons with disabilities. The educational, training, technical, and vocational establishments of state, private or other organisations shall provide either training to persons with disabilities in accordance with the appropriate set quota or provide free training to poor persons with disabilities or military veterans with disabilities. The set quota shall be determined by an inter-ministerial Prakas by the Ministers in charge of Social Affairs and Vocational Training.*



PPRPD was adopted on May 29, 2009 by the National Assembly of Cambodia.

The Making It Work (MIW)

The Making it Work is a global, multi-stakeholder initiative to promote effective implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). This international law represents a significant step towards addressing the poverty and social exclusion experienced by persons with disabilities worldwide. For most countries, however, there are significant gaps between the standards set by the CRPD, the standards of national policies and the reality on the ground for people with disabilities.



Good Practices in Inclusive Agricultural Skills Training for Persons with Disabilities

Based on key findings of the CDPO Agriculture for All survey, 9 development organisations were selected as “good practices” organizations working to provide inclusive agricultural skills trainings for persons with disabilities in Cambodia.

N ^o	Mainstream Organisations
1	Buddhism For Development (BFD)
2	Banteay Srei (BS)
3	Heifer International Cambodia
4	New Humanity (NH)
5	Opérations Enfants du Cambodge (OEC)
6	Women Association for Community Development (WACD)

N ^o	Disability Sector Organisations
1	Association of the Blind in Cambodia (ABC)
2	Disability Development Service Program (DDSP)
3	Jesuit Service Cambodia (JSC)

According to survey and interview findings, the following organisations are recognized for consistent inclusion of persons with disabilities in key strategic planning documents: Buddhism For Development (BFD) has included disability into their strategic documents since 2006, New Humanity (NH) since 2009, Opérations Enfants du Cambodge (OEC) since 2009, Banteay Srei(BS) since 2000, Jesuit Service Cambodia (JSC) since 1991, Association of the Blind in Cambodia(ABC) since 2000, and Disability Development Service Program (DDSP) since 2003.

Survey findings also recognize Heifer International Cambodia, for their efforts to include support to local organisations working to support persons with disabilities. Lastly, the survey findings recognize the Women’s Association for Community Development (WACD) for their inclusion of persons with disabilities in their agricultural skills training program since 2007.

Good practice organisations are also recognized for including specific indicators for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in project planning, design and implementation. BFD, BS, OEC, NH and WACD are considered as mainstream development organisations; however, they are recognized for their significant work to include persons with disabilities into their existing and ongoing activities.

Other organisations from within the disability and development sector are recognized for their efforts to provide services that are accessible for persons with disabilities. Jesuit Service Cambodia is recognized for the construction and management of its accessible training center for persons with disabilities. JSC has been providing vocational skills training to persons with disabilities since 1991.

The Association of the Blind Cambodia is recognized for providing vocational training skills that are accessible to the blind community. Combining vocational training with mobility training for persons who are blind or who have low vision, ABC prepares persons with visual impairments to become active citizens not only economically, but also socially.

By working with local self help groups of persons with disabilities, the Disability and Development Service Program, provides participatory trainings that are adaptable to the needs of the community.

There are a variety of agricultural skills being provided by these good practice organisations. As such, persons with disabilities are able to choose a preferred skill based on their community environment, person interest, personal skill, and suitability.

No	Types of agricultural skills trainings commonly provided
1	Animal raising (chicken, pig, duck, cow)and health care
2	Aquaculture (fish)
3	Compost (organic fertilizer)
4	Mushroom, yeast, crop, vegetable, corn. pipeapple, soybean, banana, string bean, cassava, mango, coconut, etc.
5	Paddy/rice growing
6	Agribusiness (buy and sell the agricultural products)
7	Plant nursery

Most beneficiaries of these recognized programs are supported both during and after the trainings. To support business start-up, beneficiaries have received animals, seeds, and small loans for business establishment.

The majority of the recognized organisations plan to extend their target areas and strengthen their existing target areas in order to build sustainable livelihood improvements for persons with disabilities.



Recommendations

In order to promote good practices in inclusive agricultural skills training for persons with disabilities, CDPO proposes the following recommendations for policy-makers within the Royal Government of Cambodia and key non-governmental development stakeholders in Cambodia:

1. In compliance with Article 27 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Articles 10 and 39 on the Cambodian National Law on the Protection and the Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Royal Government of Cambodia shall promote accessible, acceptable, adaptable and acceptable agricultural skills training for persons with disabilities.
2. The Royal Government of Cambodia shall develop measurable indicators for inclusion of persons with disabilities into the National Strategic Development Plans including: National Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, Cambodian Millennium Development Goals, the National Plan of Action for Persons with Disabilities, and strategic development plans and policies from all relevant line ministries including the ministries of Rural Development, Agriculture and Education Youth and Sports
3. The Royal Government of Cambodia, in cooperation with civil society and organisations representing persons with disabilities (i.e. DPOs), shall make efforts to harmonize Articles 10 and 39 of the National Law on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities with international standards defined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
4. In order to promote the expansion of good practices in inclusion of persons with disabilities in mainstream vocational training services, the Royal

Government of Cambodia shall establish appropriate mechanisms to recognize good practices in inclusive agricultural skills training and provide recognition of good practice organisations and provide opportunities for good practice replication.

5. All bilateral and multilateral donors contributing to the expansion of agricultural skills training in Cambodia shall enforce mandatory inclusion of persons with disabilities as requirements for development funding.
6. All local and international development organisations shall make efforts to make the inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of project cycle development such as: project conception, project development, project implementation, and project monitoring and evaluation.
7. Organisations representing persons with disabilities at all levels of Cambodian society (i.e. DPOs) shall make efforts to strengthen their advocacy skills and engage in consultations and decision-making at the local and national levels, using a solutions-oriented approaches and constructive dialogue with policy-makers.

For more information

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