

Good Practice case study



How is it possible to improve access to rehabilitation services for people with disabilities?

Relevant articles of the CRPD: 19, 26, 27

Country: Palestine

Region: Middle East

Languages available: English

Access to Rehabilitation Services in Palestine

Name of Organisation:

The Regional Committee for Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) – Southern Region of West Bank (Bethlehem and Hebron Districts)
CBR Office
Beit Jala
Palestine
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General services provided

This service is under a legal umbrella of a coalition of non-government organisations comprised of the Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation (BASR), Palestinian Red Crescent (PRCS) and Health Work Committees (HWC). The range of activities undertaken includes:

- **home visits** for persons with disabilities
- facilitation of the integration into **vocational training centres** and **mainstream schools** for children with disabilities
- **adapting schools and houses** for physical accessibility
- provision of **technical aids** and referral to various **health and rehabilitation services**

Good practice area submitted

Outreach rehabilitation services.

Good practices

Availability

- Selection of target group is **flexible**, depending on **project funding, resources and local demand**.
- **Statistics and information** about the target population were put to good use.
- **Surveys conducted prior** to starting work to set priorities.
- Ensured **limited overlap with other service providers** because of the corresponding services in Central and Northern Palestine.
- Offers **subsidised transport to large referral centres** if required and **rural services are continually being developed**.
- **Psychiatric referrals exist** (however there is **limited expertise** in this area) with improving knowledge of autism/learning disability.
- **Secured commitment from larger supporting organisations** to continue CBR if funding becomes restricted.

Affordability

- **No cost** for services.
- **Minimal cost** for summer camps or other special events.
- **Subsidised transport available** for some users if needing referral to larger centres.
- No equipment rental scheme for users but they **must wait for equipment from larger centres**.

Accessibility

- Some municipal offices are **reportedly accessible**, but **most services are home-based**, not centre-based.
- Some **volunteers have a disability** while most of the **staff employed does not**.
- **Mix of religious denominations** in the office, with **no gender/religion discrimination** demonstrated.

Accountability

- Demonstrated **good file management** and **financial/accounting processes**.
- **Limited strategic input** from service users/community members.

Quality

- Treatment plans are **developed with family and professionals**.

- **Good networks** with other disability stakeholders and complementary service providers.
- **Good input** in regional networks and training activities.

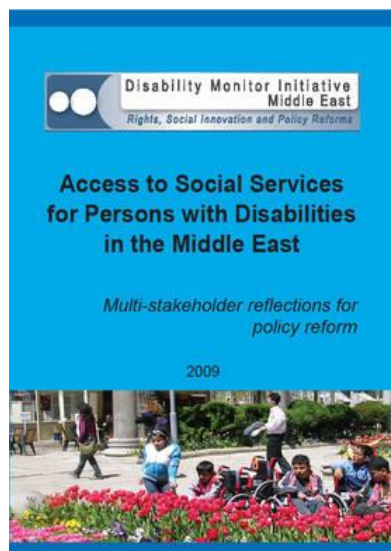
General – Overall comments

The CBR service is a good model for service delivery in the occupied Palestinian Territories due to:

- The **limitations of people accessing services**;
- **Restricted transportation**;
- The **political implications** on infrastructure and the rural population.

The **backing of the three larger institutions** ensures a good degree of **sustainability of activities** and that the service would be improved **with increased user involvement and linking with DPOs**.

Background and context



Full project report: [Access to services for Persons with Disabilities in the Middle East](#) (DMI ME, 2009)

Criteria for the good practices: See pages 99 - 118 of the full report.

Recommendations from the good practices: See pages 122 -125 of the full report.

Links to further resources:

[Full text on article 19 – Living independently and being included in the community](#)

[Full text on article 26 – Habilitation and rehabilitation](#)

[Full text on article 27 – Work and employment](#)