

The National Centre of Disabled Persons (NCDP) is running a Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) program in selected districts of Phnom Penh Municipality, Kandal and Kompong Speu provinces since 1998. At the beginning of 2007, program has been expanded to 2 provinces Takeo and Kampot. UNICEF supports NCDP CBR program activities in Kompong Speu since February 2001. Baptist World Aid Australia (BWAA) supports in Kandal Takeo, Kampot and Phnom Penh since January 2004. Kangaroo Fund supports NCDP CBR program activities in all target areas since 31<sup>st</sup> December 2005.

Cambodia's disabled population is estimated at 4.7% of its total population. It based on the Socio-Economic Family Survey in 2004 of the National Institute of Statistic. The United Nations estimates that approximately 10% of the world's population, or approximately 650 million people have a disability, and about 80% of the population with a disability live in developing countries (source: UN Secretariat Disability Paper (E/CN.5/2008/6 available at [www.ods.un.org](http://www.ods.un.org))). Disability result from a combination of factors including inadequate prevention (vaccination, pre/postnatal care), macro-economic conditions, nutritional deficiency, weapons and violence, chemical substances, rapid modernization and an ageing population. The country's health, education and social services lack of the financial and human resources to cope with the overwhelming needs of PwDs. Like elsewhere around the world, PwDs face many barriers to full participation and are likely to face an increased risk of social exclusion. This may include being unable to access education, health services, less likely to find employment, earn a living or participate in decision making. Moreover, they tend to be poorly integrated into their communities, which make them one of the most vulnerable groups in the society.

Disability can not be defined exclusively in medical or scientific terms. Socio-economic, cultural, historical and religious factors need to be taken to account too. A broad definition of disability is proposed for the program as mention in article 1 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities – “*Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others*”. The program will aim to reduce barriers faced by PwDs in NCDP target areas and promote their equal participation and access to opportunities, services and benefits of development. It means to **Integrate** and **Empower** PwDs into the society. The program also plays a key role in working with PwD to improve their ability to express themselves and to engage with other; it means working with PwDs and their families, and with the whole community and authorities to improve quality of life, fully rights participation in the community by addressing the poor access to services of any kind and their lack of integration.

Partnership have been set up with the number of organizations involved with health, physical rehabilitation to cater for PwD needs that can not be met at community level. Program also works closely with local authority, Ministry of Education Youth and Sport (MoEYS), Ministry of Social Veteran and Youth (MoSVY), Institution in commune and district level where is NCDP/CBR working.

## **Description Activities**

NCDP/CBR program Community Coordinator (CC), Community Coordination Supervisor (CCS) provides services to people affected by a wide range of disabilities. At a given time, they each concentrate their efforts on 20 to 25 clients a month (current clients), who include severely disabled people, children and women with disabilities but disabled people in dire socio-economic situations as well. These clients, receiving the core of the services, are visited weekly. Focusing on a limited number of individuals at a time, the program provides higher quality services to the most vulnerable.

### **1. Individual Service Provision**

**a- Counseling:** To counsel parents and PwD in case of depression with their disabilities, and make sure that they would not be abandoned their child and co-operates with NCDP/CBR staff to find out the best way could be helped them.

**b- Child Stimulation:** It could be related with fine motor and gross motor in order to make sure children with moving difficulties will be better. The NCDP/CBR staff used game as toys, puzzles, puppet, and

Jigsaws to play with them and hand over the training to the parent or relative who could have enough time to provide this service to PwD.

**c- Mobilization:** This is an activity to help PwD with serious moving difficulties to make sure their joints not stiff such as unable to lift one's arm/leg.... The NCDP/CBR staff using therapy skills, which is receiving from an Occupational Therapist during referrals to rehab-centre such as: passive activity, active activity, passive + active activities

**d- Teaching Self Help Skills:** During home visit, self help skills such as washing, bathing, eating, toilet using, dressing and social are promoted. These activities could be helped PwD living independently and reduce workload from their parents.

**e- Aid to Daily Living (ADL):** The possibilities for Aid to Daily Living are assessed and if applicable it will be made and /or purchased and provided by the program. Sometimes make it at home in collaboration between NCDP/CBR staff and parents. These ADLs produces at low cost, foster independence in adults and enable children to develop at their own pace.

**f- Referrals:** Whenever health and rehabilitation services are needs but not available at community level, referrals towards the most appropriate service providers are arranged in co-ordination with the relevant agencies. The program staffs disseminates information about service available, but also provides or pays for transport, per-diem to PwD and families, for accommodation when needed or medical fees when required.

## **2. Educational and Vocational Skills Training Support**

Educational is a universal rights and important to a human being, in all communities, from birth throughout life. Children and adults with disabilities are some of the most excluded and marginalized group within education. It is particularly important for PwDs as rights in itself but also to enable them to access other rights. The community and families have an essential and central role in promoting, sustaining and influencing education provision.

Related to education support, the NCDP/CBR staff provides literacy and counting number skills at home when feasible with children with disabilities (ChwDs) who have schooling age before send them to mainstream school. They link between ChwDs, family, school's teachers, headmasters providing information on disability, but also arranging for transport (local motor taxi, bicycle...), paying for private class fees, uniforms, and/or supplies.

Through interview and discussing between the program staff with the PwD and parents, the young boy/girl with disability who wants to have future career, staff will refer them to NCDP/IRS program to register for scholarship and/or vocational skill training such as tailoring, repairing bicycle/motorbike, repairing TV/Radio/VCD player etc.....

Regarding a special class where is placing in Serey Dey Doh Primary School in Kandal area, the program continues to hire a special teacher for teaching 7 children with mild-intellectual disabilities 3 days per-week. In addition, she will continue to do home visit their family regarding children not come to school, children hygiene and counselling parents to regular sending children to school. She will also send children to attend events when requires from the program.

## **3. Promotion UN Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities**

Every 6 months, each committee member in collaborate with DoSVY officer and commune authorities conduct awareness session in the commune level to provide information to PwD, parents, teachers and community leaders on disabilities issues advocating for positive attitudes and equalization of opportunities. A set of pictures illustrate about all project, program activities of NCDP, handouts describe about 8 type of disabilities, photos illustrating successful people with disabilities, mostly in rural Cambodia, is used. A Video Compaq Disk produced DPF project in monthly, During session, program

will provide gift to whom able to question and answer related to disability and Rights of Person with Disabilities knowledge.

#### 4. Accessibility

The possibility of toilet/ramp/railing will assess and install where providing facility to PwD in house and/or public place in commune level such as commune office, commune health centre, school and pagoda.



#### 5. Income Generation

When the socio-economic situation of a family threatens the success of the program intervention, a grant of a maximum amount of \$150 can be released. The program staff is responsible for assessing the individual situation. The assets, the potential, the needs and the local context of each household are taken into account, and key informants (village leaders, neighbors...) consulted.

Once a decision is made regarding the amount of the grant and the nature of the purchase (tools, sewing machine, cow, chicken, grocery stock, raw materials...) the money is released. The NCDP/CBR supervisor provides the household with regular support for several months to ensure decisions are consistent with the original plan. Most grants are used for income generation purposes.