

# Psychosocial support and economic reintegration

## In THAILAND



By Mrs. SUNEE SAISUPATPON

National Office of Empowerment for Persons with Disabilities (NEP)

Ministry of Social Development and Human Security

## Background

### The 2007 Disability Survey

- Total Population 65,566,359
- PWDs 1,871,860 (2.9%)
  - Male 864,028
  - Female 1,007,832

## PWDs in each Region

- Central 379,419 (23.3%)
- North 518,624 (27.7%)
- Northeast 772,931 (41.3%)
- South 200,885 (10.7%)

## Mine areas in Thailand :

27 of Thailand's 76 provinces were affected.



**1,252 people  
are landmine  
survivors.**

## Rehabilitation Services

The Persons with Disabilities Empowerment Act, B.E.2550

- **Medical Rehabilitation Services**
  - Medical Services
  - Accessive devices
- **Education Rehabilitation Services**
  - Special Education
  - Inclusive Education
- **Vocational Rehabilitation Services**
- **Social Rehabilitation Services**

## Economic Support

- **Vocational Training**
  - Special Vocational Training Institute
  - Mainstream Vocational Training Institute
  - Community group Training



## Economic Support

### ● Employment Opportunities

- Quota System 200 : 1

(private sector comprising more than 200 employees shall employ one competent person with disabilities.)



## Economic Support

### ● Self Employment Opportunities

- Loan for PWDs
  - 1,100 USD / person
  - Repayment period of 5 years
  - Interest Free
- More than 50,000 PWDs
- More than 1,000,000 Baht  
(one thousand million Bath)



## Economic Support

- **Sheltered Workshop**

- PWDs work together in group
- Support by Government or NGO
  - Factory of Furniture  
(by foundation for the blind)
  - Factory of dress making  
(by Government)



## Economic Support

- **Allowance for PWDs**

- Monthly allowance of 15 USD for their entire life.
- To date, there are 262,669 persons who receive the monthly allowance.



## **Social Rehabilitation Services**

**Being accepted and fully integrated or efficiently In social, economic and political activities equal to others**

- **Sign language interpreter services**
- **Allowance Services**
- **Modification PWDs housing Services**
- **Helper Services**
- **Home for PWDs Services**
- **Data, information Services**
- **Environment Adjustment**

## **Psychosocial Support**

### **Participation and Involvement of the Community**

- **People with disabilities who live in the rural and remote areas have no access to the social and rehabilitation services in the institutions.**



- **1999 : CBR pilot project was implemented in 2 provinces (Chiengmai, Ubonrachatani)**  
**Supported by Christoffel – Binden mission (CBM)**
- **2004-2008 : NEP has expanded CBR program around the country**  
**( 75 provinces / 172 districts )**

## **Concept of CBR program**

- **Capacity Building for PWDs through Rehabilitation Program**
- **Participating by PWDs, PWDs families and Community members**
- **Utilization of community Resources**
- **Integrating in Community Structure or Community Plan**

## Objective

- People with disabilities have access to the government services, including medial, educational, vocational rehabilitation and have social participation in the communities.



## Objective

- Their families and related persons in the communities have increased knowledge and understanding and contribute in the provision of the suitable and effective services by themselves .





## Objective

- **People with disabilities and their families can mobilize the resources in the communities to take care of themselves, rehabilitate and develop themselves in the cost-effective and appropriate manner.**



## Activities

- **Recruit and train local volunteers**
- **Conduct community survey statistics of PWDs**
- **Assist PWDs to access rehabilitation services :  
medical educational vocational and social  
rehabilitation**



- Educate PWDs families community members on disability and how to treat to PWDs in the right way
- Promote self-help organizations of PWDs and Parents' organizations
- Propose to a local government to integrate disability activities in Community Development Plan

## outcome



- In 2008, there are 2,840 village volunteers working in the CBR programme in 1,080 sub-districts, 157 districts of 75 provinces.
- For the 27 provinces heavily affected by landmines, 144,650 persons with disabilities including landmine survivors have received assistance from these social volunteers.

## Successes of CBR in Thailand

- Change the attitude of people
- Change “Burdens to Power”
- Established Community mentoring Community
- Members of family participate in providing rehabilitation to “ a better quality of living”





**Thank You**

<http://www.nep.go.th>