



## Quality Education through Accessible Technology



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## Introduction



- Overview of World Bank Effort to Improve Education of Disabled Children/Adults
- My Experience at US Department of Education
- Call for Collaboration to
  - increase "Education For ALL" initiative
  - Use of Accessible Technology to Improve Quality Education for All Children Around the World, including Deaf Children



## "Inclusion is the Key"



*"Unless disabled people are brought into the development mainstream, it will be impossible to cut poverty in half by 2015 or to give every girl and boy the chance to achieve a primary education by the same date—goals agreed to by more than 180 world leaders at the United Nations Millennium Summit in September, 2002."*

James D. Wolfensohn  
Former President, The World Bank



## What is the Role of the Disability Advisor?



- Build capacity within the World Bank through seminars, linking knowledgeable individuals, etc.
- Work with other lenders and donors to increase inclusion of disability issues in development and avoid duplication of efforts.
- Locate funds to undertake major activities.



## World Bank and Disability – What is the link?



- The World Bank's mission is to eliminate poverty
- Disability leads to poverty, and poverty leads to disability
- Disability affects not just disabled people, but their families and communities
- Doing a good job on poverty alleviation requires taking disabled people into account



## MDG 2. Achieve Primary Universal Education



This goal cannot be achieved without reaching out to disabled children.

- Education For All (EFA) Flagship
- Inclusive Education
  - Examples in Brazil, Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines, Tunisia and Vietnam

## Education – Where are we?

**UNICEF** and **UNESCO** say

5% of children with disabilities are enrolled.

“Education for All” also means education for ALL children with disabilities.

**World Bank** estimates about 40 million of 115 million children out of school have disabilities



## Education for Deaf Children



Uganda School for the Deaf

**WHO** estimates that there are 123 million deaf people worldwide, two thirds of these live in the developing world where only ten per cent of deaf children receive any education at all.

## Quality Education for Deaf Children

- Quality Education allows people to excel using their full potential
- Quality education for deaf children requires all of followings:
  - Language development,
  - Teacher Training
  - Removing the barrier for deaf people to become teachers
  - Accessible textbook and technology

## Why “Access to Technology” is important?

**“INFORMATION IS POWER”**

- Disabled individuals need access to information necessary to organize, manage and empower themselves,
- Without adequate education, individuals cannot access to resources that directly impacts their well-being. (employment, health care, etc.)
- Challenges – While technology bring a great potential for inclusion, technology cannot replace the importance and value of human interaction, such as sign language interpreters and teacher training, etc.

## Where do we go from here?

- Strengthen International Collaboration
  - Capacity Building at country level (Teacher training, technology training,
  - Maximize impact of “good practice” and dissemination of skills and knowledge

Good Practices:

- **Nippon Foundation**
- **World Federation of the Deaf/ Japanese Federation of the Deaf** (Sign Language development)
- **JICA** training of Deaf People in Asia
- **Global Deaf Connection**

## WB Partnership Activities

### ■ **Global Partnership for Disability & Development**

- United Nations
- Donor countries (Trust funds, Funded staff)
- Disabled People’s Organizations (DPOs)
- Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs)

Too few development institutions and governments recognize the importance of education of disabled children and the quality of education for children with various learning needs



## Making A Difference: Share Your Experiences



- Getting governments involved in what you do
- Engaging with the World Bank and other development institutions
- Sharing expertise of consultants
- Working collaboratively to improve economic and human rights for disabled people



## Web Resources



- World Bank Web Site: [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)
- Disability Web Site: [www.worldbank.org/disability](http://www.worldbank.org/disability)
- NGO/Civil Society Web Site: <http://wbln0018.worldbank.org/essd/essd.nsf/NGOs/home>
- Social Funds Web Site: [www.worldbank.org/sp/socialfunds](http://www.worldbank.org/sp/socialfunds)
- Junior Professionals Program <http://lnweb28.worldbank.org/hrs/careers.nsf/key/ipa>
- Young Professionals Program <http://lnweb28.worldbank.org/hrs/careers.nsf/key/yp>



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Inclusive Education sight visit – Brazil 2003