



United Nations Economic and Social Commission  
for Asia and the Pacific



## Improving Disability Statistics Through Regional Census Programme

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## Objective

- Highlight regional needs
- Brief ESCAP's initiative on disability statistics
- Disability statistics as a component of Regional Census Programme
- Collect feedback from you

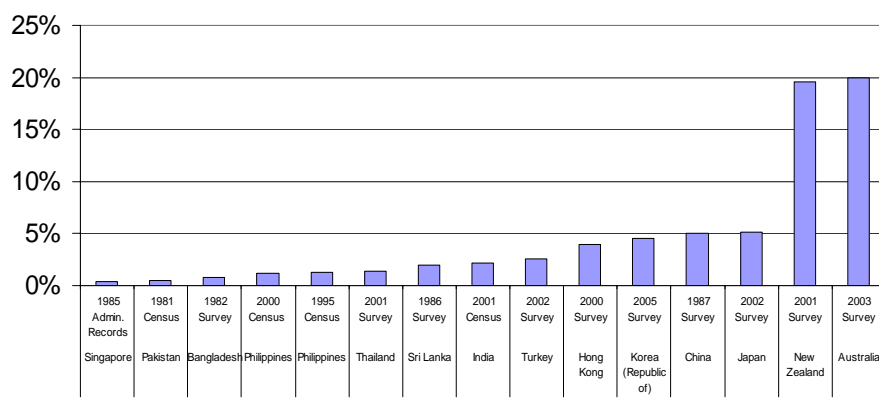
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## Regional Needs

- **Biwako Millennium Framework for Action (BMF) Principle 6** to “Strengthen national capacity in data collection and analysis concerning disability statistics”
- **Main data problems:**
  1. Data not available to inform policy
  2. Disability prevalence is underestimated
  3. Traditional view of disability (e.g. people with visible impairments)
  4. No comparability of data, need for use of international standards and guidelines

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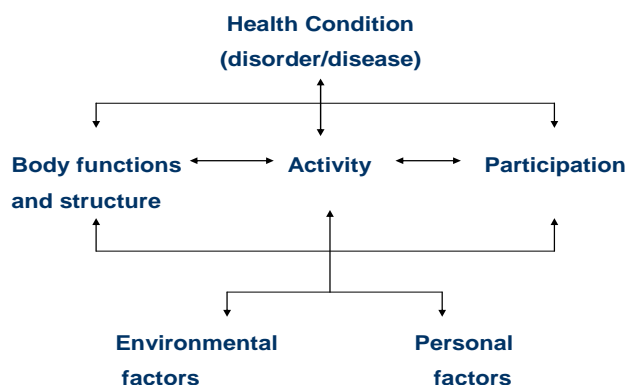
**Prevalence of persons with disabilities in Asian and Pacific Countries (%)**



\* Source: DISTAT and Demographic Yearbook series of UNSD

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## The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) Model - 2001



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## ESCAP Initiatives on disability statistics

- **Standard setting and methodological guidelines**
- Promote the collection of disability statistics
- Improve the dissemination and use of disability data
- Provide forum/networks for experts in disability

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## **ESCAP/WHO Project on Improving Disability Data (2004-06)**

- **Goal:** improve national disability statistics by applying the ICF framework and using international measurement standards
- **Target group:** statisticians and experts in disability area from 20 countries
- **Outcome:** capacity to produce better disability data that meet policy needs
- **Other Partners:** Australian Bureau of Statistics, Washington Group, etc.

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## **Main Activities**

- 4 regional workshops for advocating and training on the ICF approach and its implementation
- Pilot testing of disability questionnaires for use in census and surveys and results analysis and dissemination
- The ESCAP/WHO Disability Statistics Training Manual

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## **Regional Voice at Global Forum**

- Collaboration with Washington Group (WG) in Development of Short-set Qs for Census
- Influence the Global Recommendations – 2010 Population and Housing Census
- In-depth Research and Further Collaboration with WG on Development of Extended Set Questions

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## **The Upcoming 2010 Census Round**

- Second Decade of Disabled Persons – Mid-point Assessment in 2007.
- Population census provides a unique source of information on the prevalence of disability in a country.
- It also forms the basis for developing disability surveys for collecting more detailed statistics for policy design.

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## **As a Component of Regional Census Programme ...**

- Promote a common regional approach to disability data collection through censuses and disability surveys
- Additional pilot testing and analysis on question sets for censuses and surveys
- Regional and in-country training on ICF
- Technical assistance through advisory services

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## **As a Component of Regional Census Programme ... (cont.)**

- Knowledge sharing through enhanced training courses and self-learning materials, and ESCAP website
- Lead a regional network of disability statistics experts

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## Partnerships

*Internal:*

- Emerging Social Issue Division of ESCAP

*External:*

- World Health Organization
- Washington Group

*Potential donor (2008-09):*

The Republic of Korea

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## Feedback from Participants

- Are the suggested activities useful?
- Any other activities to be included?
- Would your country be willing to participate in future ESCAP activities on questionnaire pilot tests and training?
- Are you interested in Ad hoc advisory services or any other kinds of technical assistance for testing census and survey modules on disability statistics?

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