

Biwako Millennium Framework (BMF)

*towards an Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society
for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific*

Population and Social Integration Section
Emerging Social Issues Division
United Nations ESCAP
Bangkok

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Physical accessibility

Sign language



Human Rights



The core principles of the BMF

- Biwako Millennium Framework for Action towards an inclusive, barrier-free and rights based society for persons with disabilities in Asia and the Pacific

Principles of

- **Inclusive** (disability mainstreaming, “twin track approach”)
- **Barrier-free** (removal of all kinds of barriers, physical barriers, universal design and barriers of social attitudes) – social model of disability
- **Rights-based** – human rights (universal and global) and civil rights (domestic) based
- <http://www.unescap.org/esid/psis/disability/index.asp>

What is the Biwako Millennium Framework (BMF)?



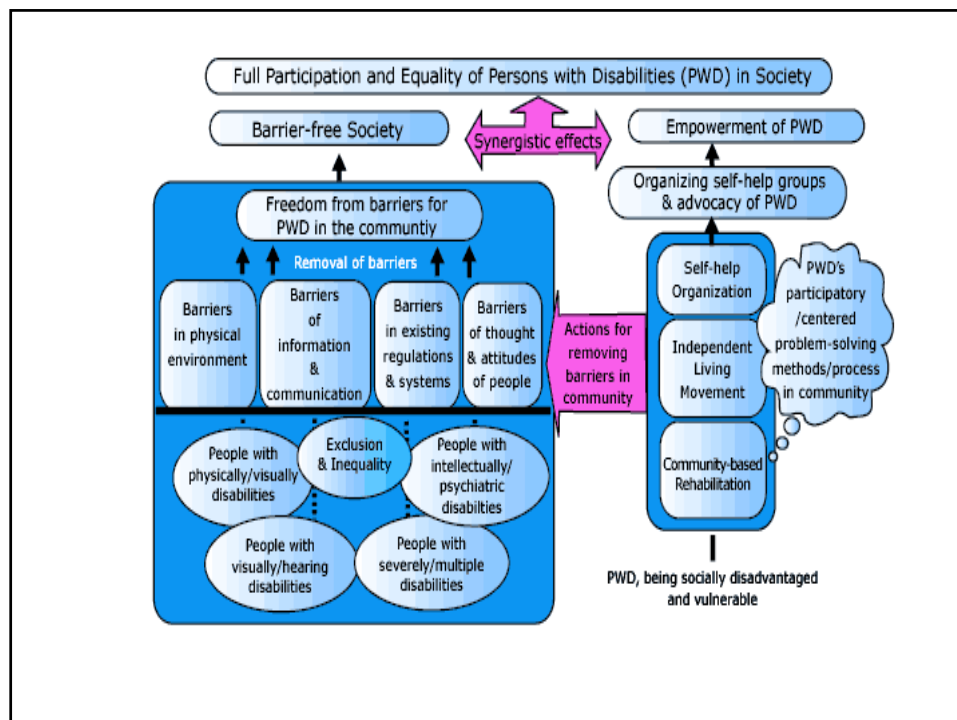
- **Key Mandate and the Action Guideline** for Governments and other stakeholders for the 2nd Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons 2003-2012. The mid-point review of the BMF and the Decade in 2007 (mandated by resolution, 61/8)
- **Rights-based Society** (disability is not a charity issue)
- **Disability is a development issue (Twin-Track Approach) of disability integration and empowerment of PWD**

Why is the BMF so important?

- ✓ This is the compilation of regional policy/action guidelines with specific targets to use.
 - ✓ This is a document adopted by the UNESCAP Member States.
 - ✓ This is the only document that expresses disability perspective in the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) --- developmental approach and disability mainstream into development.
 - ✓ We mainstream disability into human rights and development
- Rights-based (ultimate outcome of the Convention at the national level?)
- ✓ **Anti-discrimination** --- How do we achieve?
 1. Enactment of a domestic anti-discrimination law (enforcement of non-discrimination and punishment of non-compliance in the court) --- reactive measure (few countries out of over 40 countries)
 2. Proactive measure, raising awareness and changing attitudes through public awareness campaign, use of mass media, etc.

Structure of the BMF 7 priority areas & 21 targets






Balanced rights based model of disability

- Social model of disability (changing the society and removing the barriers), including removal physical barriers, institutional discriminations, and negative attitudes towards PWD;
- Empowerment of PWD (e.g. rehabilitation, training, networking, leadership training, promotion of CBR)

Four Major Strategy areas



change

1. National Plan of Action (by 2005)
2. Rights-based approach (International Convention on Rights of PWD, 8th International Convention equivalent to CEDAW, CRC. When? We don't know, perhaps by 2007 or 2008) and domestic anti-discrimination law with an effective enforcement mechanism (body)
3. Disability statistics/ data (disability prevalence is unreliable with Australia over 20% of the total population and Bangladesh, with less than 1 % of the total population. Why lack of standard definition of disability, etc. Classification system, WHO-ICF existing but not utilized effectively)
4. Community-based approaches (CBR). UN Joint Statement on CBR concept, 2004

Recent developments on an International Convention on the Rights and Dignity of People with Disabilities

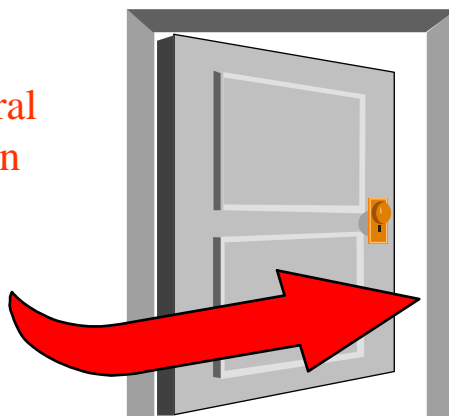


Will be the first legally-binding international document on disability.

Will be the 8th Human Rights Convention (such as CRC, CEDAW, etc.)

CONCLUSION

Multi-sectoral
collaboration
& Action



For more information, please go to
<http://www.unescap.org/esid/psis/disability/index.asp>

Thank you