Side Event

Disability-inclusive business: from CSR to mainstream employment opportunities for persons with disabilities

Venue: AB-Smr1
Date: 29 November
Time: 17:00-18:00
Organizers: Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability (APCD) and Chula Fashion

A. Description

The objective of this side event is to demonstrate good models on disability-inclusive business as a means to enhance the work and employment prospects of persons with disabilities in line with Goal 1 of the Incheon Strategy. The good models to be presented are:

1) 60 Plus Bakery and Café Project implemented by APCD and Thai Yamazaki in collaboration with ESCAP, SODEXO and other partners which trains and employs persons with diverse disabilities in the bakery business; and

2) Chula Fashion which is social company working in the Vietnamese fashion and art industry made up of a skilled community of 60 people, 75% of whom have a physical disability.

At the end of the side event, it is expected that the disability-inclusive business model will be recognized as an effective approach to promote employment and contribute towards poverty reduction among persons with disabilities.

It is important to have this side event to explore what constitutes disability-inclusive business.

B. Key questions

1. What does it mean for a business to be “disability-inclusive”, and what resources are available to support business in this regard?

3. What can Governments and CSOs, including the private sector, do to support businesses in becoming disability-inclusive?
C. Tentative programme

1 speaker from APCD will present the 60 Plus Bakery and Café Project while another speaker from Chula Fashion will present its company and activities. A moderator will introduce the speakers and facilitate the presentations as well as the question and answer portion.

[17:00-17:05] – Welcome (Ms. Aiko)
[17:05-17:10] – Overview of Disability-Inclusive Business (Mr. Ninomiya)
[17:10-17:20] – Presentation of 60 Plus Bakery and Café Project (Mr. Sunthorn)
[17:20-17:35] – Presentation of Chula Fashion (Mr. Cortizas)
[17:35-17:55] – Q&A
[17:55-18:00] – Closing and Wrap-up (Ms. Akiyama)

D. Panellists and Moderator

Mr. Akiie Ninomiya, Foundation Committee Member, APCD

Mr. Sunthorn Nowarat, 60 Plus Bakery and Café Manager, APCD

Mr. Diego Cortizas, Co-Founder, Chula Fashion

Moderated by: Ms. Aiko Akiyama, Disability Focal Point, UNESCAP

E. Contact Person

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