

Missions Specific objectives

- S1. To enhance knowledge of ICF-based disability assessment and eligibility rules among MLSA's policy makers and staff.
- S2. To improve the disability assessment and the information collection mechanisms, based on ICF standard and best international practices.
- S3 To study best case practises by other states (study visit at Cyprus)
- S4. To create awareness on the necessity to adopt a change management approach in order to prepare the information of both the professionals and the public about the newly adopted ICF approach to disability assessment and eligibility rules.

Country Profile



- Armenia is a landlocked Country and an ex-soviet Republic. Its population is less than 3 million, to which a relatively large external diaspora (8 million by some estimates) might be added
- The GDP per capita amounts to around 3.500 USD yearly
- 37% of Armenians are subject to multidimensional poverty
- Prioritization for targeting Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 is ongoing

Disability Sector Situation

- The actual number of people with disabilities is 194.000 (6/7% of the population)
- Prior to 2010 Disability Assessment was purely medical and was executed by medical committees.
- However in 2010, Armenia has ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD) and the committees were transformed to medical and social expertise committees.
- The draft Law on the Protection of the Rights of People with Disabilities (PwDs) and their Social Inclusion and the Government's Strategy Paper for Social Inclusion of PwDs for 2017-2021 should allow the Country to implement the CRPD's stipulations and enhance the social inclusion.
- Further more a new law will be submitted by May (2019) in order to finalize the reform plan on this sector.

Legal and institutional context

- In 2013 the Government of Armenia has adopted the **WHO/ICF** as standard to apply for designing, implementing and providing services to PwDs.

• Relevant Ministries (Labour, Health & Education) are revising their policies and legislation to be into a greater compliance with the CRPD and with the holistic approach embodied in the **ICF Standard**.

• An **interministerial plan** has been proposed for the processes of Disability assessment under which: Ministry of Labour undertakes the administrative managing and infrastructure, Ministry of Health provides the Health professional staff for the assessors and the Ministry of Education undertakes the social assessment for children.

Transition from a medical to a social model of disability

"from disease to **disability**"

Armenia is in the process of completing the transition and establishing the bio-psychological model of disability assessment, based on the **WHO International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF)**

The joint Project **UNDP-UNICEF-WHO** "Improving access to services and participation of persons with disabilities in line with the UNCRPD and the conceptual framework of the ICF" (2015-2016) established the initial platform and the framework for ICF implementation.

The **Socioeux project** in 2018 provided the suitable processes, methodologies, tools and mechanisms for finalizing the implementation.

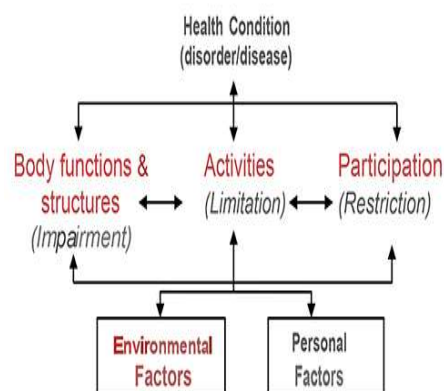
Extensive Training should take place for Health professionals and administrators in order to understand, assimilate and apply the system through the multidisciplinary assessment teams.

Acknowledgements

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The ID of the biopsychosocial model of ICF

ICF: Interaction of Concepts



ICF classifies disability by focusing on functioning:

- b 110** Consciousness functions
General mental functions of the state of awareness and alertness, including the clarity and continuity of the wakeful state
- s 498** Structures of the cardiovascular, immunological and respiratory systems
- d 420** Transferring oneself, moving from one surface to another, such as sliding along a bench or moving from a bed to chair, without changing body position
- e 320** Extended family, individuals who are close and ongoing participants in relationships characterized by trust and mutual support

Uses of ICF on:

- Assessment
- Description of diseases
- Diagnosis
- Clinical practice
- Institutional framework
- Legislation
- Social security
- The Economy of health
- Education
- Training
- Employment
- Social integration – every day life