Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) Experience

MYANMAR

by

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Country Profile

➢ Country name – Union of Myanmar.

➢ Population – 57.5 Millions (May 2008)

➢ Area – 677,000 Sq Kilometer

➢ Focal Point Ministry for Disabled People – Department of Social Welfare, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

- Disability Related Information

➢ Accurate survey data available only now in 2009 (first phase) 2.35%

➢ Phase 2 (rest of country) will be completed in late 2009.

➢ Number of disabled related Governmental center – 6,

➢ Number of organizations working in disability field – 6 INGOs (AAR Japan, JICA, WV (Myanmar), TLMI, NHF, HI), disabled related Local NGO – about 26

➢ UN agencies has no specific disabled related program yet except the first CBR pilot program in 1982-87 by UNDP,

➢ The law on Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities was promulgated in 1958,

➢ 'Inclusive Education Policy' was adopted in 2004-05 academic year,

- Brief history of CBR in Myanmar;

(i)   The first pilot CBR project in Myanmar-UNDP/WHO 1982-1987

(ii)   World Vision (Myanmar) program on CBR since 1982

(iii) Myanmar Christian Fellowship of the Blind (MCFB): "Community Resettlement Program (CRP)" which aids the Blind in resettling in a location where there are opportunities for income generating activities since early 1990s.

(iv)   The Leprosy Mission International (TLMI) has started programs for general disability since 2000

(v)   Eden's first CBR program at Hlaingtharyar. (1999 to 2007);

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- Brief history of CBR program in Myanmar (Cont.);

After Cyclone Nargis (May 2008)

(vi)   Department of Social Welfare –
        * "Post Nargis Action Plan for People with Disability",
        * "Nation wide disability Survey for disability related data collection"
(vi)   The Leprosy Mission International -
        * Open six CBR centers in cyclone Nargis affected areas
(viii)   Association for Aids and Relief (AAR – Japan)
        * Start new CBR project in cyclone Nargis affected areas,
(viii)   Handicap International established two centres in cyclone Nargis affected areas.
(ix)   Post-Nargis Recovery and Preparedness Plan (2009-11) contains substantial plans for persons with disability

Activities after cyclone Nargis by CBR program

by Eden CBR

- ➢ Survey the situation,
- ➢ Provide relief packages from partners
- ➢ Provide mobility aids and devices;
- ➢ Counseling and home visit;
- ➢ Referral to further treatment and rehabilitation;
- ➢ Information sharing and net-working amongst stake holders;

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Activities after cyclone Nargis by CBR program by
Eden CBR

➢ Renovate homes, build new

buildings, barrier-free

environment, etc.

➢ Co-operation and

collaboration with other

organizations;

➢ Documenting

2. Experience of CBR (Eden Centre)

(After learning Social Model of Disability – Main presentation)

- ➢ How it start?

  - Training based on social model
  - Started April 2007
  - In 5 wards Hlaingtharyar Township, Sub-urban of Yangon, Target population is about 60,000 people

2. How we do it (Cont.)

a). Service Provision

* Continue service provision but at the same time promote active participation by family member along the rehabilitation process and it is a co-operative process,

* When mobility or other devices is provided – the receiver has responsibility to make use of it for the best benefit, (through this process we can build up their participation and promote rapport with them),

b). Education

- Support inclusive education system

- Organize disability awareness trainings at schools

- Renovate some schools for accessibility

2. How we do it (Cont.)

c). Health

- Provide basic medicine and help them to access medical care services,

- Refer to clinic or hospital,

- Provide nutrition, promote health care,

2. How we do it (Cont.)

d). Social Inclusion

- Support to involve in traditional water festival, and other social activities,

- Support them to participate in disabled sport activities in every level,

2. How we do it (Cont.)

e). Livelihood

- Income generation program,

- Refer to vocational trainings,

f). Advocacy

- Organize disability awareness activities in the community, schools and to other stake holders,

2. How we do it (Cont.)

g). SHG (Self-Help Group)

- Home visits and counseling
- Form self-help group of disabled people
- Encourage their fund raising and other activities
- Build up the capacity development of individual & group
- Organize outing programs to public interest places
- Renovate residents of some SHG members those who are affected by Cyclone Nargis,

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3. Results

➢ Family members became main service provider;

➢ More schools are giving admission of disabled persons;

➢ More disabled people received quality health care services;

➢ Social life of disabled people are improved, actively involved in public activities;

➢ Some of disabled people are enabled and gain income, improved self esteem, become proud for their identity;

➢ Disabled people can access public interest places through outing programs;

➢ Disabled people are making decision not only for their life but also for their SHG which is ensure sustainability;

➢ Improved sense of belonging towards the community by disabled people which is never exist before;

➢ Promote awareness;

➢ Disability resources, literature resources, are more available for the Myanmar society now.

4. Conclusion

➢ In the Myanmar context, appropriate CBR program can be implemented successfully

➢ CBR is the best tool for grass roots inclusive development program not only for disabled people and their family but also for the community as a whole;

➢ A clear and new understanding of disability is one of the vital facts for successful, sustainable and effective CBR program

➢ According to current national plans for social protection for elderly persons, children, women and persons with disability, CBR can be used as the main methodology

Thank You for your attention.