The Invisibility of Disability

Why disability statistics matter

The lack of data and statistics on disability contributes to the invisibility of persons with disabilities. This presents an obstacle to achieving development planning and implementation to improve the lives and well-being of persons with disabilities.

1 BILLION PEOPLE LIVE WITH DISABILITY

1 OUT OF 7 HAS A DISABILITY

80% of persons with disabilities live in developing countries

150 million children (under the age of 18) have a disability

1/7 of the world’s population have a disability

80% of persons with disabilities live in developing countries

Why disability statistics matter

Primary school completion among persons with disabilities, 2002, 51 countries

150 million children (under the age of 18) have a disability

Employment rate of persons with and without disabilities, 2002/3, 51 countries

Social protection for persons with disabilities by type of programme and benefit, 2012/13, in 183 countries

GOAL 17 of the Sustainable Development Goals:

"Increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by disability" – Target 17.18

Support data collection and disability-inclusion

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Enable

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Invisibility of Disability

Having disability increases the cost of living by about a third of average income

Persons with and without disability who cannot afford health care, 2002/3, 51 countries

Countries with accessibility barriers in their online national portals, 2012, 193 countries

Part or full non-contributory scheme*

Contributory scheme only**

Only lump-sum disability benefits

No cash disability benefits

* Requires no direct contribution from beneficiaries or their employers. Their schemes are usually financed through taxes or other state revenues.

** Only provides persons with non-wage contributions during a qualifying period.


People with and without disabilities who cannot afford health care, 2002/3, 51 countries

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