

**In a world where over one billion people live with a disability,
nearly 80% of people with disabilities live in low-income countries.**

“Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, 2015

The links between disability, poverty and exclusion are irrefutable with people with disabilities often being disproportionately affected by natural or made-made crises and left out of humanitarian responses and development policies and programs.

Why is Handicap International promoting inclusion?

Handicap International is calling on humanitarian and development actors to ensure that disability inclusion is addressed as a core issue in their work. Despite existing legal frameworks and policies in favour of the inclusion of people with disabilities and most vulnerable people in humanitarian and development contexts, to date implementation remains insufficient with actions often overlooking their basic and specific needs.

Our advocacy objectives

Handicap International is an independent and impartial international aid organisation operating in situations of poverty and exclusion, conflict and disaster. We work alongside people with disabilities and vulnerable populations, taking action and bearing witness in order to respond to their essential needs, improve their living conditions and promote respect for their dignity and their fundamental rights.

Building on facts and field based work, Handicap International considers that a behavior change is crucial to ensure inclusion in humanitarian aid and development cooperation. The aim of our advocacy strategy is to persuade donors, policy and decision makers as well as development and humanitarian actors to develop, adopt and enforce policies and practices that ensure the inclusion and participation of people with disabilities and the most vulnerable and the promotion and protection of their rights.

What are Thematic Briefing Papers?

Using priorities outlined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities; the goals within the New Agenda for Sustainable Development; and our own expertise as our guide, the Thematic Briefing Papers in this pack have been created to provide information and guidance on key priority areas for disability inclusion:

- Inclusion in Emergencies
- Health
- Rehabilitation
- Education
- Disaster Risk Management (inc. DRR)
- SCOPEO (an impact measurement tool)
- Gender and Violence Against Women and Girls
- Livelihoods

Of course there are more areas that can and should be highlighted and Handicap International aim to produce more Briefing Papers in this series in the future.

Who should be reading these Thematic Briefing Papers?

The messages and recommendations contained in these briefing papers are for anyone working in a development and humanitarian context and are meant to provide a starting point for inclusion interventions.

- ▶ Donors
- ▶ State authorities
- ▶ Humanitarian and development actors
- ▶ Policy makers
- ▶ Program designers
- ▶ International Organizations (UN, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent and UN agencies)
- ▶ Disabled Peoples Organizations
- ▶ Mainstream and disability specific NGOs
- ▶ NGO and DPO Networks
- ▶ Media and Communications Agencies

For More Information on these Briefing Notes or any area of Handicap International’s work contact:
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