



The reports of World Health Organization and the World Bank in **2011**

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There are more than **1 billion** people with disability, an estimated at 15% of world population



Within this number there are approximately **100 million** children with disabilities under 5 years of age living in developing countries.

**This Activity (2017-2022) is guided by the philosophy of Disability Inclusive Development (DID) and the belief that no one should be left behind.**

**Goal:** To Improve and sustain the independent living and functional ability of persons with disabilities, regardless of factors such as age, sex, gender expression, ethnic origin, or indigenous status, and their households in Lao PDR by **utilizing a flexible two-tiered approach** that integrates **national systems and individual level interventions** within the three Activity components:



**HEALTH (Component 1)** Will be focused on supporting the Ministry of Health (MoH) to implement the National Rehabilitation Strategy and related Action Plan and improve access and increased utilization of quality healthcare-related rehabilitation services including diversified assistive products;



**ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT (Component 2)** Will be supporting non-profit associations (NPAs) in implementing Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID) in Savannakhet and Xieng Khouang; and launching a Disability Mainstreaming Advisory Service (DMAS) to meet the needs of technical and vocational training centers, health institutions, employers and others to improve the disability inclusion of their organizations and businesses.



**STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT (Component 3)** Will be focused on supporting the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare to implement the new Disability Law, National Disability Policy and related Strategy and Action Plan;

**Increasing community ownership of the disability inclusive development**

HI has an extensive experience in community based rehabilitation (CBR-now CBID) within communities. In 2019, HI will lead the implementation of a comprehensive approach of the **Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID)** to demonstrate the effectiveness at community level of both the Government of Laos (GoL) Disability Law, National Disability Policy and related strategy, and the National Rehabilitation Strategy.





**DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM**

- Currently in Lao PDR, persons with disabilities have limited access to basic services such as health, education and employment on equal basis as others
- This limited of access to basic services leads to reduced opportunities to contribute to the economic, social and cultural life of their families and communities
- The limited of inclusion of persons with disabilities in basic community services results in increased vulnerability and a continuation of the cycle of poverty, disability and exclusion
- Authorities and service providers in Lao PDR had limited resources needed to respond to local demands for service innovation and disability inclusive development (DID)
- Lao PDR ratified the UNCRPD on 25th October, 2009
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) for the period 2015-2030
- Newly adopted Lao Disability Law on the 10th December, 2018
- National Decree on persons with disabilities No:137/GoL, adopted on the 18th April, 2014



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**A FLEXIBLE TWO-TIERED APPROACH**

**National/system level-**

- Conduct research and mapping on the Lao national rehabilitation system (using WHO's STAR) and from the WHO Global Cooperation on Assistive Technology (GATE) list, decide the priority assistive technology list for Laos as per the priority targeted beneficiaries, establish product standards for the procurement of AT and stock management.
- Progressively integrate rehabilitation services across the healthcare continuum at each level of the health care system
- Support pre-service curriculum revision of doctors, nurses and social workers to include more robust content regarding Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)
- Support to TVETs to review their policies, environments and curricula in order to devise actions for improved inclusion and creation of the Business & Disability Network
- Technical support to formalize networking and collaboration among local organizations, other disability-focused organizations and other implementers.

**Community and personalized level-**

- Identification, training and engagement of disability idols and formation and capacity building of self-help groups in target communities
- Personalized assessments and action plans for people with disability in the community (CBID case management) and community-level awareness-raising and mobilization



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**SERVICE INNOVATION**

- Disability Mainstreaming Advisory Service, which will be formed and supported to teach, audit and support improved inclusion in TVETs, private businesses and other service providers
- Stakeholder engagement dialogue- organizing/facilitating workshops and discussions between service providers and people with disability
- Multi-stakeholder involvement in community-based inclusive development (CBID)
- Beneficiary and family-centered approach to intervention selection and implementation



**ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED THANKS TO:**

**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:**



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