

**Country Profile on  
Disability**

**KINGDOM OF NEPAL**

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# Country Profile on Disabilities Kingdom of Nepal

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## Abbreviations

AIDS	Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome
APROSC	Agricultural Projects Services Center
AWMR	Association for the Welfare of Mentally Retarded
BPEP	Basic Primary Education Program
CBR	Community based rehabilitation
CDO	Chief District Officer
CERID	Research Center for Educational Innovation and Development
CHD	Child Health Division
DANIDA	Danish International Development Agency
DDC	District Development Committee
EDCD	Epidemiology and Disease Control Division
EPI	Expanded Program on Immunization
FCHV	Female Community Health Volunteer
HRDC	Hospital and Rehabilitation Center for Disabled Children
LCD	Leprosy Control Center
MOE	Ministry of Education
NAB	National Association of the Blind
NADH	National Association of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
NAWB	Nepal Association for the Welfare of the Blind
NCASC	National Center for AIDS and STD Control
NCC	National Coordination Committee
NCWDP	National Committee for the Welfare of the Disabled Persons
NDA	Nepal Disabled Association
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
PHC	Primary Health Care
SGCP	Self-help Group for Cerebral Palsy
STD	Sexual Transmitted Disease
TBA	Traditional Birth Attendant
THKA	Tokyo Helen Keller Association
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VDC	Village Development Committee
WSHI	Welfare Society for Hearing Impairment

## 1. Basic Profile

### 1-1. Basic Indicators

#### Public Sector Expenditure<sup>1</sup>

Health	1.3%	1996-98
Education	3.2%	1997
Social welfare	28.9%	1998
Defense	0.8%	1997

#### Population<sup>1</sup>

Population (total)	23.9 million	2000
% of women	49.2%	2000
% of urban population	12%	1999
Life Expectancy <sup>2</sup> (total)	58.1	1999
Male	58.3	1999
Female	57.8	1999

#### Medical Care

Medical care personnel <sup>2</sup>		
Population/Doctor	25,000	1990-99
Population/Nurse & midwife	20,000	1992-95

<sup>1</sup> World Bank. World Development Report 2000-2001

<sup>2</sup> UNDP. Human Development Report 2001

**Education**

Education system <sup>3</sup>		
Primary education	5 year	
Compulsory education	5 year	
Adult literacy rate <sup>1</sup>		
Male	57%	1998
Female	22%	1998
Enrollment ratio <sup>3</sup>		
Primary education (Net enrollment ratio)		
Total	78%	1997
Male	79%	1995-99
Female	60%	1995-99
Primary education <sup>4</sup> (Gross enrollment ratio)		
Total	113%	1996
Male	129%	1996
Female	96%	1996
Secondary education (Net enrollment ratio)		
Total	55%	1997
Male	N/A	
Female	N/A	
Higher education <sup>4</sup> (Gross enrollment ratio)		
Total	5%	1996
Male	9%	1991
Female	3%	1991

<sup>3</sup> UNESCO. Statistical Yearbook 1999<sup>4</sup> USAID ESDS. GED2000 Retrieved February 21, 2002, from <http://qesdb.cdie.org/ged/index.html>

## 1-2. Indicators on Disability

**Disability-specific Data****Table 1: Disability-specific Data in 1980 and 1999**

Year	Physical disability	Visual impairment	Hearing impairment	Intellectual disability	Psychiatric disability	Overlapping
1980	34.4%	25.7%	33.4%	6.5%		-
	144.7	108.1	140.5	27.3		-
1999	28.5%	7.3%	13.0%	2.7%	4.1%	44.3%
	105.8	27.1	48.3	10.0	15.2	164.5

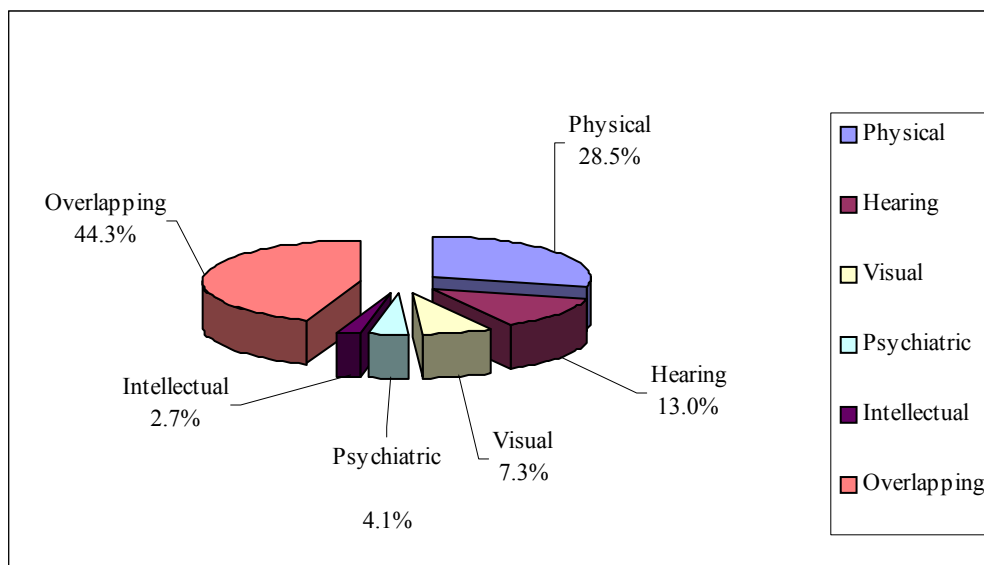
Note: \*Numbers are given in thousands and show the number of people with the disability.

\*Hearing disability includes both hearing and speaking disabilities.

Source: Report on Sample Survey of Disabled Persons in Nepal 1980, Katmandu.

A Situation Analysis on Disability in Nepal, 1999 (unpublished) Volume-I, National Planning Commission Secretariat, UNICEF, New ERA Ltd., 1999.

**Figure 1: Disability-specific Data**



**Age-specific Data**

**Table 2: Age-specific Data**

Age	Number of Persons with Disabilities (100%)	Physical disability	Visual impairment	Hearing impairment	Intellectual disability	Psychiatric disability	Overlapping
	Total (men/women)						
0-4	100%	26.8%	0.0%	13.4%	1.0%	0.0%	58.8%
	29.0 (19.7/9.3)	7.8 (5.7/2.1)	0.0 (0.0/0.0)	3.9 (2.7/1.2)	0.3 (0.0/0.3)	0.0 (0.0/0.0)	17.0 (11.3/5.7)
5-9	100%	24.5%	3.9%	9.8%	2.9%	0.0%	58.8%
	30.8 (16.2/14.6)	7.5 (4.2/3.3)	1.2 (0.6/0.6)	3.0 (2.2/0.8)	0.9 (0.3/0.6)	0.0 (0.0/0.0)	18.1 (10.7/7.4)
10-14	100%	38.1%	0.8%	4.2%	9.3%	0.0%	47.5%
	34.9 (20.1/14.8)	13.3 (7.7/5.6)	0.3 (0.0/0.8)	1.5 (0.7/0.7)	3.2 (1.7/1.5)	0.0 (0.0/0.0)	16.6 (8.3/8.3)
15-19	100%	26.4%	3.6%	8.2%	10.0%	1.8%	50.0%
	33.1 (15.4/17.7)	8.7 (6.0/2.7)	1.2 (0.3/0.9)	2.7 (0.6/2.1)	3.3 (2.2/1.1)	0.6 (0.0/0.6)	16.5 (9.9/6.6)
20-24	100%	27.4%	6.8%	10.9%	5.5%	6.8%	42.5%
	22.3 (12.1/10.2)	6.1 (4.3/1.8)	1.5 (0.3/1.2)	2.4 (0.9/1.5)	1.2 (0.6/0.6)	1.5 (0.9/0.6)	9.5 (3.4/6.1)
25-29	100%	21.0%	5.0%	9.2%	0.0%	9.2%	55.5%



Age	Number of Persons with Disabilities (100%)	Physical disability	Visual impairment	Hearing impairment	Intellectual disability	Psychiatric disability	Overlapping
	35.7 (19.3/16.4)	7.5 (2.9/4.6)	1.8 (1.2/0.6)	3.3 (1.8/1.5)	0.0 (0.0/0.0)	3.3 (2.7/0.6)	19.8 (10.5/9.3)
30-34	100%	27.4%	1.2%	13.1%	0.0%	9.5%	48.8%
	24.5 (11.9/12.6)	6.7 (3.5/3.2)	0.3 (0.3/0.0)	3.2 (1.1/2.1)	0.0 (0.0/0.0)	2.3 (1.4/0.9)	11.9 (5.5/6.4)
35-39	100%	22.8%	4.9%	13.9%	0.9%	8.9%	48.5%
	30.1 (17.6/12.5)	6.8 (5.7/1.1)	1.5 (0.3/1.2)	4.2 (2.1/2.1)	0.3 (0.3/0.0)	2.7 (1.8/0.9)	14.6 (7.4/7.2)
40-44	100%	29.3%	8.0%	21.3%	2.7%	1.3%	37.3%
	22.7 (10.7/12.0)	6.6 (3.5/3.1)	1.8 (0.9/0.9)	4.8 (1.9/2.8)	0.6 (0.6/0.0)	0.3 (0.0/0.3)	8.5 (3.6/4.9)
45-49	100%	31.6%	7.6%	16.5%	0.0%	5.1%	39.2%
	23.8 (12.1/11.7)	7.5 (3.6/3.9)	1.8 (1.2/0.6)	3.9 (2.4/1.5)	0.0 (0.0/0.0)	1.2 (0.7/0.5)	9.3 (3.9/5.4)
50-54	100%	31.1%	14.9%	14.9%	0.0%	6.7%	32.4%
	22.3 (9.2/13.1)	6.9 (4.0/2.9)	3.3 (1.8/1.5)	3.3 (0.7/2.6)	0.0 (0.0/0.0)	1.5 (0.3/1.2)	7.2 (2.3/4.9)
55-59	100%	42.3%	14.1%	16.7%	0.0%	3.8%	23.1%
	23.8 (10.4/13.3)	10.1 (4.6/5.5)	3.3 (1.8/1.5)	3.9 (1.5/2.4)	0.0 (0.0/0.0)	0.9 (0.3/0.6)	5.5 (2.1/3.4)
60-64	100%	25.3%	14.1%	22.5%	0.0%	2.8%	35.2%
	21.5 (12.3/9.2)	5.5 (3.4/2.1)	3.0 (1.5/1.5)	4.8 (2.7/2.1)	0.0 (0.0/0.0)	0.6 (0.0/0.6)	7.6 (4.9/2.7)
65-70	100%	30.2%	33.9%	20.8%	0.0%	0.0%	15.1%
	16.0 (9.4/6.6)	4.8 (3.3/1.5)	5.4 (2.1/3.3)	3.3 (2.4/0.9)	0.0 (0.0/0.0)	0.0 (0.0/0.0)	2.4 (1.4/1.0)
Total	100%	28.8%	7.9%	12.9%	2.9%	4.4%	43.1%
	371.4 (199.1/172.3)	105.8 (62.9/43.4)	27.1 (12.5/14.1)	48.3 (24.1/24.1)	10.0 (5.4/4.1)	15.2 (8.4/7.2)	164.5 (85.8/79.3)

Note: \*Figures are given in thousands.

Source: A Situation Analysis on Disability in Nepal, 1999 (unpublished).

### Area-specific Data

Table 3: Area-specific Data by Type of Disability

Area	Number of Persons with Disabilities (100%)	Physical disability	Visual impairment	Hearing impairment	Intellectual disability	Psychiatric disability	Over-lapping

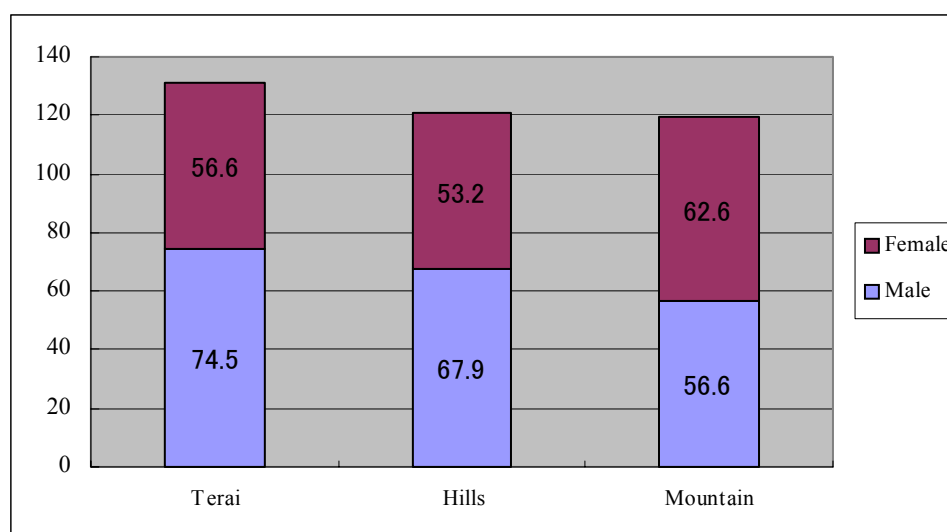
Area	Number of Persons with Disabilities (100%)	Physical disability	Visual impairment	Hearing impairment	Intellectual disability	Psychiatric disability	Over-lapping
	Total (men/women)						
Terai	100%	28.4%	8.9%	12.8%	2.3%	2.9%	44.6%
	131.1 (74.5/56.6)	37.2 (23.0/14.2)	11.7 (5.4/6.3)	16.8 (6.9/9.9)	3.0 (2.1/0.9)	3.8 (2.3/1.5)	58.5 (39.0/19.5)
Hills	100%	31.5%	4.7%	9.9%	2.9%	5.4%	45.6%
	121.1 (67.9/53.2)	38.4 (24.1/14.3)	5.7 (2.7/2.9)	11.9 (5.8/6.1)	3.5 (2.0/1.5)	6.5 (2.9/3.5)	55.2 (29.9/25.3)
Mountain	100%	26.4%	8.0%	16.1%	3.0%	4.0%	42.5%
	119.2 (56.6/62.6)	31.3 (15.6/15.6)	9.5 (4.6/4.9)	19.2 (11.1/8.1)	3.6 (2.1/1.5)	4.8 (2.4/2.4)	50.7 (20.7/30.0)

Note: \*Figures are given in thousands.

\*The country is divided horizontally in three ecological belts based on geographical characteristics namely, plains or Terai, hills and mountainous regions.

Source: A Situation Analysis on Disability in Nepal, 1999 (unpublished).

**Figure 2: Number of Persons with Disabilities by Region and Gender**



#### Grade-specific Data

**Table 4: Grade-specific Data for Intellectually Disabled**

	Mild	Moderate	Severe
Intellectually disabled	26.0%	45.0%	29.0%

Note: the grade specific information is not available for other types of disabilities.

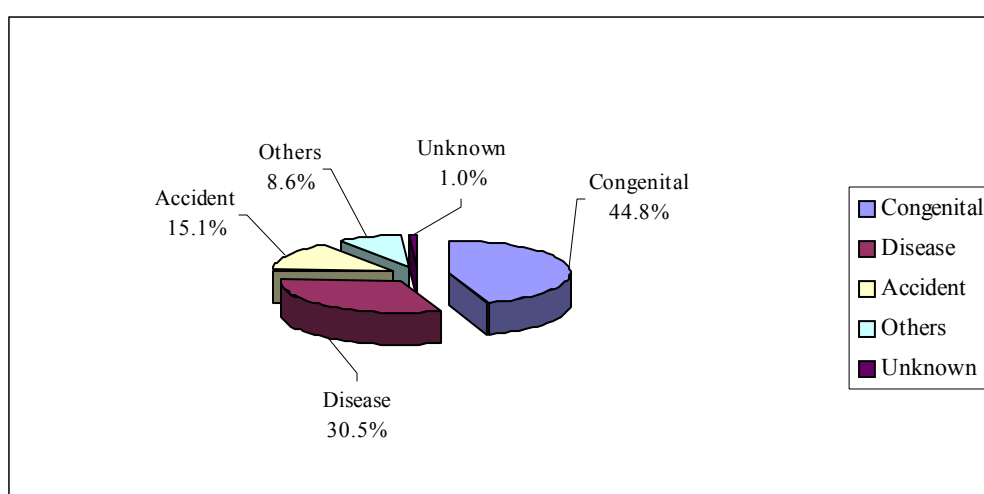
Source: Disabled Situation Analysis of Nepal 1998, Main Report, Agricultural Projects Services (APROSC).

**Cause-specific Data**

**Table 5: Cause-specific Data for all Types of Disabilities**

Congenital	Disease	Accident	Others	Don't know
44.6%	30.3%	15.4%	8.6%	1.0%

**Figure 3: Cause-specific Data**



**Table 6: Cause-specific Data by Types of Disabilities**

	Congenital	Disease	Accident	Others	Unknown
Physical 100%	27.3%	36.0%	25.5%	11.1%	0.0%
Visual 100%	10.4%	16.9%	10.4%	9.4%	7.3%
Hearing 100%	57.4%	26.4%	4.7%	10.9%	0.6%
Intellectual 100%	53.9%	35.3%	4.9%	3.9%	1.9%

Source: A Situation Analysis on Disability in Nepal, 1999

**Gender-specific Data**

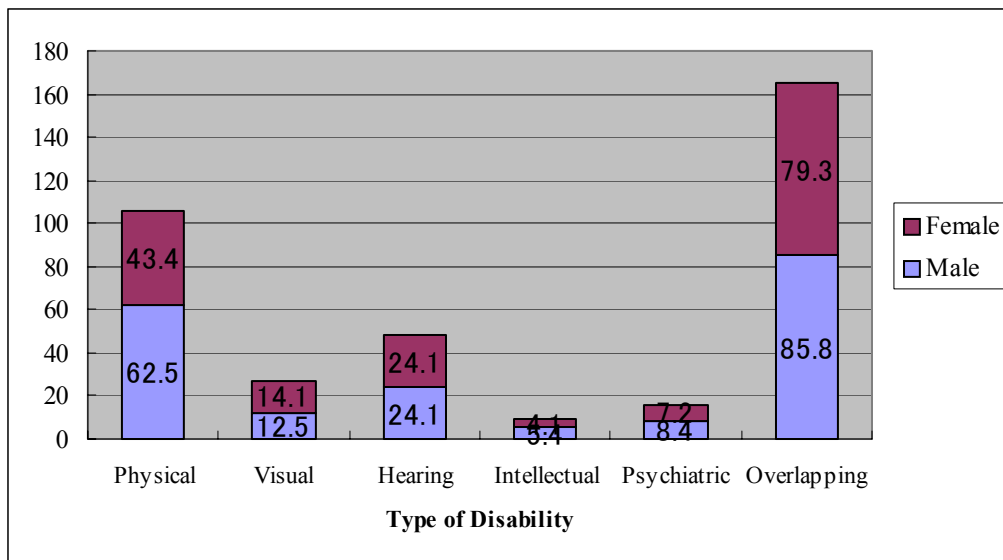
**Table 7: Number of Persons with Disabilities by Gender and Types Disabilities**

	Total	Physical	Visual	Hearing	Intellectual	Psychiatric	Overlapping
Male	199.1	62.5	12.5	24.1	5.4	85.8	85.8
Female	172.3	43.4	14.1	24.1	4.1	79.3	79.3

Notes: \*Numbers are given in thousands

Source: A Situation Analysis on Disability in Nepal, 1999 (unpublished) Volume-I, National Planning Commission Secretariat, UNICEF, New ERA Ltd., 1999.

**Figure 4: Gender-specific Data**



## 2. Issues on Disability

### 2-1. Definition of Disability in Nepal

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#### **Definition of Disability by the Government**

The Nepalese constitution defines persons with disabilities as persons who are mentally or physically unable or incompetent to lead a normal life. The term includes persons whose mobility is impaired, who suffer from spinal curvature, have visually impaired in one or both eyes, have hearing impairment, are unable to speak properly, or whose hands, legs, or fingers are impaired or missing.

A person with any disability; including the amputation or paralysis of both legs; amputation of both hands; blindness, or inability to work due to impaired vision; amputation or paralysis of one leg; inability to walk, requiring the use of a wheelchair, hearing impairment, or intellectual disability. However, persons who are in need of continuous support from others to perform daily activities due to the aforementioned disability (or disabilities) are defined as “acute handicapped”.

Different studies have defined disability classification in their own context. However, the standard Person with Disabilities definition the Government has adopted and approved under the committee formed under sub-section (2) of the Protection and Welfare of Disabled Persons Act, 2039<sup>5</sup> is defined as follows:

- 1. Physical Disability:** A person who is unable to perform the activities of daily life due to physical deficiency, defect or deformity by birth, or by accident after birth, or due to disease
- 2. Visually Impaired:** A person who even after treatment (medical, surgical or use of spectacles) cannot count or detect fingers with the better-sighted eye from a distance of ten feet ‘or cannot read the characters of the Snellen chart (3/60)<sup>6</sup> is defined as “blind”

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<sup>5</sup> Nepal follows its own calendar, Bikram Sambat. The New Year begins in mid-April. According to this system, Bikram Sambat 2039 is 1982-1983.

<sup>6</sup> The Snellen chart is a chart for testing visual acuity, usually consisting of letters, numbers, or pictures printed in lines of decreasing size, which a patient is asked to read or identify at a fixed distance. (From The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language: Fourth Edition. 2000)

and those defined “visually impaired” are those persons who, even after treatment (medical, surgical or use of spectacles), cannot count or detect fingers with the better-sighted eye from a distance of twenty feet, or cannot read the characters on the Snellen chart (6/18).

3. **Intellectual Disability:** A person who cannot perform the activities expected of his/her age and environment due to the lack of mental development prior to the age of 18 years.
4. **Hearing Impaired:** A person who cannot hear, speak clearly or cannot speak at all and has to use sign language for communication with a hearing capacity of 80 decibels or less is defined “deaf”, whereas those who cannot hear properly, speak clearly or can only speak very little, or requires a hearing aid and have a hearing capacity between 65 to 80 decibels is defined as “hearing impaired”.
5. **Mental Disease:** A person who is unable to perform the activities of daily life due to mental deficiency, defect or deformity by birth, by accident after birth, or by disease.

#### **Definition by Other Studies**

Previous studies have used different criteria for defining disability and have defined it in their own context. Other definitions associated with various studies are given below.

##### **1. 1971 Census, Central Bureau of Statistics, 1971**

The 1971 census referred to the Person with Disabilities population in Nepal as the "economically inactive" population due to “physical disability.” This definition included four types of disability: blindness, deafness, deaf-mute, or other physical impairment. This study indicated a national disability rate of 1.50%.

##### **2. Report on Sample Survey of Disabled Persons in Nepal, 1980**

This study defined persons with disabilities as those who by virtue of congenital disease, acquired diseases, or injury, are incapable of living an independent personal or social life, or engaging in gainful employment, or acquiring normal education consistent with his/her age or sex. Each category was further classified into four sub-types as follows:

- a. Visual Disability: blind, visually handicapped, one eye blind and one eye visually handicapped.
- b. Auditory Disability: deaf, hearing impaired, and deaf-mute
- c. Physical Disabilities:
  - a) Upper Limb Disability: arm lost, arm crippled, finger lost

- b) Lower Limb Disability: leg lost, leg crippled
- c) Head, neck or spinal disability
- d. Mental Disability: severe, moderate, and borderline

This national study indicated the prevalence of disability to be 3% in the total population.

### 3. Disabled People of Nepal, 1995 CERID/SED/BPEP/DANIDA<sup>7</sup> Study

This study classified disabilities into 5 categories: hearing, visual, physical, mental and intellectual. This classification was based on identification by household members. This study indicated a prevalence of 4.55% in 8 districts.

### 4. Disabled Situation Analysis of Nepal 1998, APROSC<sup>8</sup>

This study classified the following types of disabilities:

- a. Poor eyesight, blindness, night blindness and single-eye blindness
- b. Hearing impairment, ear disease, poor hearing and deafness
- c. Speech problems, unclear voice
- d. Physical disability, paralysis, absence of organ, deformity
- e. Epilepsy, development delay
- f. Multiple disabilities

### 5. A Situation Analysis on Disability in Nepal, 1999, New ERA (unpublished)

This study considered any person who could not perform the daily activities of normal life expected of a person of his/her specific age, or who required special care, support and rehabilitation services. The following table gives a detailed classification of disabilities in this analysis.

**Table 8: Classifications of Disabilities**

<b>Communication Disabilities</b>	<b><u>Visual Disability:</u></b>	<b><u>Hearing Impaired:</u></b>	<b><u>Speech impairment:</u></b>
	A person who, even after treatment, can not count fingers (both) from a distance of ten feet (3 meters), and who is	A person who can not hear ordinary voices with both ears from a distance	A person who can not speak at all, or a person who can not be understood

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<sup>7</sup> CERID: Research Center for Education Innovation and Development, BPEP: Basic and Primary Education Project, DANIDA: Danish International Development Agency

<sup>8</sup> APROSC: Agricultural Projects Services Center

	considered functionally visually impaired	of one meter	outside the family
<b>Locomotion Disabilities</b>	<b><u>Mobility Impairment:</u></b> A person who is unable to perform the daily activities of life due to a physical deficiency, defect or deformity in the lower limbs	<b><u>Manipulation (Working) Disability:</u></b> A person who is unable to perform the daily activities of life due to a physical deficiency, defect or deformity in the upper limbs	
<b>Mentally Related Disabilities</b>	<b><u>Intellectual Disability:</u></b> A person who is unable to perform activities or to learn new tasks typical of their age and environment due to delayed mental development prior to the age of 18 years. Under this classification, two categories are included: a) persons who can manage the daily activities of life with the help of training and b) persons who cannot manage daily activities (such as eating, dressing, speaking and going to the toilet, despite training.	<b><u>Epilepsy:</u></b> A person who suffers from frequent attacks of unconsciousness and shows symptoms of tongue biting, frothing from the mouth, shivering, and inconsistent speech	<b><u>Chronic mental illness:</u></b> A person who, after 18 years of age, has some mental instability including symptoms such as unprovoked anger or elation, crying without reason, or isolation from others
<b>Complex Disabilities</b>	<b><u>overlapping:</u></b> A person who has more than one type of disability	<b><u>Cerebral Palsy:</u></b> A person who has some damage in the immature brain leading to physical incapacity Some cases involve intellectual disabilities.	

## 2-2. Current Situation<sup>9</sup>

The recent study on the Situation Analysis on Disability 1999 (unpublished) indicated that the service centers and the organizations for Persons with Disabilities are concentrated in the accessible locations of the country. Thus, Persons with Disabilities in remote areas are deprived of services.

### 1. Registration system

The Village Development Committee (VDC) is required to register all Persons with Disabilities. This registration is done in order to distribute disability allowance. However, there are complaints that some Persons with Disabilities are not registered despite several requests. This is perhaps due to confusion on the definition of Persons with Disabilities for the purpose of registration.

<sup>9</sup> This chapter is based on the local consultant's views in *A Situation Analysis on Disability in Nepal, 1999* (unpublished)



A person with disabilities identification card provision program has been launched to enable the provision of proper services for persons with disabilities. However, when issuing identification cards, problems similar to those with the registration system have arisen.

Although, a person with disabilities registration system to distribute disability allowances exists, there are no fixed registration guidelines and disability allowances do not reach all those who require it. Parallel to the newly launched persons with disabilities identification card provision program, efforts should be made to accurately register all persons with disabilities, and the registration system should be reformed so that the necessary services are provided. Revision and publicity on persons with disabilities definitions would be the basis of registration and training of registration staff of Village Development Committees (VDC). At the same time, public relations to promote Person with Disabilities registration and the provision of means by which persons with disabilities can register are important for realizing this objective.

2. General Concept Towards Person with Disabilities

There is still a strong belief in Nepal that disability is due to sins of the past, fate and God. More than 50 % of the parents of persons with disabilities surveyed answered that the disability of their child was due to fate and God's will. These beliefs prevent them from accessing appropriate health care treatment for their disabled children.

3. Poverty

As pregnant women in low-income groups are deprived of nutritious food and proper health services, their children are at higher risk of being born with disabilities.

4. Lack of Opportunities in Rural Area

Although attempts have been made to provide job opportunities for persons with disabilities in offices and factories, there are many rural persons with disabilities who are deprived of information and services. Only a few persons with disabilities have received vocational training and have been able to utilize their skills to generate income. Rehabilitation services are also centrally focused, and persons with disabilities in rural areas experience difficulties in accessing rehabilitation services.

5. Treatment

A recent study, *A Situation Analysis on Disability*, found that 28.5% of Persons with Disabilities have never received any treatment. Among those who had sought treatment approximately 30 % replied that they had been to faith healers. The general practice in rural areas is to first visit faith healers and to visit health personnel if things do not improve.

6. Education

According to the study *A Situation Analysis on Disability in Nepal*, 68.2 % of persons with disabilities in Nepal have no education. Among the disabled male population, 59.6 % have no education, while 77.7 % of disabled females have no education. However, the special education unit (MOE) has been promoting special education among school-aged children.

Among the Persons with Disabilities from 6-20 years old, 43.7 % have never enrolled in school and the drop out rate is around 30%. Nearly half of all children with disabilities have not been able to benefit from education services. The high drop-out rate is said to result from inability of children with disabilities to perform as well as other children.

7. Problems faced by Persons with Disabilities in the Community

The study: *Situation Analysis on Disability in Nepal, 1999* indicated that 70% of Persons with Disabilities could not lead a dignified life as they were mocked and isolated. It found that even their participation in community gatherings was a big problem. Persons with disabilities also felt discriminated against in the workplace.

8. Accessibility

9. Priority on the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997 – 2002)

Policies given in the Ninth Five Year Plan are priority issues for person with disabilities welfare in Nepal. These are the provision of free medical, educational and vocational training services; partnership between person with disabilities-related ministries and organizations, improving person with disabilities facilities, data management, Person

with disabilities employment measures, promoting production of assistive devices and the development of communication tools and media programs.

#### 10. Improving rural area accessibility

Nepalese persons with disabilities in rural areas have limited access to services and organizational activities. In particular, the lack of access to employment, treatment, low-interest loans, facilities and organizations, as well as lack of opportunities to participate in the community has been identified. In order to improve access to these services and facilities, measures must be taken to remove physical barriers, increase services and facilities in rural areas and strengthen publicity efforts towards persons with disabilities.

### 2-3. Documentation and Survey on Disability

#### National Census

【Title】	National Census
【Last published】	2001 (published every 10 years)
【Items regarding with Disability】	Information on the prevalence and types (classification) of disabilities was collected. This was the first time that the National Census dealt with questions on disability and persons with disabilities.

#### Other Surveys

【Title】	A Situation Analysis on Disability in Nepal (unpublished)
【Last published】	1999
【Description】	<p>The first large-scale survey on the situation analysis on disability was conducted by New ERA under the support of the National Planning Commission, Social Welfare Council and UNICEF. This is the only national level information to date.</p> <p>The overall objective of this study was to develop a comprehensive definition of all kinds of disabilities, as well as obtain nation-wide data and information about the situation of persons with disabilities in Nepal. The study assessed the magnitude of various types of disabilities according to sex and age. It explored the conditions of persons with disabilities, such as social and economic participation, access to education, health care and public attitude towards persons with disabilities. The study also reviewed existing legislation concerning persons with disabilities in Nepal</p>