

Summary Report on the Regional Workshop
on Promoting Disability Data Collection
through the 2010 Population and Housing Censuses

Bangkok, 8-10 April 2008

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Summary:

The *Regional Workshop on Promoting Disability Data Collection through the 2010 Population and Housing Censuses* was organized in collaboration with United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). It was held under the United Nations Development Account project *Improvement of disability measurement and statistics in support of the Biwako Millennium Framework and Regional Census Programme*. The workshop took place at the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), Bangkok, Thailand, from 8 to 10 of April 2008.

This workshop advocated for the ICF-based approach to disability data collection and provided practical training on the implementation of the global census recommendations on disability. The 2010 Population and Housing Censuses provide a critical opportunity for improving disability statistics in many countries in this region. The objectives of the workshop were: (i) to further advocate the ICF-based approach to disability data collection through practical training on census data collection and compilation based on the *United Nations Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*; and (ii) to serve as an important opportunity to identify specific country needs for support in both the census and survey-based data collection.

The regional training event brought together over 50 representatives from the ESCAP region, including representatives from two UNECE countries: Kazakhstan and Tajikistan (funded through the UNECE Development Account). Representatives were from National Statistical Offices as well as disability user groups. Involving both users and producers of disability data was key in furthering the development of the disability survey instrument as concerns of both groups could be addressed.

The workshop also served as an opportunity to identify country needs for support in both census- and survey-based disability data collection. As the statistical capacity of countries present varied, it was important for the organizers to understand the different level and necessary inputs for further projects.

Over the course of the training, participants were actively participating in the meeting and engaged in the dialogues that took place. The inclusion of the role of advocacy in the agenda proved to be very successful.

For more information on the training event, please see the attached Evaluation Report prepared by ESCAP.

Next steps:

The ESCAP Development Account project is planning to select six pilot countries to carry out their project. During the course of the meeting, the Tajik participants expressed interest in being one of the pilot countries. ESCAP has a Task Team of nine members, who are responsible for the development and implementation of the project. The Task Team is in the process of reviewing eligible countries and selecting those that will be included in their pilot project.

The Steering Committee involves five organizations, 2 member countries, and 2 experts. UNECE is a member of the Steering Committee and continues to contribute substantial to the project. At this time, we are encouraging the Steering Committee to include Tajikistan as a pilot test country.

For more information on the Work Plan of the Task Team, please see the attached Work Plan.