



**UiO** : Department of Political Science  
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# Disability Rights and Development

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# Development for whom?

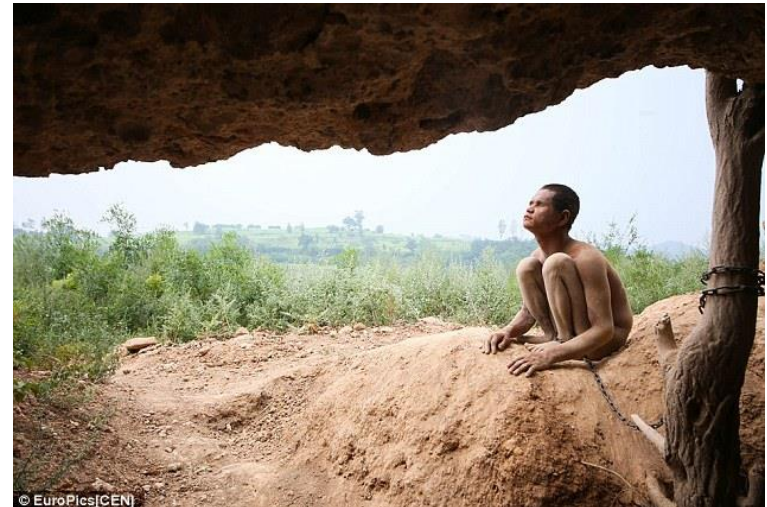
1. Disability, rights, development and poverty – a story of exclusion
2. The CRPD and efforts towards inclusion

## Examples/videos

- Ghana <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tba60G1oVlw> (2:33)
- Paraguay <https://vimeo.com/26781518> (5:17)

Picture from China

Read the story: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2406853/Chinese-father-chains-blind-mentally-ill-son-cave-losing-home.html>



- 1 billion persons in the world live with a disability (15% of the world's population)
- 80% live in developing countries
- Account for more than 20% of the world's poorest people

## Development statistics

- Infant mortality rate of up to 80% in certain countries
- In some countries less than 2% of the persons with disabilities attend school
- The unemployment rate among disabled persons in the US is about 80%
- In Norway, the US and Canada disabled children are 2-3 times more likely to be sexually abused

Table 1. Percentage of persons who completed primary school

	Low-income countries		High-income countries		Ratio Low-income	Ratio High-income
	Not disabled	Disabled	Not disabled	Disabled		
Male	55.6	45.6*	72.3	61.7*	0.82	0.85
Female	42	32.9*	72	59.3*	0.78	0.82

*Data from the WHO and World Bank, 2011*

Table 2. Percentage of persons who sought health care, but did not get it

	Low-income countries		High-income countries		Ratio Low-income	Ratio High-income
	Not disabled	Disabled	Not disabled	Disabled		
Male	4.6	6.6*	2.8	3.3	0.7	0.84
Female	4.8	6.1	1.8	4.6*	0.78	0.39

*Data from the WHO and World Bank, 2011*

## A story of exclusion

- Among the most marginalised
- Traditionally received little attention within the existing Human Rights and Development frameworks
- Prior to the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in 2006, discrimination based on disability lacked explicit protection in international human rights treaties



## A story of exclusion

- Only 5% of all World Bank schemes contain a disability component
- Only a minority of Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers involve persons with disabilities or take their perspectives into account
- Around 1,2% of NORAD's total aid budget went to facilitating the inclusion of persons with disabilities

## Does it matter? Is not excluding the same as including?

- Equity gaps, further marginalization and exclusion
- You have to ask yourself who the poor are and who are excluded from going to school. It is rarely a coincidence who it is that have their human rights violated.
- A close link between disability, poverty and marginalization
- It is now acknowledged that it is not possible to achieve development goals without including persons with disabilities.

# SDGs

# Convention on the Rights of Persons of Disabilities (CRPD)

- One of the core international human rights instruments
- Adopted in 2006, entered into force in 2008
- Purpose: “promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities, and to promote respect for their inherent dignity” (Art.1)
- Specifies human rights for persons with disabilities
- A strong development focus



## CRPD and Optional Protocol Signatures and Ratifications

Not Signed    
  Signed Convention    
  Signed Convention & Protocol    
  Ratified Convention    
  Ratified Convention & Protocol

1. NETHERLANDS
2. SWITZERLAND
3. LUXEMBOURG
4. DENMARK
5. LIECHTENSTEIN
6. BELGIUM
7. JAPAN
8. SLOVAKIA
9. LITHUANIA
10. BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
11. ICELAND
12. JAPAN
13. ALBANIA
14. THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
15. MOLDOVA
16. ROMANIA
17. SLOVENIA
18. MALDIVES
19. MALDIVES

- 156 signatories to the Convention
- 91 signatories to the Optional Protocol
- 133 ratifications and accessions to the Convention
- 77 ratifications and accessions to the Optional Protocol

Note:  
The European Union, a regional integration organization, is a State party to the Convention.  
The Cook Islands, a non-member State of the United Nations, is a State party to the Convention.

*The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.*

*Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.*

*Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.*

*\*\*Appears without prejudice to the question of sovereignty.*

*\*\*\*A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).*

*The letters in parentheses refer to the administering Power or the Power involved in a special treaty relationship.*

# Models of understanding disability

CHARITY MODEL	MEDICAL MODEL	SOCIAL MODEL	HUMAN RIGHTS MODEL
<p>Disabled persons are to be pitied.</p> <p>Good morals and good deeds require us to give money and help the less fortunate.</p>	<p>The disabled must be «fixed» or taken care of by medical personnel.</p> <p>Focus on the impairment and not on the person with the impairment</p>	<p>People become disabled because of the way society is organised.</p> <p>Focus on the individual human being and social barrierers.</p>	<p>Strong similarities to the social model.</p> <p>Focus on the individual and social barriers , and the need for accommodation</p> <p>It is a state <i>duty</i> to take active steps in order to ensure that persons with disabilities enjoy the same rights in <i>practice</i>.</p>

## The CRPD as a development convention

- First HR Convention that makes inclusive development an explicit obligation
- The preamble of the CRPD makes reference to international cooperation and the importance of including persons with disabilities in all stages of development assistance, and explicitly acknowledges the close link between disability and poverty

# The CRPD as a development convention

## Article 32 - International cooperation

1. States Parties recognize the importance of international cooperation and its promotion, in support of national efforts for the realization of the purpose and objectives of the present Convention, and will undertake appropriate and effective measures in this regard [...] Such measures could include, inter alia:

(a) Ensuring that international cooperation, **including international development programmes, is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities**



## **Key «development» articles, CRPD**

Guiding principles: policies must be catered towards ensuring the full and effective participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities in society, make all development programs accessible, and make sure that the inherent dignity of the person with disability is ensured at all times

## Key «development» articles, CRPD

General obligations: state parties must take into account the “protection and promotion of the human rights of persons with disabilities in *all policies and programmes*” and they must *actively involve* persons with disabilities (Art 4.3).

## Key «development» articles, CRPD

- Art.8 Awareness-raising
- Art.9 Accessibility
- Art.11 Situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies
- Art.12 Equal recognition before the law (legal capacity)
- Art.28 Adequate standard of living

- Disability inclusive development now a goal for many development agencies.
- A shift in attitudes and awareness
- Problem: implementation

## Group discussion

Discuss how to include persons with disabilities in development programmes on education. How could or should it be done? What are the challenges you might meet?

INSPIRED BY A PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT WITH DISABILITIES

