

# DiD



**Disability & International Development Week**  
**5-11 June 2008**



## **DiD you know?**

Around 10 per cent of the world's population, or 650 million people, live with a disability. 80 per cent of people with disabilities live in developing countries. Disability and International Development (DiD) Week aims to raise awareness of the importance of disability issues within international development through a series of seminars, an exhibition and other events.

**Dochas**

The Irish Association of Non-Governmental Development Organisations

People with disabilities, their families and carers are, and continue to be, some of the most excluded people in the world. People with disabilities are the world's largest minority, yet disability as an issue has, until recently, been left off the mainstream development agenda to such an extent that Perez de Cuellar, a former UN Secretary General described it as 'the silent emergency'. Most people with disabilities and their families live below the poverty line, exposed to all kinds of social exclusion and discrimination.



Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has hailed the entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) as 'a new dawn in the fight for the well-being of people with disabilities'. In his address, Ban said 'we must address the glaring inequalities experienced by persons with disabilities. We must counter discrimination and prejudice. We must deliver development that is truly for all.'



# Programme of Events

Date	Activity	Venue
<p><b>Thursday</b> 5 June 9.30am – 1.30pm</p>	<p><b>Launch seminar:</b> The week will be officially launched by Dr Maurice Manning, Chair of the Irish Human Rights Commission.</p> <p>This will include the launch of a survey commissioned by the Dochas Disability &amp; International Development Group into what work, if any, is being carried out by INGOs around disability. Speakers include Gerard Quinn from NUI Galway who will speak on the UN Convention on Disability and Rosangela Berman Bieler, a human rights activist and campaigner from Brazil, among others.</p> <p>cbm Ireland will present a practical guide on how to integrate disability in development planning.</p> <p><b>On-going Photographic Exhibition</b></p>	<p>Irish Aid Centre</p>
<p><b>Friday</b> 6 June 10.30am– 12.30pm</p>	<p><b>Panel Discussion – Making Development Inclusive:</b> A panel of experts led by ISI will present different perspectives on how development can be made inclusive, followed by a lively Q&amp;A session.</p> <p><b>On-going Photographic Exhibition</b></p>	<p>Davis Theatre, Arts Block, Trinity College Dublin (TCD)</p> <p>Irish Aid Centre</p>

Date	Activity	Venue
<b>Saturday</b> 7 June	<b>On-going Photographic Exhibition</b>	Irish Aid Centre
<b>Monday</b> 9 June 3pm–5pm	<b>Afternoon Screening:</b> Documentary on the lives and aspirations of persons living with spinal cord injury in Nepal (20 mins), Creature Discomforts, from the makers of Wallace & Gromit (16 mins)  <b>On-going Photographic Exhibition</b>	Irish Aid Centre
<b>Tuesday</b> 10 June 2.30–5.00pm	<b>Networking and Linkages Workshop:</b> John Grooms, the Disability Federation of Ireland (DFI) and Spinal Injuries Ireland will lead a workshop exploring ways that Irish organisations can strengthen links with partners in developing countries through effective networking and collaboration.  <b>On-going Photographic Exhibition</b>	Irish Aid Centre
<b>Wednesday</b> 11 June 4.30pm–5.30pm	<b>On-going Photographic Exhibition</b>  <b>Closing Ceremony</b>	Irish Aid Centre

**Photographic Exhibition:** The photographic exhibition sponsored by Sightsavers International, seeks to depict the broad reality of disability in the developing world, ranging from issues such as inclusive education, social inclusion, community rehabilitation, capacity building, and sustainable livelihoods. Photographs are provided by Irish NGOs that work with people with disabilities throughout the developing world.

For more detailed information on the programme of events see [www.dochas.ie](http://www.dochas.ie)

## Did you know?

- Did you know?** Women and girls with disabilities are particularly vulnerable to abuse. A 2004 survey in Orissa, India, found that virtually all of the women and girls with disabilities were beaten at home, 25 per cent of women with intellectual disabilities had been raped and 6 per cent of women with disabilities had been forcibly sterilized.
- Did you know?** Comparative studies on disability legislation show that only 45 countries have anti-discrimination and other disability-specific laws.
- Did you know?** Disability rates are significantly higher among groups with lower educational attainment in the countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), says the OECD Secretariat. On average, 19 per cent of less educated people have disabilities, compared to 11 per cent among the better educated.
- Did you know?** The global literacy rate for adults with disabilities is as low as 3 per cent; and 1 per cent for women with disabilities, according to a UNDP study.
- Did you know?** **The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** received its 20th ratification on 3 April 2008, and entered into international legal force on 3 May 2008. This marks a major milestone in the effort to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, and to promote respect for their inherent dignity.

**Ireland has yet to ratify the Convention!**

## Who can come along?

The week is aimed at individuals and organisations that have an interest in learning about global disability issues. We welcome representatives, staff and volunteers of international NGOs, Irish disabled people's organisations and associations, public representatives, universities, students and the wider public.

## Who is organising the week?

The week is being organised by the **Dóchas Disability and International Development Working Group** – a coalition of national and international NGOs working or interested in the field of disability and development. Working together with a shared mission and common objectives, the group aims to advance the debate around disability and development, and to work towards the inclusion of disability as a key component of development planning, funding and delivery.

Member organisations include Dóchas, Sightsavers International, The Centre for Global Health (CGH-TCD), cbm Ireland, International Service Ireland (ISI), Health Action Overseas (HAO), Comber Romanian Orphanage Appeal, the Disability Federation of Ireland (DFI), Center for International Rehabilitation (CIR), John Grooms & The Kimmage Development Studies Centre, DTalk.

Dóchas is the Association of 39 Irish Non-Governmental Development Organisations. For more information visit [www.dochas.ie](http://www.dochas.ie).

**At the Irish Aid Volunteering and Information Centre, 27–31 Upper O'Connell St., Dublin 1 [www.irishaid.gov.ie/centre](http://www.irishaid.gov.ie/centre)**

**Why not come along and visit us during the week and participate in one of the events.**

**More information!** If you would like more information on the week please e-mail us at [rcoleman@sightsavers.ie](mailto:rcoleman@sightsavers.ie) or [aleavy@is-ireland.ie](mailto:aleavy@is-ireland.ie) See also [www.dochas.ie](http://www.dochas.ie)