Biography of Experts

United Nations Expert Group Meeting co-organized by the Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD) of DESA and by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Disability data and statistics, monitoring and evaluation: the way forward, a disability inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond

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Experts

Mr. Reg Brennenraedts

Reg Brennenraedts is an experienced researcher and consultant in the field of telecommunications and information strategy. Specific topics of his interest are: NGA networks, Wi-Fi, Internet policy, Big Data and innovative ways of data collection. Within these topics, he mainly performs analysis in the areas of strategy, policy, forecasting, partnering and finance. In addition to these activities, Reg is interested and active in the field of innovation policy. In the past decade Reg has successfully completed over 100 projects. Especially the Dutch public sector makes great use of his knowledge and expertise. Clients include: Ministries (Interior, Economic Affairs), OPTA / ACM, the provinces of Friesland, Gelderland, Limburg, Noord-Brabant, Noord-Holland, Overijssel and Utrecht and many municipalities. Other Dutch organizations Reg served include TenneT, Enexis, Alliander, Ziggo, Het Innovation Platform, ICT~Office, Platform Beta techniek, NWO, BOM, STW, TNO, Utrecht University and CinemaDigitaal.nl. He also worked for international organizations such as the World Bank, OECD, European Commission and the Conference Board. In addition to his project work is Reg partner at Dialogic. In this role, he is responsible for both the daily management and the strategic direction of this company of approximately 25 employees. In addition he is a board member of KIVI (Royal Dutch Institute of Engineers) Telecommunications Department.

Reg (1978) was born and raised in South Limburg in The Netherlands and studied in Eindhoven. Here he completed three studies: Electrical Engineering, Industrial Engineering and Innovation Sciences. Later in his career he completed an international MBA with a specialization in finance at TiasNimbas.

Ms. Arne Henning Eide

Arne H Eide is Chief Scientist at SINTEF Technology and Society and Professor in rehabilitation at Sør-Trøndelag University College, both Norway, and Visiting Professor at Stellenbosch University, Rehabilitation Research Centre, South Africa. He has long experience in research on disability and poverty, community based rehabilitation and studies on living conditions in low-income countries, and has been responsible for the implementation of eight national studies on living conditions among people with disabilities in southern Africa over the last 12 years. He has also carried out disability research in the Middle East and in several countries in South-East Asia. In Norway, Eide has been involved in disability and service delivery research over the last 15 years, and is currently particularly involved in research on participation in home-based care and in transition for students with disability from education to professional work. Eide has been engaged as Expert in WHO
meetings on Disability statistics and on Provision of Assistive devices to low-income countries.

**Mr. Michael Fembek**

After graduating from the Vienna University of Economics, Michael Fembek (born 1961) joined GEWINN, an Austrian business magazine, serving between 2000 and 2007 as editor-in-chief. In 2009 he initiated “Sinnstifter”, a project by Austrian philanthropists, and started the Austrian CSR-Yearbook. In 2010 he joined the Essl Foundation as programme manager with the Zero Project and the Essl Social Prize as its outstanding projects - and the bauMax group as its head of social affairs.

**Ms. Nora Groce**

Professor Nora Ellen Groce is the Chair and Director of the Leonard Cheshire Disability and Inclusive Development Centre at University College London. She is a medical anthropologist, working in global health and international development, with a particular focus on vulnerable populations and persons with disabilities. Professor Groce has served on the faculties of Harvard and then Yale before joining University College London in 2008. She has published widely and serves as an advisor for a number of UN agencies, governments, non-governmental organisations and disabled peoples organisations.

**Mr. Thilo Kroll**

PhD is a Professor of Disability and Public Health Research at the University of Dundee, Scotland (UK). He is also the Co-Director of the interdisciplinary Social Dimensions of Health Institute (SDHI) of the Universities of Dundee and St Andrews. Over the past 20 years he has conducted collaborative and interdisciplinary disability- and health-related research in Europe (Universities of Bremen (Germany), Coventry (England), Dundee (Scotland), the United States (National Rehabilitation Hospital, Washington DC) and the United Kingdom using qualitative and quantitative methods. The work has been published in a wide range of peer reviewed journals, books and book chapters on disability and health-related topics and data collection approaches in the area of disability. In 2007, he received the American Public Health Association Disability Section’s New Investigator Award. Thilo’s research aligns with three principal strands of work: (1) Topics relating to access of services and opportunities for engagement and participation for people with disabilities; (2) Issues of research participation, study design and inclusive methodologies and (3) health promotion, particularly physical activity support for people with disabilities.

**Mr. Kamal Lamichhane**

Dr. Kamal Lamichhane is a research fellow at the Research Institute of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in Tokyo. He did his postdoctoral work under the prestigious fellowship of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) for two years from April 2010. Dr. Lamichhane is also an affiliated researcher at the Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology (RCAST) of the University of Tokyo. His fields of research center on the issues of disability and economics, inclusive education, international cooperation, and development. Besides focusing on human capital formation and disability-inclusiveness for development, Dr. Lamichhane also studies the association of disability and poverty with the particular focus on low- and middle-income countries. Dr. Lamichhane has written several peer-reviewed articles on the relationship between disability, education and labor markets. Some of his recent works are published in journals
such as Economics of Education Review, Disability and Society, Oxford Development Studies, and the Scandinavian Journal of Disability Research. Utilizing different econometric techniques, his forthcoming book from Cambridge University Press focuses on the importance of human capital together with poverty, inequality and barriers to education for persons with disabilities in different low- and middle-income countries. His empirical works are particularly important in shifting the paradigm from charity to investment approach on disability.

Dr. Lamichhane earned his Ph.D. on Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies with special focus on disability from the University of Tokyo, Japan. He is the first person with visual impairments in Nepal to receive a doctorate. He earned his master’s degree in special-needs education at the University of Tsukuba in Japan and his bachelor’s degree in education from Tribhuvan University in Nepal. Due to his visual impairments, Dr. Lamichhane could not receive education until he turned 12 years old. He was fellow in-residence at the Burton Blatt Institute (BBI), Syracuse University, USA in 2010 and visiting researcher at the Norwegian Social Research Institute (NOVA), Norway in 2012. He has presented his papers in several international conferences held in Asia, North America and Europe. In 2011, Dr. Lamichhane presented his research findings at the World Bank and the United Nations with the main focus on returns to the investment in education of persons with disabilities. Additionally, he has been extensively writing in the newspapers in Nepal for the promotion of human rights and community inclusion of persons with disabilities.

Mr. Hasheem Mannan

Hasheem Mannan (BSc Statistics, MSc Community Disability Studies, PhD) is a Senior Research Fellow at the Nossal Institute for Global Health, University of Melbourne. Hasheem completed his PhD on disability policy and family studies at the University of Kansas, USA in 2005. Prior to taking up his Nossal appointment, Hasheem held a two year Marie Currie Fellowship at Trinity College Dublin and was Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Global Health, Trinity College Dublin. He was a British Chevening Scholar at University College London. He has worked for the University of Kansas, the World Health Organization, the US National Center for Health Statistics, and the National Disability Authority (Ireland). Hasheem’s areas of expertise include content analysis of health policies; disability measurement and statistics; and inclusive development practice. Hasheem is currently a member of the Working Group on Child Functioning and Disability convened by UNICEF and the Washington Group on Disability Statistics. Hasheem coordinates the Master of Public Health subject, Disability in Developing Countries and Global Health and Human Rights. He has authored up to 50 peer reviewed journal articles and book chapters and has recently been invited to become an associate editor of BMC International Health and Human Rights.

Ms. Ernestine Ngo Melha

Ernestine NGO MELHA is an expert and researcher on education and disability, she holds a MA in international cooperation in Education at University La Sorbonne (France); MA in research in educational policies and practices obtained at University Paris 8 (France); she also obtained the international diploma on planning and management of education at IIIEP-UNESCO (France). She is also graduated in economics and guidance and counselling at University of Yaoundé and Higher teachers’ training school (École Normale Supérieure) of Yaoundé (Cameroon). Currently she is completing a PhD on educational sciences at Institute of Research in the Sociology and Economics of Education (IREDU), University of Burgundy.
(France). Her research project is focused on educational policies of inclusion related to students with disabilities. She has published articles and a book on that topic.

Ernestine has served with the ministry of national education of Cameroon for several years in the planning and management department. She joined the IBE-UNESCO and the Agency for French Development for short term missions as research assistant. Ernestine served as consultant on disability issues for several organizations including the secretariat of the African decade for disabled persons. As an individual with disability, Ernestine is active in the disability movement; she has had several positions in organizations of persons with disabilities or dealing with disabilities at national and international levels. She is founder of an NGO in special consultative status with UN ECOSOC since 2013, which aim is to advocate and lobby for access to quality education for children with disabilities.

Mr. Daniel Mont

Daniel Mont, PhD. is, currently with the Leonard Cheshire Disability and Inclusive Development Centre at UCL. Previously, he was a Senior Economist with the World Bank for 10 years, first in the Disability and Development Team based in Washington, and then with the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Team in Vietnam. While at the World Bank he was the chair of the Analytical Working Group of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics. Recent consultant work includes a project with UNESCAP on operationalizing indicators for the Incheon disability strategy, developing inclusive education indicators with UNICEF, serving on the child measurement working group of the Washington Group, and a public policy capacity building project with the International Disability Alliance. He has published widely on issues pertaining to disability measurement and disability and development.

Ms. Beth Sprunt

Beth Sprunt is a Senior Technical Adviser within the CBM-Nossal Institute Partnership for Disability Inclusive Development. This involves providing technical leadership within a team of disability-inclusive development practitioners working with donors, governments, development contractors, NGOs, disabled persons organisations, research institutions, and other development actors to build capacity to implement disability-inclusive development programs, policies and research.

Beth is a Co-Investigator on an ADRAS research grant to develop indicators for disability-inclusive education in the Pacific. She is the Disability Inclusion Specialist on the bilateral education sector program Access to Quality Education Program in Fiji, and is responsible for the development and implementation of the AQEP Disability Inclusion Strategy. Beth provides senior technical support within a contract to work with the Australian government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to provide capacity development, technical advice and research related to disability-inclusive development in DFAT’s programs.

Beth completed Honours in Occupational Therapy at La Trobe University in 1995 and a Master in Public Health (International Health) at Monash University in 2000. Beth established the Disability Program at the Nossal Institute for Global Health and developed the subject "Disability in Developing Countries" for the Masters in Public Health. She is a founding member of the Australian Disability and Development Consortium (ADDC). She worked as the head of Occupational Therapy services at the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed in Bangladesh and wrote the B.Sc (OT) degree curriculum for the Bangladesh Health Professions Institute.
Ms. Catherine Sykes

Catherine Sykes joined the World Confederation for Physical Therapy in 2006 as coordinator of the ICF programme. Since 2009 she has taken on a broader professional policy role. Catherine is also a Senior Research Fellow with the Faculty of Health Sciences, the University of Sydney, Australia. Since 1998 she has worked on the development of the World Health Organization’s International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health and its implementation. She continues to have a role in the WHO Network for the Family of International Classifications, co-chairing the Functioning and Disability Reference Group and contributing to the development of the International Classification of Health Interventions. Previously Catherine has worked in the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare on disability data development and data capture, in the Australian Federal Department of Health and Family Services on disability policy and as a lecturer in physiotherapy studies in Australia, the USA and the UK. She also has clinical experience as a physiotherapist, specialising in musculoskeletal physical therapy and vocational rehabilitation. Catherine’s international experience includes volunteering in Zimbabwe, commissions for the WHO, the World Bank and AusAid and numerous presentations and workshops on the ICF. Catherine is a member of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (UK), has a Master of Science in Rehabilitation Studies from the University of Southampton (UK).

Mr. Alexandre Barbosa

Head of the Regional Center for Studies on the Development of the Information Society (CETIC.br), an Unesco Category II Center based in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Mr. Barbosa is in charge of nationwide ICT survey projects in Brazil aimed at the production of ICT statistics and indicators. Mr. Barbosa holds a PhD degree in Business Administration from Getulio Vargas Foundation and postdoctoral research at HEC Montreal in Canada, a Master Degree in Business Administration from Bradford University, a Master Degree in Computer Science from Federal University of Minas Gerais, and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering from Catholic University.

Ms. Tatiana Jereissati

Coordinator of Unesco Projects, Sectorial Studies and Data Quality at the Regional Center for Studies on the Development of the Information Society (CETIC.br), an Unesco Category II Center based in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Ms. Jereissati was responsible for the coordination of the ICT Accessibily study conducted in 2011. She holds a Bachelor degree on International Relations from Fundação Armando Alvares Pentado, is a Bachelor degree candidate on Literature (Portuguese and French) at the University of São Paulo and Master Degree candidate on Public Policies, Gender and Society at the Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales – FLACSO Argentina.

Mr. Alex Jones

Head of Profession for Statistics at the UK Department for International Development since 2013. Alex has worked on a number of statistical programmes and in a number of developing countries including Burma, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, and Cambodia. Before joining DFID, Alex worked for the UK Home Office on issues concerning racial equality.
Mr. Mitchell Loeb

Mitchell Loeb is a Health Scientist in the Office of Analysis and Epidemiology at the National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USA. His research experience includes work in Canada, Norway and several developing countries in sub-Saharan Africa and south-east Asia. He is currently concentrating on the analysis of disability data from various US health surveys and continues his international commitment to the development of cross-culturally comparable disability measures through the Washington Group on Disability Statistics.

Ms. Jennifer Madans

Jennifer H. Madans, Ph.D. has been the Associate Director for Science, National Center for Health Statistics, since May, 1996 and is responsible for the overall plan and development of NCHS's data collection and analysis programs. Since Dr. Madans joined the Center, she has concentrated her research efforts on data collection methodology, measurement of health and functioning and health services research. She has directed two national longitudinal studies (NHANES I Epidemiologic Followup Study and the National Nursing Home Followup Study) as well as the redesign of the National Health Interview Survey questionnaire and was one of the designers of the DHHS Survey Integration Plan. She is a founding member of two UN sponsored initiatives to develop internationally comparable measures of disability and health, the Washington Group on Disability Statistics and the Budapest Initiative on the Measurement of Health Status, and has chaired the steering committees of both groups since their inception. Dr. Madans is a graduate of Bard College (B.A.) and the University of Michigan (M.A. and Ph.D., Sociology). She completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at Yale University. She has served as an adjunct Associate Professor in the Division of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Department of Community and Family Medicine, Georgetown University School of Medicine and in the Department of Demography at Georgetown. She is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute and served as a Vice President of the International Association of Official Statistics.

Mr. Winston Oyadomari

Senior Survey Analyst at the Regional Center for Studies on the Development of the Information Society (CETIC.br), an UNESCO Category II Center based in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Mr. Oyadomari is the coordinator of the ICT Households survey project in Brazil aimed at the production of ICT statistics and indicators which includes the collection of indicators on persons with disabilities and ICTs. Mr. Oyadomari holds a Bachelor degree on Public Administration from Getulio Vargas Foundation.

Mr. Atsuro Tsutsumi

Dr. Atsuro Tsutsumi is a Coordinator and Research Fellow on Mental Health and Disability at United Nations University International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH) located in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. He has been actively working with several stakeholders at from a national level to a ground level. His work includes organization of the UN EGM with UN DESA in 2013 and developed the outcome documents as a process heading to the High Level Meeting on Disability and Development. He has currently serves as the chairperson of the United Nations Country Team on Disability in Malaysia. Before joining the UNU, he served as a JICA Expert, where his priority task was to establish mental health and psychosocial
support system in Sichuan Province in China responding to the Sichuan Earthquake in 2008. He also worked for WHO as a Technical Officer in mental health in emergencies and engaged in development of policy guideline on mental health and psychosocial in emergencies responding to the Asian Tsunami in 2004. He holds PhD in Health Sciences from the University of Tokyo, Japan and PhD in Medicine from Juntendo University in Japan. He published a number of papers and books on mental health and disability.

**Observers**

**Ms. Tiziana Oliva**

Tiziana has enjoyed a successful career in international development working principally in Africa. She joined Leonard Cheshire Disability from the VSO’s global leadership team, where in her position as director of Africa she had responsibility for operations in 18 countries and three regional hubs, with 250 staff and over a 1,000 volunteers. Prior to VSO, she worked in senior leadership roles in Merlin and CARE International, with field work on humanitarian interventions as well as long term recovery and development programmes. As International Director at Leonard Cheshire Disability, she is responsible for the charity’s work in international development. Leonard Cheshire Disability runs innovative development programmes that transform the lives of people with disabilities in 12 countries in Africa and Asia through education and livelihoods. LCD also currently holds the secretariat of the Leonard Cheshire Global Alliance which has over 200 members in 54 countries. Throughout her career Tiziana has been committed to ensuring that poverty relief is directed to those that need it. In order for the most marginalised people to be included and represented in all aspects of programmes and policy the need for accurate data is crucial; the current lack of such data has resulted in a growing call for the collection, analysis and use of data on disability to inform all development efforts. In her current role she is committed to ensuring that LCD collects, monitors and supports others to gather disaggregated data to ensure positive and sustainable change for people with disabilities.