



WORKABILITY ASIA

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 4 | DEC 2018

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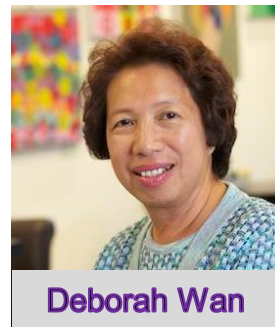


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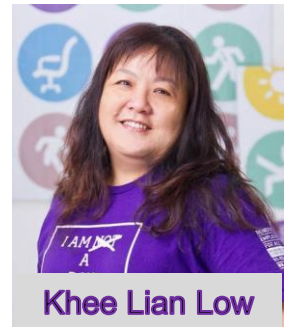
Salute to outgoing Board Members



Katsunori Fujii



Deborah Wan



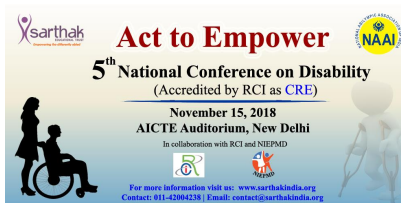
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Act to Empower
5th National Conference on Disability
(Accredited by RCI as CRE)

November 15, 2018
AICTE Auditorium, New Delhi
In collaboration with RCI and NIEPMD

For more information visit us: www.sarthakindia.org
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WI President participated in 5th National Conference on Disability in New Delhi - P.13

Workability Asia Conference 2018

'Enabling innovative diverse workforces towards sustainable competitiveness'

17-19 DEC
Cambodiana Hotel
Phnom Penh,
Cambodia

NEXT !! WASIA CONFERENCE in MACAU
****JOIN US** Upcoming 20-22 JULY 2019**
WASIA and Macau Special Olympic

www.workabilityasia.org



W³ORKABILITY ASIA

From the Board

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In Our Memory



**TOGETHER
WE CAN
MAKE THE
DIFFERENCE**



Message from Fujii

Workability Asia, formed in 2004 has expanded our membership to 51 organizations from 13 countries and regions as of the end of November 2018. Since its formation, we had a Secretariat in Japan, but since October 2017 the Secretariat has moved to Thailand. I have represented the Chairperson of Workability Asia for the 3rd term from 9 years ago and will retire from the Board at the Annual General Meeting during the Workability Asia conference 2018.

It is said that 700 million persons with disabilities are living in the Asian region. And I think that NGOs that are involved in disability and poverty issues, which are deeply related to disability problems are countlessly active. We should continue to increase the number of affiliated organizations and continue to work hard towards the day when the rights of persons with disabilities are guaranteed equally with those without disabilities through work and employment.

For achieving our mission, at all times we should consider the current situation of persons with disabilities in economically strict developing countries and NGOs working there, as well as the current situation of persons with the most severe disabilities such as mental disabilities, severe behavioral disorders and disabilities which need medical care on a daily basis.

It becomes a responsibility of each Government to guarantee the quality of life of persons with disabilities “on an equal basis with others” as a human being no matter what kind of disabilities they have and where they live, which is mentioned in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In order to realize it, the tasks of Workability Asia are mountains.

Although I will retire as the Director, I would like to continue watching the activities of Workability Asia in the future. I am so grateful to everyone who has supported me for such a long time, and I pray for the future development of Workability Asia.



Mr. Katsunori Fujii
Chairperson of
Workability Asia



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From the Board

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Message from Deborah

It is indeed my honor to have served Workability Asia in the past nine solid years which I have personally witnessed this regional organization's transformation from a small body to a sizable one with 51 members in the Asia Region and I am proud to be one of the team members. Being a representative from the Hong Kong Joint Council for People with Disabilities to sit as a member of the Workability Asia and then actively involved with Workability Asia in the past nine years and also being a Director of Workability International since 2012. I will retire as the Vice Chairperson of Workability Asia in December 2018 at its Annual Meeting in Cambodia and I also retire as a Director of Workability International at its next Annual Meeting in 2019. My passion for work and employment for people with disabilities has remained strong and I shared with our counterparts in Asia and International bodies to adopt new and effective measures to assist persons with disabilities in finding both work and employment as it is the core values of their life and we should uphold the equal



Ms. Deborah Wan
Vice Chairperson of
Workability Asia

rights and opportunities. Through my involvement in Workability Asia, I was able to have these golden opportunities to reach almost every country members of the Workability Asia through either annual conference or Board Meetings and I have been to Thailand, Philippines, Japan, India, Cambodia, Malaysia, Macau, Taiwan which have been given me food for thoughts. I was indeed also grateful for being given the opportunity to host Workability Asia cum Workability International Conference in Hong Kong in June 2017 and it was one of the successful conference in Asia with active participation from regional and international delegates and the invited speakers and funded bodies were all impressed with the enthusiasm from participants.

I have been able to work with the Hong Kong team members and I invited almost every organization to join this regional body, from only 2 members in 2018 to 17 members in 2018 and I also encouraged them to participate in the annual conference and certainly in the past 9 years, we had attendance from Hong Kong. From now on, I will pass my helm to the younger generation and a new member will be recruited as Director and I will continue to support my successor.

My appreciation to have worked together with Fujii San who has been the Chairperson and the Board of Directors and also I was so happy to work with Hiroshi Ueno who was the Secretary General and all of them are my best friends and I look forward to this harmonious working relationship in the future years of Workability Asia.

Civil Society Forum and Global Disability Summit

On 24 July 2018, the UK Department for International Development (DFID), along with the International Disability Alliance (IDA) and the Government of Kenya, hosted the first Global Disability Summit in London.



In consultation with civil society partners, IDA called for the Civil Society Forum on 23 July, as an addition to the Summit to leverage the opportunity to amplify the voice and participation of persons with disabilities, through their individual participation and that of representative organizations (DPOs). Civil Society Forum kicked off the debate with questions about chronically underfunded local and regional organizations of persons with disabilities (DPOs), the need to include these DPOs in policy discussions; and the special challenge of reaching people with disabilities in situations of risk and humanitarian response. The joint civil society statement was read out by the IDA Chair at the opening session of the Summit on 24 July and accentuated a pivotal role the civil society played around the Global Disability Summit.

Civil Society Forum and Global Disability Summit

The Summit was attended by Ministers, representatives of organizations of persons with disabilities, academia, non-governmental organizations, representatives of the UN System, and among others. During the two days, there was a range of spotlight sessions exploring issues around the rights of persons with disabilities. The Summit provided a platform to showcase good practice, new policy and assistive technology for persons with disabilities, as well as to generate sustainable commitments from country governments, donors, civil society, foundations and the private sector

DFID and IDA, for instance, have already kicked off commitments with several new initiatives such as the creation of an online platform, where summit commitments will be recorded and tracked over the coming months and years.



In the culmination of the event, all attendees were also invited to sign the Charter for Change—the principal legacy document of the Global Disability Summit. The Charter for Change aims at ensuring global consensus to address a long-neglected issue pertaining rights of persons with disabilities such as inclusion to education, employment, independent living, voting, access to justice, among others.

Author: International Disability Alliance

Key Summary



1. The Summit meaningfully brought in people with disabilities

Both the planning of the Summit and the Summit program itself were truly organized according to the “*nothing about us without us*”.

2. Inclusive education was a top issue

One of the key themes of the Summit was the tens of millions of

children with disabilities who are shut out of school.

3. We heard from many formidable leaders who have disabilities

From UN Committee chairs, to top media personalities, to a head of state – there were many prominent disabled speakers at the Summit. One of them was the UK Chair, Tom Shakespeare: “*Let’s connect with others, mentor the next generation of leadership and hand over and maybe we ourselves can move on to other things.*”

4. Significant financial commitments were made by the World Bank and DFID – but the overall financial picture is hard to judge

The CEO of the World Bank, Kristalina Georgieva, announced a list of impressive commitments on inclusive programs, data and internal recruitment (“*To succeed we need to look like the world we serve*”). DFID (Department for International Development) also announced the steps it will take, including a major increase in investment through programs like Aid Connect and Disability Inclusive Development.



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Key Summary

5. Data, economic empowerment, women's rights and accessible technology were all important topics

Time and time again, people spoke about the importance of data: if people with disabilities are literally not counted, how can we move forward?! Economic empowerment and the involvement of business was also a key theme at the summit. A major new initiative on accessible technology was announced. Women leaders including CRPD Committee member, Sightsavers' Gertrude Fefoame from Ghana noted the links between women's rights and disability rights. We agree and are proud to have launched the Her Abilities Award in recognition of this!

6. DFID showed its leadership on this issue

The UK government committed itself to becoming a global leader on the issue of disability and development. As International Development Secretary Penny Mordaunt said: *"Discrimination and stigma against disabled people is a global injustice - one that has been ignored for too long - and one we need to fix urgently."*

7. It happened!

The sheer fact that 700 senior government, charity, business and DPO (Disabled People's Organizations) representatives came together for these two days marks a real milestone of hope and progress. For sure, we can't expect to see real change without further commitments and a huge step-up in financial investment across the globe. But the signs are all promising. And we, as Civil Society, are ready to collaborate and hold to account all those who have – and have not yet - made promises! There is a still long way to go... but we are certainly on the way! #NowIsTheTime

Author: LIGHT FOR THE WORLD

EEPD Project in Phnom Penh

Disability and Employment is originally derived from the Empowerment and Employment Promotion for Disability (EEPD) Project, which was established in 2014 under JICA Partnership Program (JPP) which was implemented by Familiar Co., Ltd. in collaboration with Phnom Penh Center for Independent Living (PPCIL). The project goal is to “promote the social participation of People with Disabilities (PwDs) through building model of their employment in processing and dissemination of agricultural products in and around Phnom Penh” through running a Dried Fruit Factory that will create and offer jobs to Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). The project is officially acknowledged and supported by the Ministry of Social Affair, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY) and Disability Action Council (DAC). Even though the Project was ended in March 2017 (the support from JICA finished), it has still been running under PPCIL until today.

There are four expected outputs that the Project wishes to archive:

- 1) **AGRICULTURAL PROCESSING FOOD PRODUCTION:** We have opened a small Dried Fruits Factory which all of the products such as dried fruits and cakes are produced by PwDs;
- 2) **PROMOTING JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR PWDS:** We have planned to introduce PwDs, who are willing to work, to other organizations who want to employ them. We have also planed to encourage and give advices to them and support the organization that hires PwDs to have a barrier-free working environment for PwDs;

EEPD Project in Phnom Penh

- 3) **PROMOTION OF BARRIER-FREE WORKING ENVIRONMENT:** We have made our factory a better working environment for PwDs, and we expect that this factory will become a model for other organizations that have interests in employing PwDs to work; and
- 4) **SURVEY:** We have been conducting two kinds of surveys: (1) the living situation of PwDs in communities and the employment situation and (2) working environment of PwDs at their workplace. We found that, out of 25 companies we surveyed, there was no any company has accessible environment for PwDs.

Also, through the survey on the situation of PwDs living in communities by March 2017—interviewing from home to home—we met 1,841 (F: 781) PwDs living in Phnom Penh. The research shows that 117 out of 184 children and 233 out of 594 do not have any education, and nearly 300 adults with disabilities do not have jobs.

Therefore, EEPD Project can be one of solutions to create jobs for PwDs. We are highly committed to working to increase the employment for and empower PwDs and all.

TRANSED 2018!

15th International Conference on Mobility and Transport for Elderly and Disabled Persons



Eden Social Welfare Foundation is honored to host the 15th International Conference on Mobility and Transport for Elderly and Disabled Persons (TRANSED 2018) next year in Taipei, Taiwan. Eden won the bid to host TRANSED 2018 in the year 2015, and as a warm-up event for TRANSED 2018, it hosted the “2017 Cooperation Forum on Accessibility and Prosperity in Cities”,

from November, 8-11. The forum included 14 invited members of the committee from 9 countries, to observe the accessible transportation of major cities in Taiwan and site-inspect the process of TRANSED 2018.

Members of the committee visited the cities of Kaohsiung, Taichung, Hsinchu, Taipei, and Keelung by public transportation and exchanged experiences and professional opinions in accessible transportation with respective mayors and local officials. Moreover, the representatives signed the Mayor’s Accord to ensure the prosperity and accessibility in cities, hoping to create “Mobility for All” by connecting the world with accessible transportation. The event started Nov. 9 in Kaohsiung, with the group traveling by high-speed railway (HSR) to Zuoying. It later proceeded to MRT to Kaisyuan Station, then boarding the first light rail in Asia to Pier-2 Art Center, experiencing the eco-friendly accessible infrastructure and transit systems of Kaohsiung. Eden Social Welfare Foundation stated that, the linkage of both “2017 Cooperation Forum on Accessibility and Prosperity in Cities” and “TRANSED 2018” was based on eight aspects, including “transportation, housing, social participation, outdoor spaces and



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buildings, civic participation and employment, communication and information, respect and social inclusion, community support and health services”, to echo with the “Age-Friendly City” which proposed by World Health Organization (WHO). The group experienced the convenience of different public transportation and as well as accessible facilities in Kaohsiung. The passion and commitment of Kaohsiung were experienced through the perfection and the Eco-Mobility Festival, 2017, through the transformation of transportation infrastructure, accessible facilities, software as well as overhang in front of stores in business areas. Eden’s Mayor’s Accord include “accessible infrastructure grounds on its design”, “setting regulations on purchasing standardized accessible vehicles”, “building a seamless public transit system”, and “launching an accessible intelligent guiding system”, hoping to continuously cooperate with Kaohsiung City to reach an age-friendly and accessible city.

TRANSED was founded in the year 1978 by Transportation Research Board (TRB), which is held every three years in different countries. Each conference sets milestones for accessible transportation, attracting members across the globe to participate and exchange their expertise in the field. The platform enables experts and academics to share their creativity and practices. TRANSED 2018 took place on November 12-15, 2018 at the Taipei International Convention Center (TICC). Eden sincerely invited experts in the field across the globe to participate and to witness the first international accessible transportation conference in Taiwan.



TRANSED 2018 Official Website: <http://www.transed2018.com>
Author & Translator : Tammy Chen, Eden Social Welfare Foundation

5th National Conference on Disability

On November 15, 2018, Workability International President, Gerald Davis, participated in panel discussion "Assessing Disability as a Cross-Cutting Issue in International Development" in India's capital - New Delhi.



Act to Empower

5th National Conference on Disability
(Accredited by RCI as **CRE**)

November 15, 2018
AICTE Auditorium, New Delhi

In collaboration with RCI and NIEPMD

For more information visit us: www.sarthakindia.org
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Logos: sarthak EDUCATIONAL TRUST, NAAI, RCI, NIEPMD

When asked whether Disability is considered a cross-cutting issue in International Development, Davis answered: *"It is well known that disability is one of the most significant barriers to people seeking an independent life and consequently affects their smaller and larger communities' potential. There are, however, many disconnected examples of success across the globe, when a person with a disability receives education and training that is in alignment with the needs of the local economy, as well as within their acquired technical skills."*

Be sure to check out panel discussion video on YouTube at: <https://youtube/SpKFbaQg8FU>

Author: Workability International

Vietnam Association for Invalids and Disabilities Enterprises



Vietnam Association for Invalids and Disabilities Enterprises (VAIDE) is a not-for-profit social organization, representing the voices of its members throughout the country (in the case of war invalids and persons with disabilities) in domestic and foreign affairs.

Through 15 years of striving, being directed directly by the Ministry of Labor and Social Workers, the VAIDE has achieved significant results in support of business and human disability development, actively organizing many vocational training programs, job creation for the invalids, family child policy and disability, facilitate the injury and disability with a stable income, community integration. At the same time, the society also actively motivated the social forces, entrepreneurs to meet the renovation of the party, economic development efforts in the direction of sustainability, to participate in the operation of gratitude, good care of the disease and the handicapped circumstances lock the scarf, ensuring good social security on many local countries.





WORKABILITY ASIA

From the Secretariat

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Share Your Stories:

- Please share your knowledge and experiences with WASIA members and our network.
- You can send your articles (1-2 pages) with some photos.
- Send your stories to WASIA Secretariat Team via workabilityasia@gmail.com to be part of the next newsletter **by 28 February, 2019.**

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