ANNEX I

Strategies in Consideration of People with Disability

STRATEGIES IN CONSIDERATION OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

1. BACKGROUND

According to the UN Secretariat Disability Paper E/CN.5/2008/6 available at www.ods.un.org, it is widely recognized that people with disability are among the poorest and most vulnerable in developing countries. The United Nations estimates that approximately 10% of the world's population, or approximately 650 million people, have a disability and about 80% of the population with a disability live in developing countries.

Furthermore, people with disability face many barriers to full participation in society and are likely to face an increased risk of social exclusion. This may include being unable to access education, health services, earn a living or participate in decision making. Social exclusion is a major contributor to the level of poverty which people with disability experience, particularly those who live in developing countries.

The Australian Government recognizes that poverty is both a cause and consequence of disability and is committed to ensuring that the benefits of development reach those who are most excluded. Further, to achieve the targets set for the Millennium Development Goals and to alleviate poverty, the Government believes that people with disability must be actively included in development activities and processes. **Therefore, people with disability have been identified as a priority for Australia's aid program.**

The Strategy to address the above called "Development for All", seeks to improve the quality of life of people with disability through a range of programs and funding mechanisms - including targeted initiatives to meet the specific needs of people with disability, building the leadership skills of people with disability and their organizations, and "*ensuring major programs in sectors such as education and infrastructure meet the needs and priorities of people with disability*".

2. PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

As a program funded by the Australian Government in the education sector, STRIVE 2 thus seeks to meet the needs and priorities of people with disability where circumstances link them to the scope of the project.

3. DEFINITION OF TERMS

Following definitions are from the World Health Organization (WHO):

A *disability* is an inability to execute some class of movements, or pick up sensory information of some sort, or perform some cognitive function, that typical unimpaired humans are able to execute or pick up or perform.

An *inability* is anything a person cannot do.

An *impairment* is a physiological disorder or injury.

A *handicap* is an inability to accomplish something one might want to do, that most others around one are able to accomplish.

A disability may be *directly* or *circumstantially* linked to an inability or handicap. The link is direct if having the disability leads, independently of circumstances, to having the inability: there is simply no way a person with the disability can accomplish the task in question. The link is circumstantial if, although in some circumstances there is no way for a person with the disability to accomplish the task, in other circumstances, where the right tools and structures to support them are available, there are ways.

4. OBJECTIVES

The implementations of the strategies seek to meet the following objectives:

OBJECTIVE 1.   To ensure that STRIVE Project Staff is aware and sensitive to the existence and needs of people with disability.

OBJECTIVE 2.   To ensure that actions are taken to provide people with disability with the right tools and structures.

5. STRATEGIES

5.1. Include in every issue of the STRIVE Newsletter an article on "Disability" in relation to the Australia Aid Program and "Development for All Strategy" as well as articles to increase awareness and sensitivity towards people with disability. (Advocacy)

5.2. Develop policies, systems and processes that consider the needs of people with disability. (STRIVE Components)

5.3. Establish indicators that will measure the considerations given to the needs of people with Disability (M&E)

5.4. Develop Learning Curriculum and Instructional Materials that are sensitive, aligned and considerate to the needs of people with disability (LRMDS) e.g.
   a. Curriculum includes areas addressing learning needs of people with disability
   b. Instructional materials using Braille
   c. Instructional materials that are not biased against people with disability.

5.5. Include in STRIVE infrastructures access for disabled people such as:
   a. wheelchair access ramps in and out of buildings
   b. CR for handicap
   c. Easy access to equipment and shelves
   d. Special tables and some computer tables are designed for those with wheelchairs.
   e. Enough room is provided to navigate wheelchairs.

5.6. Provide equal opportunities for able and disabled persons to participate in educational programs

References:

- Disability in Australia Aid Program, Disability Update: November 25, 2008 webpage Wikipedia