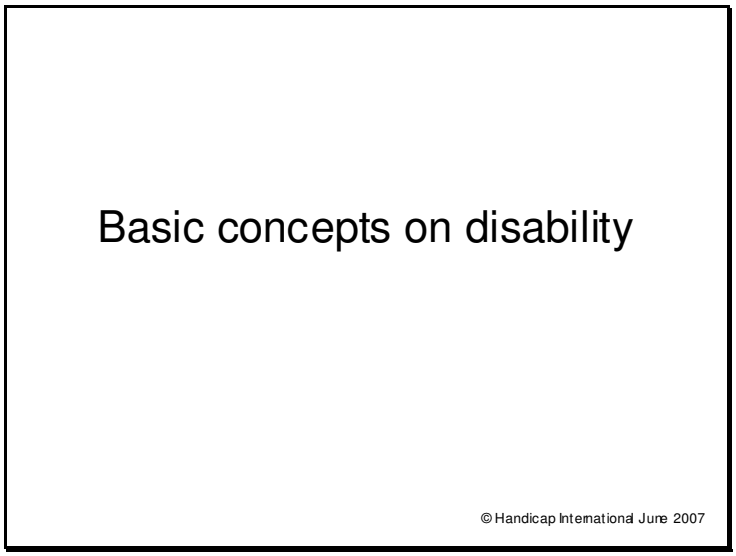
Diapositive 1



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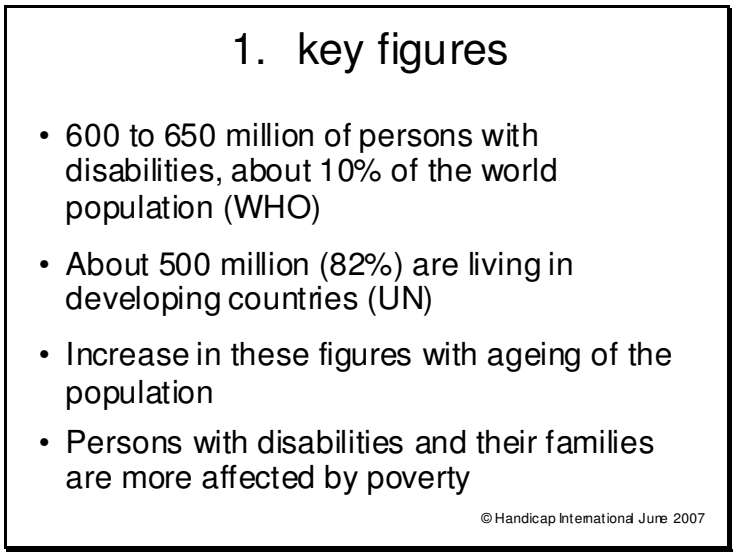

Diapositive 3

- 2% of persons with disabilities in Africa have access to rehabilitation (UN)
- 1 to 2% of children with disabilities go to school in developing countries (UNESCO)
- 1% of girls with disabilities are taught reading and writing (UNICEF)
- 70 to 80% of adults with disabilities are without employment and live in great poverty (UN ; ILO)

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Diapositive 4

2. Various approaches to disability

- The will of gods

Anything that cannot be explained is a manifestation of gods and a source of beliefs.

Society's response => ritual practices, beliefs

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Diapositive 5

➢ The charity

Persons with disabilities are a load for society; they live mainly off charity and have a lower social status.

Society's response => basic medical treatment…

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Diapositive 6

➢ Theoretical equality

Originally from the modern Western philosophy of Human rights, the principle of equality appears.

But this principle is not really universal and the persons with disabilities are not always recognized as human beings.

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Diapositive 7

➢ Beginning of medical rehabilitation

Mutilated, injured, war veterans: States feel responsible

Disabled people are defective, “broken” they have to be repaired, restored to “normality”

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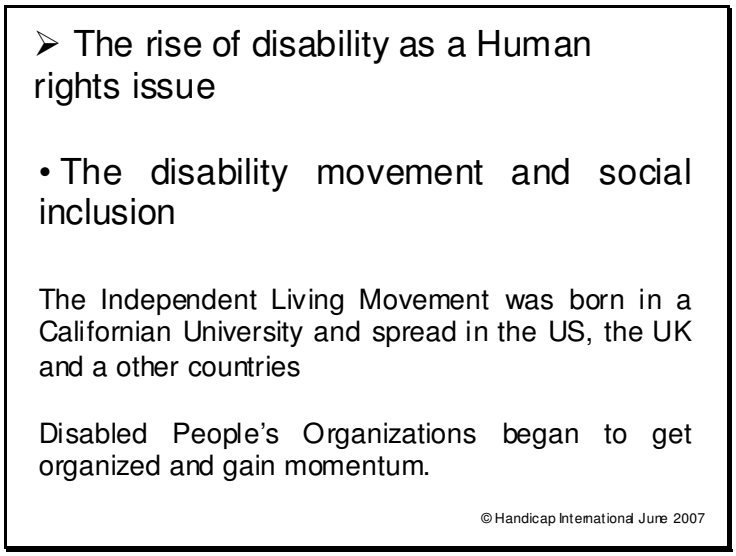
Diapositive 8



Diapositive 9

• The Human rights approach to disability

The whole community has a duty to enable persons with disabilities to fully participate in political and social life.

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Persons with disabilities and their representatives claim their rights and fight to have them implemented.

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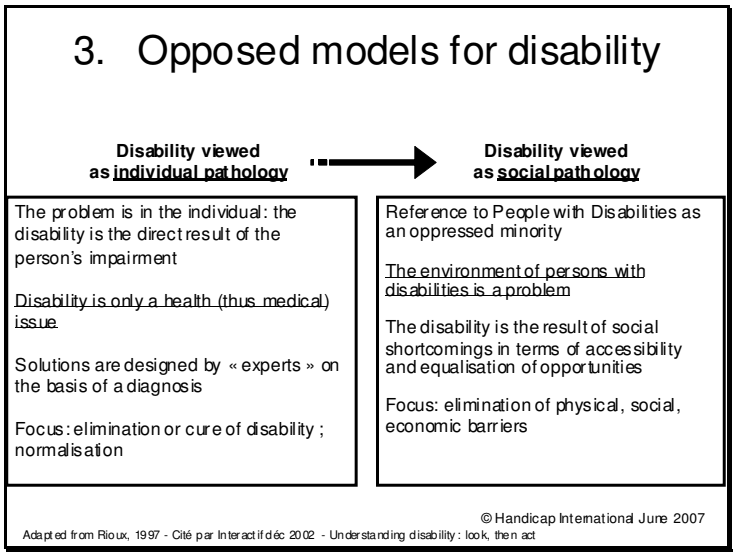
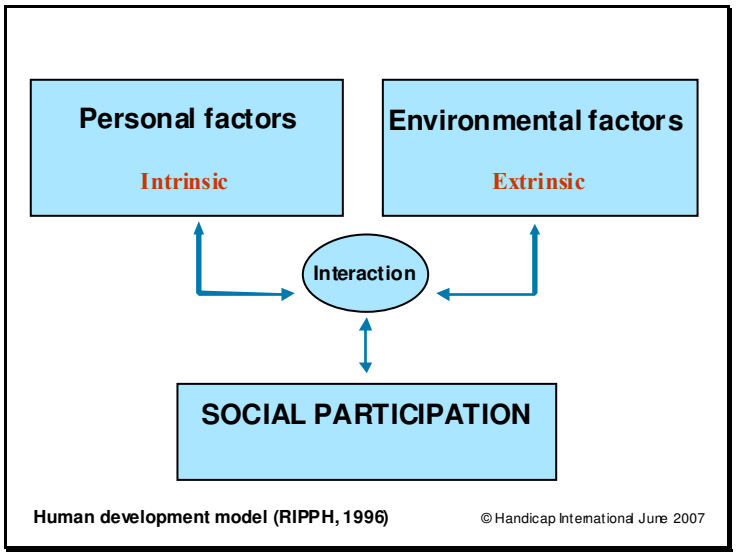
Diapositive 10



Diapositive 11



Diapositive 12

4. Disability is a Human rights issue

- Disability is an unavoidable and universal part of human diversity.
- A shift in perspective has taken place on how to consider the person with disabilities :
  - From object of charity and burden = approach of assistance
  - To subject of law = approach based on the respect of any human being.

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Diapositive 13

- This shift implies that four core values of Human rights are especially relevant in the context of disability :
  - Dignity: respect of physical and moral integrity of the person...
  - Autonomy: capacity for self-directed action, decision and behaviour…
  - Equality: prohibition of discrimination…
  - Solidarity: collaboration, support…
- Everybody has the same rights and should have the same access to their rights.

➔ Human Rights apply to persons with disabilities.

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