

Preface

This is the third book of a series of Disability Equality Training (DET) manuals for DET Trainers. This DET Manual series is published as a part of the Project on Disability, implemented by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Department of Social Welfare Malaysia. This project, Capacity Building on Social Welfare Services for Disabled People, is implemented to promote the participation and inclusion of disabled people and the mainstreaming of disability issues in development interventions. This project is designed based on the concept of the Social Model of Disability, and DET is taken as one of the key components of the project in addition to the promotion of the Independent Living movement, Supported Employment, and Self-Advocacy of persons with learning difficulties. In this project, 41 disabled people, from ten countries, namely, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia, Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, and Afghanistan, have been trained as DET Trainers over the last three years.

Part One of this DET resource book provides a concise and clear explanation about the key concepts and notions which develop DET. Part Two is a picture booklet which was originally developed and used as a tool for disability education in Myanmar. This booklet has two aims; to raise awareness on disability from the Social Model perspective; and to

encourage and empower disabled people. Part Three compiles an example of PowerPoint presentation of an actual DET session for a private company and useful information on DET.

I truly hope that this resource book will provide useful information and ideas on DET. I also welcome comments and suggestions. The above-mentioned project has developed an internet website on DET (www.detforum.com) to provide and exchange information and ideas, so please do visit.

I believe the essential element in working on disability is “SPICE” (just as spices are essential to cook a delicious curry!). So, what is SPICE? It is the promotion of Social Participation, Inclusion in the Community, and Empowerment of all disabled people. So, let’s “SPICE up” our work on disability together!

Kenji Kuno

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