

2. Ecuador

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C O U N T R Y R E P O R T

1. **NAME:** Alexandra Jaramillo L.

2. **COUNTRY:** República del Ecuador (Replublic of Ecuador)

Ecuador is a country which is located in north east of South America. Ecuador is a multicultural country. It has 12`000.000 habitants. Ecuador has 4 natural regions. We have a beautiful, but poor country.

Ecuador is a multicultural country. Most of the people in Ecuador speak Spanish; Ecuadorians speak Quechua and other native languages too. 60% of people are mixed race (white-native), 30% of native, 5% of black and 5% of others races. The money is distributed unequally. Only few people have a lot of money, the most of Ecuadorians are poor and a great group of people that live in extremely poverty. So Ecuadorians have a lot of differences between them.

Ecuador has 12`.000.000 of persons. % of disabilities. It is common to adopt the classical information from the INNFA studies in 1981 (National Institute of Children and Family), about the percentage of disable people in our country (12.8%), or the most recently proposed by the National Council of Disabilities :CONADIS; (13.2%), but we consider that even about the prevalence of disabilities in general, and what is relative to each of them, we can be guide by the international numbers, which talk of a 15% of handicap people. The biggest group is conformed by people with physical disabilities (almost the rest of the other half), visual disabilities, and in less number, the group of people with auditory disabilities.

Ecuador has four natural regions: the costs at level of the sea, where we have beautiful beaches with a nice hot weather. The mountain area is called Sierra, it has mountains of almost 7.000 meters of altitude. We have a privilege country with different kinds of weathers and a variety of food. Also there is the jungle zone, which is a hot and wonderful region. It is important to mention, the Galapagos Island, that are famous around the world and receives many tourists because of the variety of unique species of fauna and flora. These four regions have many places to visit.

Ecuador is a rich country culturally and geographically, but have a lot of economical problems, that aren't resolved by the government. The social health and educational services, even though they have the attention of the government, their development has not be enough to satisfy the needs of the population.

3. NAME OF MY ORGANIZATION: Fundación General Ecuatoriana (Ecuadorian General Foundation)

Its mission is to intervene socially, with national character, working in all that contributes direct or indirectly to the prevention of disabilities, attention and integration of handicap people, without distinction of age, sex, human race, religion or social economical level.

4. OUTLINE OF FUNCTION OF FGE:

Ecuadorian General Foundation is a Non-Governmental Organization of development cooperation (NGO). As a non-profit organization it is approved by the Ministry of Social Welfare, through Resolution N° 294, published at the Official Registry N° 324, dated September 8, 1982. The statue has been reformed through Resolution N° 001119, emitted by the same Ministry, on May 20, 1994.

Our Organization has the following programs, that function in the Capacitation Center:

Training to youngsters with mental disability "Ramón Arregui Monreal" (RAM), that develops in its Center located in the Chillós Valley, where there are production workshops of: tailoring and sewing, crafts, ceramic, carpentry, nursery gardening and horticulture, and general services (kitchen assistants, dining and cleaning assistants), with 84 youngsters in process of rehabilitation. Yearly 30 youngsters are ubicated in private enterprises through the vocational placement department.

Training Center, Assessment, Documentation and Social Investigation (CECADIS), through which there teaching courses at a national level for technicians, teachers, parents and experts joined with the area of all disabilities: physical, sensorial or mental. This program has developed many important projects:

- Training in order to take care of mental handicap children, financed by Kellogg Foundation of the United States, through which they trained a hundred parents around the country.
- Laboral Situation Diagnostic of Disabled People in Ecuador, according to the consultant contract with the United Nations for Development Program.
- Formation Process "Borrando Fronteras", with the finance of Holland Foundation "De Waal", through courses with a duration of six months each, in

all the provinces of the country. At the end of the process, which last for two years and they hope to educate more than six hundred leaders in disabilities areas.

Consciousness about Disabilities, it has been determined that 13,2% of the ecuadorian population has some kind of dissability. In the beginning of 1996 and with the finance of Interamerican Foundation it starts a campaign through all the media (radio, television and printing press), with the cooperation and finance of many private enterprises. This campaign continues in 1999, specially through radios and it tries to create a positive attitude for the society towards this group of handicap people, that unfortunately are not integrated in the society.

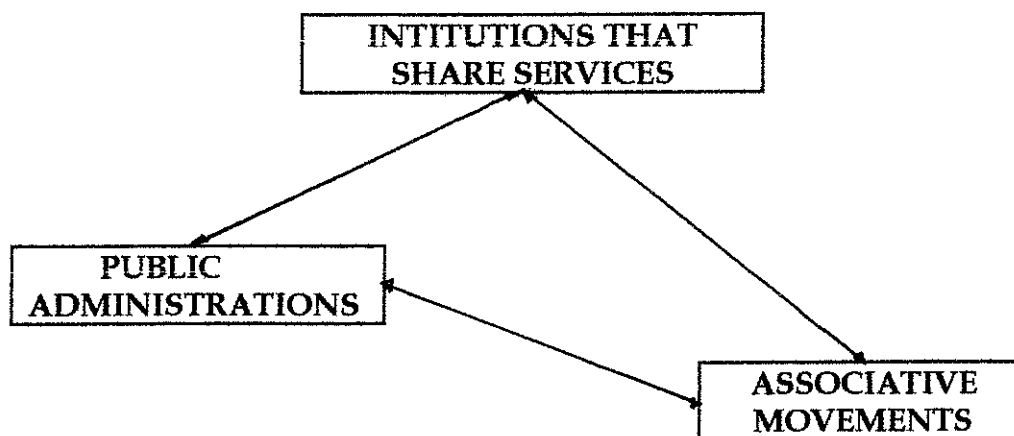
5. ORGANIZATION CHART: annex 1

6. THE CURRENT SITUATION AND TRENDS IN REHABILITATION SERVICES:

We have few confident data of covering service or access to opportunities. Any ways, we know that the educative and specific professional rehabilitation are the services that are developing, (in means, exclusive for disable people), which unless reach to the 3% of their potencial users. Also, it exists certain development in physical rehabilitation inside the Health Sistem.

The rest of the specific services for disable people (which have been developed in some countries), for us, just exist as isolated and worthy experiences.

In our opinion, the inexistence or limited cover of these specific services wouldn't be so negative if children, youngsters and adults with disabilities could be able to find answers to their needs in ordinary services, to which the rest of the community has access. The spreading of these services is deficient (and has been worse the last years) and it is almost impossible for disable people to have access to them.



- * There are institutions that share services for disable people. Even though, in the 70's, there was an increase of public institutions because of the Petroleum money, we can affirm that, in this moment, the majority of institutions are private. All of them move a great penury of media and their human resources are not appraise by the society. These and other factors consuct this "special space" to a stagnant and corporate defense, which in our opinion, it is not healthy. Another important data is the organization and little size⁴ of the institutions in general, and in the majority of cases, there is a chaos in the public finances for the programas, that depends in insecure sources.
- * The public administrations hardly have a commitment with disabilities. In the last years, some of the units related with disabilities in what is called "modernization of the state" have been dismantled. Simultaneously, there have been appeared, the "CIASDE" work (Interinstitutional Comission for the Analysis of the Situation of Disable People in Ecuador) and the approvement of the 180 Law (saw in disabilities), that want to coordinate the reglamentations related to disabilities. The 180 Law has its regulations.
- * About the Associative Moments, even there are associations with an important tradition, the National Federations are naw in an incipient moment in their development. The country social structure and in particular the great differences between the majotity poor and the minority rich, are not the best basis for these kind of movements.

Human Resource

There are some thousand of people in our country that work for the service of inclusion programs for disable people.

But in spite of the big number of volunteers, the majority are professionals and have an university degree.

The situation of this area, with contradictions and lack of expectations, difficults an adequate effort and also the development of the human resources, who could not find enough opportunities for professional progress in this kind of services; neither, they have abundant opportunities for training, and in some cases, there is a divorce between universitaru world and inclusion.

7. OUR PHILOSOPHY ON REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES AND PROBLEMS TO SOLVE WHEN MAKING THE PHILOSOPHY ACTUAL:

During the 40's, the attention for disable people starts in a charitable way. It was organized by parents and private institutions. The Constitution of Republic of Ecuador, in the article 27, says that all people have access to education without any discrimination. On 1945 the Minister on Education and Culture gave the "Ley Organica" (Organic Law), in which the children who suffer biological or mental abnormal must be assisted. The first institutions were created for blind and deaf population. Later, there have been established other non gubermental organizations for people with mental retardation and physical impeded. The clinical model had been the traditional way to attend people with disabilities, even now. The new techniques created by to get their development biopsicosocial and their integral formation, are the best guarantee for the people with disabilities, so their life can be better in a context of real integration.

The new philosophy with two fundamental criteria: one that the attention based in pedagogy by process and other with the introduction of new terminology kids whit specials necessities educative. It is important that they have opportunities in normal spaces and integrated into the society.

The philosophy is actually in the country, according to lines an international agreement support by UNESCO and decided by the Salamanca Declaration, en the Cartagena Accord and in all special dispositions by this sector of the society. It contemplates the principle of Normalization, Integration and Equality of Opportunities how result of process participate. For that it propose intersectional politics and plans that give integral attention to people

with disabilities. These politics express lines of action with an integral point of view of the problem, and gives attention in different ways like: health, education, prevention, job, free time.

8. COMMUNITY-BASED REHABILITATION PROGRAMS PROVIDED FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES IN MY COUNTRY:

Ecuador have few experiences in Community-Based Rehabilitation. They haven't an important cover. They are isolated actions. We know that is one of the best ways of rehabilitation, but we don't have experience about it.

9. SERVICES DELIVERY SYSTEM AND RELEVANT LAWS AND REGULATIONS:

The "Ley de Discapacidades" (Law in Disabilities) is known as the 180 Law, was approved by the National Council on august 7 ñ 1992, in the article 7, it refers to creation of the National Council of Disabilities (CONADIS). It has national responsibilities to propel social projects, to make investigations and to coordinate actions between sectors, public institutions, private institutions; which give attention in prevention, education and integration of people with disabilities. Other function is to design the national politics about disabilities.

We must note it exist a legal basis to attend the needs of this sector and better the situation of people with disabilities. We can't see coordination between areas; there is a deficient cover and quality of services, insufficient money giving by government, which is increasing participation of non governmental organizations; also, do not exist social politics about prevention and by moment there are few actions in this subject; we can't find enough social sensitivity towards the situation of people with disabilities.

We consider the plan of action must be based in a politic of state which get services by all population. People with disabilities must obtain personal autonomy, to find answers to theirs necessities, autodeterminate and to contribute to development of their environment.

The annex 2 is the flow chart from Training Program for Young People with Intellectual Disabilities.

(* This Country Report will be supported with audiovisual material.)

F.G.E.

ORGANIZATION CHART

