

# INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES (JFY 2006)

---

COUNTRY  
REPORT

Presented by

---

Ileana Irola

San José, Costa Rica  
May, 2006

# GENERAL INFORMATION

---

NAME OF COUNTRY: **COSTA RICA**



# General Information



- Area:
  - 51.700 Km2
- Population:
  - Total 4.215.569
    - Men 49.9%
    - Women 50.1%
  - Urban 2.249.296
  - Rural 1.560.883

(July 2005)



# General Information



- Life expectancy:
  - 80.2 years (female)
  - 74.8 years (male)
- Infant mortality rate:
  - 9.78/1000
- Maternal mortality rate:
  - N.a.

# General Information

- Literacy rate:
  - 95%
- Education (compulsory)
  - 9<sup>o</sup> grade



# General Information

Unemployment rate:

- 6.6% (July 2005)





# Laws concerned with I.D.



- Law 7600  
“Equal Opportunities for people with disabilities”



# Financial assistance

---

- Government of Costa Rica support most of the services in our country.
- Private organizations also help with financial assistance.

# ESCUELA NEUROPSIQUIATRICA INFANTIL (ENI)



# BACKGROUND

---

- Public Special Education Center.
- Start in 1954 as a project of Mental Health Department to attend children in National Psychiatric Hospital.
- Actuality attended children and young people between 2 – 18 years old.



# VISION

---

- To be a consultation center for external professionals.
- Offering assessment, attention and training to the target population.
- Promoting opportunities for the achievement of the maximum development of the potentialities
- Favoring a full life in a dynamic relation with environment.

# MISSION

---

- To be a Center of Special Education that offers educational options to people with emotional problems and of behavioral
- Propitiating and integral attention
- Promotes the development of abilities of autonomy and independence, in a dynamic relationship with the environment, through a team.

# TARGET GROUP

---

- ENI it's a public school dedicated to bring educative services for 203 children with disabilities such as
  - Autistic Syndrome
  - Asperger Syndrome
  - Squizofrenic
  - Other intellectual and behavioral disabilities.



# Organization Chart



# My responsibility

---

- Watch over the application of the curriculum accommodations of some students of the ENI who are included in regular system.
- Planning and coordinate inclusive activities in the scholar communities.
- Give support and orientation in the use of metodologist techniques and pedagogical procedures.

# SITUATION OF PEOPLE WITH I.D.

---

- Attention is part of Public System of Education.
  - Inclusion in regular classrooms
  - Support classrooms
  - Integrated classrooms
  - Special education schools



# Finding & diagnosis of I.D

---

- Diagnosis of I.D. is done by doctors and psychologists.
- Academic issues are assessed by special educators.
- EARLY INTERVENTION Is given in public system through special education schools.
- Some services start at the age of 40 days (Down Syndrome).

# Education

---

- 23 special education schools.
- Curriculum include improving the life level, integration or inclusion in personal, social and economical environment.

# Curriculum

---

- Develop of physical and emotional healt.
- Develop of occupational competencies.
- Learn of functional knowledge.
- Social Skills.



# Vocational Training

---

- Is brought through III and IV levels of special education programs in regular high schools.
- Curriculum includes skills to work in technical or hand craft activities.

# Employment

---

- In IV level of special education start the searching for employment.
- There are some Non ONG ´s that brings protected work for people with less intellectual compromise.

# Others

---

- Community participation has been increasing in the last years.



# Flow chart of service



# Community-based Rehabilitation programmes



- There are some programs of community-based rehabilitation in rural areas that need to grow and spread in other communities.

# Government agencies concerned with I.D.

---

- Consejo Nacional de Rehabilitación y Educación Especial.
  - Directora Ejecutiva: Bárbara Holst
    - SILOR (Regionales)
  - Centro Nacional de Recursos
    - Directora Ejecutiva: Victoria Esquivel



# Non Governmental organizations

---

- ACOPANE
- ASPAPEX
- Mundo de Oportunidades
- More than 24 associations involved in services for people with special needs.

# The Staff

---

- ENI Staff is integrated by 50 people
  - 1 Director
  - 39 teachers
  - 1 psychologist
  - 1 social worker
  - 1 physical therapist
  - 13 assistants of classrooms
  - 7 administrative persons
  - 18 volunteers



