



Potential Development of Persons with Disabilities in Udon Thani Province

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Abstracts

Background and Aim: The problem of disability among the population in Thailand is a problem that exists in Thai society and society recognizes it but does not give as much attention and attention as it should. research on improving the quality of life for people with disabilities. This is to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities in all dimensions, including developing the potential and ability to develop innovation and research personnel capable of generating knowledge that is essential to improving the quality of life of people. disabilities, which is an important factor. Thus, the objectives of this research were 1) to study the level of potential development for people with disabilities, 2) to study factors influencing the potential development of people with disabilities, and 3) to study approaches to develop the potential of people with disabilities. This research was conducted in Udon Thani Province.

Materials and Methods: Integrated research between quantitative research and qualitative research. The sample used in the research were people, civil servants in the Northeastern region of 400 people. The target group of interviewees is 10 government officials. The research tools were questionnaires and interview forms. The statistics used for analysis were frequency, percentage, multiple regression analysis, and qualitative analysis.

Results: (1) The level of potential development of persons with disabilities in Udon Thani Province was at a moderate level, in descending order as follows: safety, planning, and environment respectively. (2) Factors influencing the potential development of people with disabilities in Udon Thani Province include local roles, government support, and network partners. (3) Development guidelines include; providing travel accommodation facilitation and safety procedures, providing an environment for services, rights of access, legal rights, and surveillance and anti-exploitation measures to prevent discrimination against persons with disabilities.

Conclusions: The development of the capacity of people with disabilities is still at a very poor level and the causal factors affecting development require cooperation from local, central government, and network sectors. In addition, it also requires the promotion of people with disabilities to be self-reliant without being a burden on their families.

Keywords: Development; Potential; Disabled Person

Introduction

Thailand is playing an economic and social role that will lead to stability and progress, partly dependent on the development of the country's human resources for equal and inclusive living. This is the main factor that directly plays a role in the development of the country at all levels, so any country that has human resources that are ready for physical, mental, and intellectual potential is considered a country that is developed and successful. But, no matter how the country progresses and develops, there are still several people in that society who have disabilities, physical, behavioral, and mental disabilities. Disabilities are several people in the family, community, and society, including agencies. The government must assist because parents, or parents who have to spend time taking care of people with disabilities, especially those with severe disabilities, parents will not be able to go out to work. house which affects family income. In addition, the families of these severely disabled children do not receive help from their relatives, the problems of children with disabilities need to be closely supervised and also affect the parents or guardians of children who have to take care of them. Disabled family members are unable to work outside the home, resulting in a lack of income even though disabled children are getting older (Tinnabutra, V., 2016: 136).

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The United Nations recognizes the issue of disability and the protection of rights and welfare of persons with disabilities by the United Nations General Assembly proclaiming the Declaration on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 1975. Later, the United Nations General Assembly was proclaimed in 1981. 1981 is the International Year of Persons with Disabilities. The main reason why the United Nations declared the International Year of Persons with Disabilities is because of the living conditions of more than 600 million people with physical, mental, and mental disabilities, people around the world are still unfit and lack opportunities for rehabilitation. Therefore, every country should commit to making long-term investments in improving the livelihoods and rehabilitation of people with disabilities for a better quality of life and the ability to live with normal people in society. But the parents could not let the children help themselves altogether. Parents or guardians of children with disabilities continue to care for them, it can be seen that if these people with disabilities do not receive appropriate rehabilitation assistance (World Health Organization, 2001: 57).

The problem of disability among the population in Thailand is a problem that exists in Thai society and society recognizes it but does not pay attention, and cares as much as it should since 2014, has made and implemented a research strategy on improving the quality of life of people with disabilities with a network of people with disabilities together with the National Office for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security has jointly established "Thailand Foundation for the Development of Persons with Disabilities Research Institute" intending to elevate the quality of life for people with disabilities in all dimensions. Including the development of potential and ability to develop innovation and research personnel capable of creating knowledge that is important for improving the quality of life of people with disabilities, which is one of the important factors in building a peaceful society together and preparing for the country to enter the ASEAN Community in 2015 in all dimensions. This will lead to the development of research institutes to advance, have quality in management, and be a high-capacity organization with stability and sustainability to achieve the desired results. Therefore, a clear strategic plan must be formulated to lead to the implementation and effective monitoring and evaluation of the plan. Including the trend or direction of the future development of knowledge for people with disabilities in the country (National Office for Empowerment and Development of the Life of Persons with Disabilities, 2013: 9)

There are researchers for developing Disabilities or developing environments for Disabilities such as Intaranan, T., Thongrin, S., & Wongrujirat, M., (2023) found that to broaden the transmedia storytelling apart from the drama scripts by creating an understanding of daily routines as a source of knowledge to visually-impaired people and ordinary people, moreover, other audiences should get the benefits from watching this specific drama. Forcing ordinary audiences to understand should be avoided, on the contrary, getting the audiences to acquaint with diversity and establishing a new image for the disabled person need to be done according to the modern era. It was also suggested that Entertainment should be used for presenting. Apart from this, communication for understanding among the ordinary audiences should be a concern too since there is various diversity in society. In addition, the platforms using transmedia storytelling should be used more than online media platforms. Puilathem, D., & Duangchatom, K., (2023) found the guidelines for the development of the efficiency enhancement of government performance of teachers at the Northeastern Disability Special Schools under the Office of Special Education Administration, consisting of; (a) teaching and learning management, (b) Classroom management, (c) self-development and professional development, and the evaluation results of suitability and overall feasibility were at a high level. Wisuwan, S., Chanvirat, W., & Prongsantin, S., (2017) study the Encouragement and Developing Quality of Life of Disabled People Through Community Base Rehabilitation and found that the process was developed to target specific individuals' rehabilitation plans. Disabled people received rehabilitation from their families and community members in thinking, planning, targeting, acting, and also evaluating. However, the operation based on the policies of state and private agencies, general NGOs, and specific organizations or stakeholder organizations points out the serious implementation of the policies supporting and improving the quality of life of the elderly handicapped by the mentioned 3 sectors for concrete success. However, limitation of some operation exists. In terms of state agencies, the limitation relates to the





creation of social aptitude concerning the care of the elderly handicapped or the peaceful coexistence in the societies without depriving of and discriminating against the elderly handicapped. In terms of private agencies or general NGOs, namely BTS, the limitation includes the provision of facilities for the elderly handicapped. For example, the problem of limited space in the elevator results in the capacity crowd of handicapped 's wheelchairs, and the electricity poles and footpath cause the inability to provide more elevators. In terms of specific organizations or stakeholder organizations, the problems related to the provision of facilities by state agencies, namely wheelchairs, do not serve the elderly handicapped 's needs (Sriboonyaponrat, P., 2019). In addition, the Occupation and promotion and protection of rights affecting the quality of life of people with disabilities are statistically significant at the.05 level. There should encourage persons with disabilities to access benefits, rights, and protection to improve the quality of life of the disabled (Siwilai, T., Khanthahat, P., & Yeunyong, T., 2022).

The current situation of the disabled in Udon Thani Province and the Udon Thani Social Development and Human Security Office has organized a project to drive and follow up/plan to develop the quality of life of the disabled in Udon Thani Province. And prepare an action plan for the year 2021 by government heads, leaders of local government organizations, trainees from various local government organizations, and other agencies in the Udon Thani area to play a role in developing the potential of people with disabilities in the province. The government has realized and given importance to driving work on promoting and developing the quality of life for people with disabilities so that people with disabilities can access their rights to live independently in society and live happily together sustainably under the equality strategy, by establishing service centers for people with disabilities of local government organizations to provide services for people with disabilities at the local level with convenience, speed, and fairness, and establishing service centers for people with disabilities at hospitals and service centers for people with disabilities, adjusting the living environment for people with disabilities and after providing loans to fund independent occupations for people with disabilities and their caregivers. While supporting the employment of persons with disabilities in private enterprises under the law, there is still a lack of efficient service in terms of work for persons with disabilities, making them unable to access welfare and benefit from other public service welfare rights. Any help is fair. Along with the lack of coherence, it cannot be used in policy formulation and the provision of services that fully respond to the needs of people with disabilities (Kotler Philip, 1997: 72).

For the above reasons, the research team is interested in researching the development of the potential of people with disabilities in Udon Thani Province to know the level of potential development of people with disabilities in Udon Thani Province. And factors influencing the potential development of persons with disabilities in Udon Thani Province, including the approaches to develop the potential development of persons with disabilities in Udon Thani Province. The obtained study results will be used for the development of the potential of people with disabilities and the empowerment of people with disabilities.

Objectives

1. To study the level of potential development for people with disabilities in Udon Thani Province.
2. To study factors influencing the potential development of people with disabilities in Udon Thani Province.
3. To study guidelines for developing the potential of people with disabilities in Udon Thani Province.





Literature Review

The Persons with Disabilities Empowerment and Development Act B.E. means the **Disabilities** that people who are limited in their ability to perform daily activities or participate in social activities, Due to impaired vision, hearing, movement, communication, mental, emotional, behavioral, intellectual, learning, or any other impairment, coupled with obstacles in various fields and a special need for assistance in any aspect to be able to perform daily activities, or get involved in a society like a normal person. This is under the categories and criteria announced by the Minister of Social Development and Human Security.

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) is an international human rights law that promotes the safeguarding and guarantees of persons with disabilities the full protection of human rights, fundamental freedoms, and equality as well as promoting respect for the inherent dignity of persons with disabilities. This Convention is also a Convention. The first edition covers issues concerning the human rights of persons with disabilities not only for citizens but also for people with disabilities, but also economic, social, cultural, and domestic life as well.

Act on Promotion and Development of the Quality of Life of Persons with Disabilities B.E. 2550 Section 20 prescribes that persons with disabilities have the right to access and benefit from public facilities as well as welfare and other assistance from the state as follows:

1) medical rehabilitation services and medical expenses, disability equipment expenses, and developmental promotion media for physical, mental, emotional, social, behavioral, intellectual, learning, or enhancement of performance as prescribed by the Minister of Public Health.

2) Education according to the National Education Act or the National Education Plan, as appropriate, in specific educational institutions or general educational institutions, or alternative or non-formal education. The agencies responsible for facilities, media, services and any other educational assistance for persons with disabilities shall provide appropriate support.

3) Occupational rehabilitation, providing services with labor protection standards, measures for employment, as well as being promoted to self-employment, and services of media, facilities, technology, or any other assistance for work and occupation of persons with disabilities following the criteria, methods, and conditions prescribed by the Minister of Labor.

4) Accepting and participating in social, economic, and political activities fully and efficiently based on equality with the general public, as well as providing necessary facilities and services for persons with disabilities.

5) Assistance in providing public access to policies, plans, projects, development activities and services, life-essential products, legal assistance, and provision of defense lawyers following the rules set by the Commission.

6) information, communications, telecommunication services, information and communication technology, and communication facilities technology for all types of people with disabilities, as well as public media services from government or private agencies that have. Receive budget support from the state following the criteria, methods, and conditions prescribed by the Minister of Information and Communication Technology in the Ministerial Regulations.

7) Sign language interpreting services according to the regulations set by the committee.

8) the right to carry a guide animal, a navigation tool or device, or any disabilities with him in any vehicle or place to travel, and obtaining public facilities exempt from additional fees, fees, and rental fees for such animals, equipment, or aids.

9) The provision of disability allowance welfare according to the criteria and methods set by the committee in the Ministry of Interior Regulation regarding the criteria for disability allowance payment to the disabled of local government organizations B.E. 2553, by paying 500 baht per month to everyone who is registered with a disability and has a disability card.

10) Adjusting the living environment, having an assistant with disabilities, or providing other welfare according to the criteria and methods set by the Board in the regulations for assistants with disabilities to have the right to be reduced, or waive service fees according to the regulations set by the Committee. Persons with disabilities who do not have a caregiver are entitled to housing and care



welfare from government agencies. In the case where a private welfare institution provides housing and welfare, the State shall provide subsidies to that private welfare facility following the rules and procedures prescribed by the Board in the Regulations for Persons with Disabilities. Eligible for lead counseling services, training in parenting skills, educational management, career promotion, and employment, as well as any other assistance for self-reliance following the rules and procedures prescribed by the Committee in the Disabled Persons Regulation, and their caregivers, are eligible for tax reduction, or tax exemption as prescribed by law. Private organizations providing persons with disabilities to receive benefits under this Section are entitled to a tax reduction or exemption from tax in the percentage of the amount of expenses prescribed by law.

Conceptual Framework

The research title “Potential Development of Persons with Disabilities in Udon Thani Province” we design the framework as followed;



Figure 1 Research Conceptual Framework

Methodology

In this research, the researcher used a mixed research model with a research design as follows.

1. The population used in this research was 879,509 people, civil servants who had the right to vote in Udon Thani Province. The samples used in the research were citizens and civil servants who had the right to vote in Udon Thani by random stratified sampling. is a random sampling from a large population. There are differences between random units that can be classified into hierarchies, to provide complete coverage and calculate the number of samples according to the formula (Yamane, T., 1973:157), The samples were 400 citizens, civil servants who had the right to vote in Udon Thani province (Vanichbuncha, K., 2017:125).

2. The target group who gave qualitative information about the development of the potential of people with disabilities in Udon Thani Province through in-depth interviews was the stakeholders in the approach to developing the potential of people with disabilities in Udon Thani Province, selecting a purposive sample group, consider selecting a group of informants who can provide knowledge, background, current conditions, and potential development guidelines for people with disabilities in Udon Thani Province, totaling 10 people.

3. The tools used to collect data for this research were questionnaires used for quantitative research, and interview forms used for qualitative research by proceeding as follows.

3.1 The questionnaire consists of 4 parts:

Part 1 Information on the general status of the respondents.

Part 2 Information about the level of potential development for people with disabilities in Udon Thani Province.

Part 3 Information about factors influencing the potential development of people with disabilities in Udon Thani Province.

Part 4 Suggestions for the development of the potential of people with disabilities in Udon Thani Province.

3.2 An in-depth interview in the field to gain knowledge on the development of the potential of people with disabilities in Udon Thani Province.

4. Data analysis and statistics used to analyze data.

4.1 Quantitative data were analyzed using frequency distribution statistics, percentage, mean, standard deviation, and Multiple Regression Analysis.

4.2 Analysis of qualitative data using summary, interpretation, and presentation of data by descriptive analysis.

Results

1. The development of the potential of persons with disabilities in Udon Thani Province, the overall dependent variable in all aspects was at a moderate level ($\bar{X}=3.04$, $S.D.=.39$), in descending order as follows; safety ($\bar{X}=3.08$, $S.D.=.17$), Planning ($\bar{X}=3.03$, $S.D.=.44$), and environment ($\bar{X}=3.01$, $S.D.=.69$) respectively.

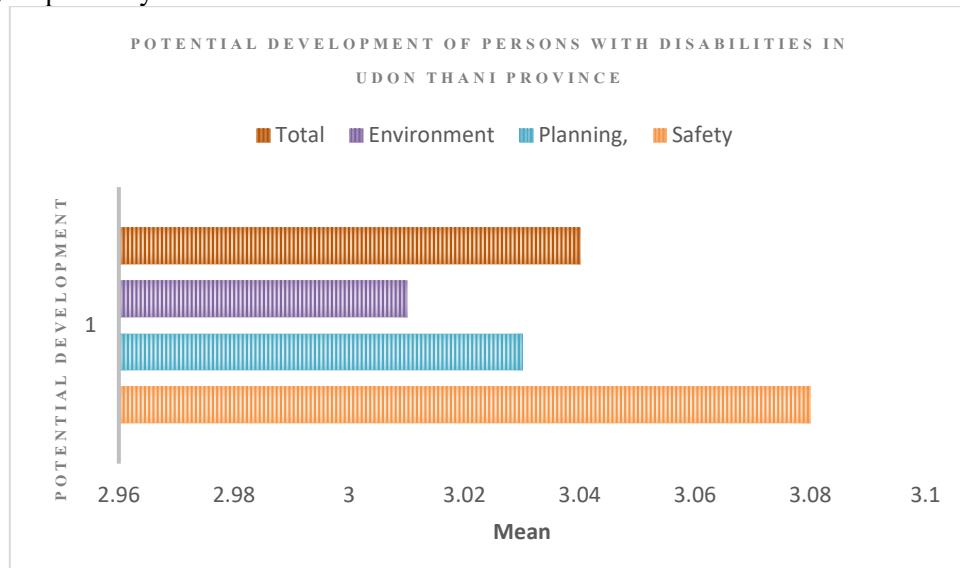


Figure 1: Potential Development of Persons with Disabilities in Udon Thani Province

2. Factors influencing the potential development of people with disabilities in Udon Thani Province in all aspects found that the local role, the government support, and the role of the network, had the predictor coefficients in the raw scores (b) equal to 0.596, 0.358, and 0.220 respectively.

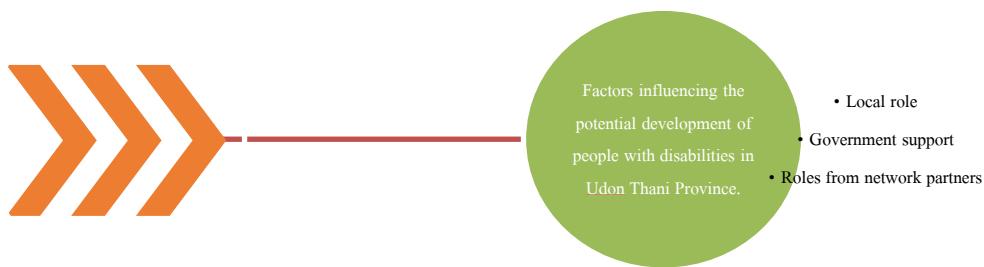


Figure 2: Factors influencing the potential development of people with disabilities

3. Guidelines for promoting the development of the potential of people with disabilities, including
 3.1 Facilitating accommodation, traveling, and adjusting methods of safety, equipment, facilities, welfare, and medical care.

3.2 Designation of building boundaries systematically and safely in life. Relevant agencies are required to improve the environment, adjust the landscape, equipment, and media, and pay attention to the environment and service of drinking water and various objects, audiovisual equipment and arrange a relaxation corner.

3.3 Promotion of access to rights and liberties, to be ready to exercise and play sports, and to play roles in the social sector or to allocate enough income to meet the needs, to record expenses, to control expenses, not to create debt, to be careful in Do not create unnecessary burdens.

3.4 The provision of insurance to prevent risks in the provision of services from private organizations so that persons with disabilities can access their legal rights and government agencies in surveillance and prevention of exploitation have measures to prevent discrimination against persons with disabilities.

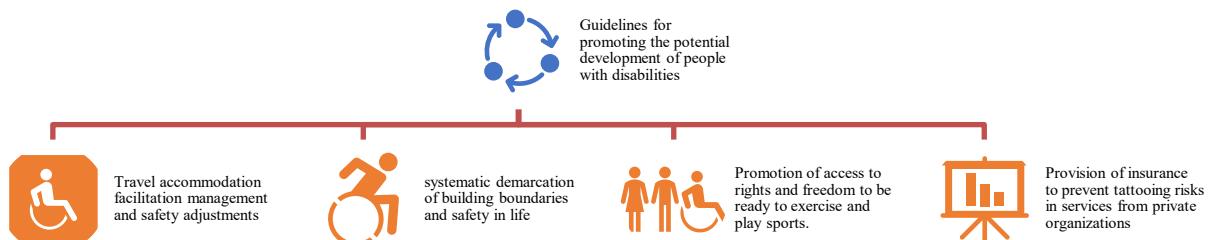


Figure 3: Guidelines for promoting the potential development of people with disabilities

Discussion

The overall capacity development of persons with disabilities in Udon Thani Province was found to be at a moderate level in descending order as follows; safety, planning, and environment respectively, which was inconsistent with the research of Sungsin, S., (2019) found that (1) Overall access to the rights of persons with disabilities has access to rights at a moderate level. (2) Factors in accessing the rights of persons with disabilities as a whole were practiced at a high level. (3) Factors in accessing rights of persons with disabilities in terms of access procedures/processes and terms of devices or assistive devices have a statistically significant relationship with the accessibility of persons with disabilities at 0.001. (4) Most of the personal characteristics are male, aged 61 years or more, graduated from elementary school, do not have a job, have a monthly income of 3,001-8,000 baht, and have



income from family members. And (5) Personal characteristics in terms of education level were related to access to rights of persons with disabilities at the statistical significance level of .01.

Factors influencing the potential development of people with disabilities in Udon Thani Province in all aspects found that the local role for government support for the role of network partners had predictor coefficients in the raw score (b) of 0.596, 0.358, 0.220 respectively, which is consistent with the research of Pongswang, A., & Soonthorn, S., (2021) It was found that (1) Factors affecting the quality of life of people with hearing disabilities or meaning in Saraburi Province overall were at a high level, with an average of 4.05. (2) The overall quality of life of people with hearing disabilities or meaning in Saraburi Province was at a high level with an average of 4.00. (3) Social support factors affecting the quality of life of people with hearing or communication disabilities in Saraburi Province, was able to explain the quality of life of hearing-impaired people in Saraburi province was 35.10%, $R^2 = .351$, and $F = 53.325$. It was found that there were 3 factors ordered into the equation according to the relationship; emotional support, assessment support, and financial support, and workers who could jointly predict the quality of life of people with hearing disabilities or meaning in Saraburi Province at the statistically significant level of $\alpha.05$.

There should be arrangements to facilitate accommodation, travel, and adjust methods of safety, facilities, welfare, and medical care by demarcating the boundaries of buildings systematically and safely. In this regard, relevant agencies are required to improve the environment, adjust the landscape, equipment, and media and pay attention to the environment and service of drinking water and other items, audiovisual equipment and arrange a relaxation corner. Promote access to rights, freedom, readiness to exercise and play sports, and roles in social sectors or activities. Allocate enough income to meet the needs of recording expenses, controlling expenses, and not creating debt. Be careful not to overburden yourself. There are insurances to prevent risks in the provision of services from private sector organizations to enable people with disabilities to access their legal rights and government agencies to monitor and prevent exploitation. There are measures to prevent discrimination against people with disabilities, which is inconsistent with the research of Intapanom, S., et al., (2021) What institutional logics have been found, from the point of view of institutional logic, to influence the practice of people involved in community-based rehabilitation (CBR) projects? How are those logics interrelated and affect the implementation of CBR programs? A study by methodology and research methods of qualitative research. Data were collected from relevant documents and research and in-depth interviews with 18 people involved in the CBR project. The research data were analyzed, and the discussion was based on the theoretical framework from an institutional logical perspective. The research found that CBR projects are influenced by six institutional logics: state logic, expert logic, community logic, family logic, market logic, and religious logic. As a result, a CBR project is one where a variety of perspectives, beliefs, and norms lead to different approaches and behaviors of practitioners. Those six institutional logics have three forms of relationship: the coherent, conflicting, and competitive relations of institutional logic. The diversity of institutional logic and triality does not turn CBR projects into integrated organizations to respond flexibly to their environments but rather reinforces norms of rigid state control that conflict with the normative community logic of policing. Participation in community organizations according to the principles of CBR.

Recommendation

Policy recommendations

1. Government agencies and network partners ensure that organizations and agencies or persons performing duties in developing the potential of persons with disabilities should seriously adhere to the principles of developing the potential of persons with disabilities in the province.

2. Cooperation and coordination should be established with all parties based on the principle of participation, importance, safety, and effective development of the potential of people with disabilities in the province.

3. Government agencies and executives or personnel should formulate a policy to develop the potential of people with disabilities in the province and be able to implement such policies concretely.

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Suggestions for practitioners

1. Campaign for relevant officials to seriously implement the policy on developing the potential of people with disabilities in the province.
2. Administrators should establish guidelines for developing the potential of persons with disabilities in the province with a clear pattern of rules and regulations that can be applied concretely.
3. Personnel or officers from each department in the province participate in the development of the potential of people with disabilities in the province effectively.

Further research Recommendations

1. An in-depth study of the factors should be undertaken by interviewing the process, model, and method of developing the potential of people with disabilities in a concrete way.
2. The next part of the research after the implementation of the recommendation for the development of the capacity of people with disabilities in the province should increase the area of research to analyze the effective and comprehensive application measures.

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