LEVELS OF DISABILITY AND P&O NEEDS IN INDONESIA

A Preliminary report of a 126-household pilot survey in the Kelurahan (Sub-District) of Cilandak Barat, Jakarta Selatan

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Peter Carey's keynote speech presented the work of the UK disability charity, The Cambodia Trust, in Indonesia. In particular he focused on the outcome of a 126-household pilot survey in the Kelurahan (Sub-District) of Cilandak West (Cilandak Barat) in South Jakarta with a total population according to the recent May 2010 census of 60,252 [33.421 male; 26.831 female) and 12.725 households, 11.125 are headed by males and 1.600 by females. The survey took place over a two-month period in October-November 2011. This is pilot has been designed as part of a larger national assessment to gather statistics on levels of disability and Prosthetic & Orthotic (P&O) needs in the wider Indonesian population on which to plan Indonesia's national strategy for prosthetic and orthotic education over the coming decade.

The assessors worked closely with the local Community Health Centres (Puskesmas) and with the Community Health workers (Ibu Kader Posyandu) who provided details of reported disabled family members in each household. The survey was thus based on the 'snowball' method with households being pre-selected on the basis of the reports received from the Ibu Kader Posyandu, and then further households with disabled family members being recommended by those already interviewed. The assessment was based on a 16-page questionnaire incorporating questions on family, legal, socio-economic, medical/clinical and environmental conditions.

All 13 hamlets in the West Cilandak sub-district were visited, some more extensively than others; much depended on whether the local community health workers were on top of their areas and knew their individual constituencies – some were remarkable, others so-so, and still others semi-detached. The results from the 13 hamlets were thus uneven. But the salient points are not in dispute – 17 percent (22 persons) of all households had adults with various forms of impairment due to stroke; 15 percent (19 persons) had children with CP-related conditions, 5 percent (6 persons) had children with Down's Syndrome; and there were two children with clubfoot; two with post-Meningitis deficit; one adult with arthogriposis; one with skoliosis and one with epilepsy.

There was just one amputee (upper limb due to a traffic accident). The vast majority (59 percent, 75 cases) of disabling conditions were said by correspondents to be due to illness; 9 percent (12 cases) to 'accidents'; just 5 percent (6 cases) to birth defects; and 20 percent (25 cases) were reported as 'don't know'. All the statistics will have to be reviewed but we believe that the pilot survey provides a credible starting point for the proposed national survey. This opens the doors to a subsequent comparative 1.000-household district survey (which might compare urban Cilandak with rural Citeureup near Bogor) and ultimately to a national survey which might be conducted in the context of the triennial Riskesdas (Basic Health Needs Survey) to provide a nationwide snapshot of the profile of disability in the wider Indonesian population.

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