

**Country Profile on  
Disability**

**KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA**

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Japan International Cooperation Agency  
Planning and Evaluation Department**

# Country Profile on Disability Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

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## Abbreviations

CBR	Community-based Rehabilitation
DPT	Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GNP	Gross National Product
JCRPO/RP	Joint Centre for Research in Prosthetics and Orthotics and Rehabilitation Programmes
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WHO	World Health Organization

## 1. Basic Profile

### 1-1. Basic Indicators

#### Public Sector Expenditure<sup>1</sup>

Health	6.4%	1996-98
Education	3.7%	1997
Social welfare	N/A	
Defense	14.5%	1997

#### Population<sup>1</sup>

Population (total)	20.7 million	2000
% of women	44.5%	2000
% of urban population	85%	1999
Life Expectancy <sup>2</sup> (total)	71.3	1999
Male	70.3	1999
Female	72.7	1999

#### Medical Care

Medical care personnel <sup>2</sup>		
Population/Doctor	602	1990-99
Population/Nurse & midwife	287	1992-95

<sup>1</sup> World Bank. World Development Report 2000-2001

<sup>2</sup> UNDP. Human Development Report 2001

**Education**

Education system <sup>3</sup>		
Primary education	6 year	
Compulsory education	N/A	
Adult literacy rate <sup>1</sup>		
Male	83%	1998
Female	64%	1998
Enrollment ratio <sup>3</sup>		
Primary education (Net enrollment ratio)		
Total	60%	1997
Male	81%	1995-99
Female	73%	1995-99
Primary education <sup>4</sup> (Gross enrollment ratio)		
Total	76%	1997
Male	77%	1997
Female	75%	1997
Secondary education (Net enrollment ratio)		
Total	59%	1997
Male	54%	1996
Female	41%	1996
Higher education (Gross enrollment ratio)		
Total	16.3%	1996
Male	17.4%	1996
Female	15.3%	1996

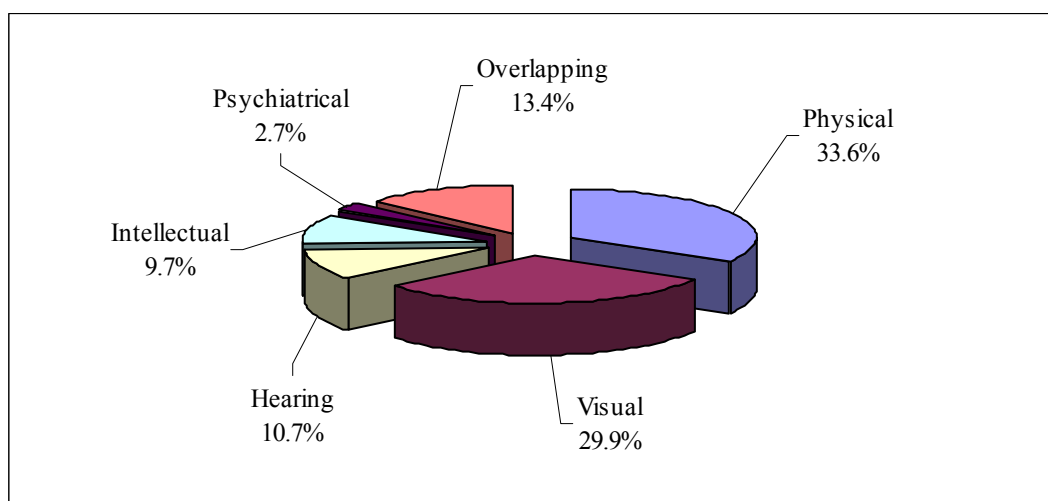
<sup>3</sup> UNESCO. Statistical Yearbook 1999

<sup>4</sup> USAID ESDS. GED2000 Retrieved February 21, 2002, from <http://qesdb.cdie.org/ged/index.html>

## 1-2. Indicators on Disability

### Disability-specific Data

Figure 1: Disability-specific Data in 1997



Source: The Economic Bureau, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia . *Profile on Welfare and Disability in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*. 2000

### Age-specific Data

Table 1: Age Specific Data on Types of Disabilities

	Number of Persons with Disabilities	Physical Disability	Visual Impairment	Hearing Impairment	Intellectual Disability	Psychiatric Disability	Overlapping
0-2	-	2.00%	1.60%	-	-	-	4.20%
3-13	-	-	-	-	51.30%	23.70%	44.60%
14-24	-	-	-	-	26.60%	-	23.10%
25-60	-	-	41.10%	-	-	38.90%	-
60+	-	Majority	31.50%	39.60%	-	-	-

Note: “- “ = N/A

Source: The Economic Bureau, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. *Profile on Welfare and Disability in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*.2000

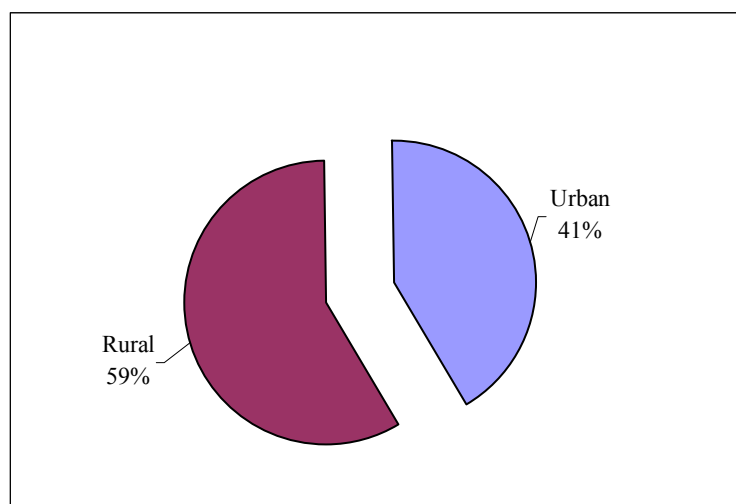
**Area-specific Data**

**Table 2: Number of Persons with Disabilities by Area and Type of Disabilities**

	Number of Persons with Disabilities	Physical Disability	Visual Impairment	Hearing Impairment	Intellectual Disability	Psychiatric Disability	Overlapping
Urban	41.30%	39.60%	48.20%	36.90%	38.70%	31.30%	37.70%
Rural	58.70%	60.40%	51.80%	63.10%	61.30%	68.70%	62.30%

Source: The Economic Bureau, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (2000), Profile on Welfare and Disability in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

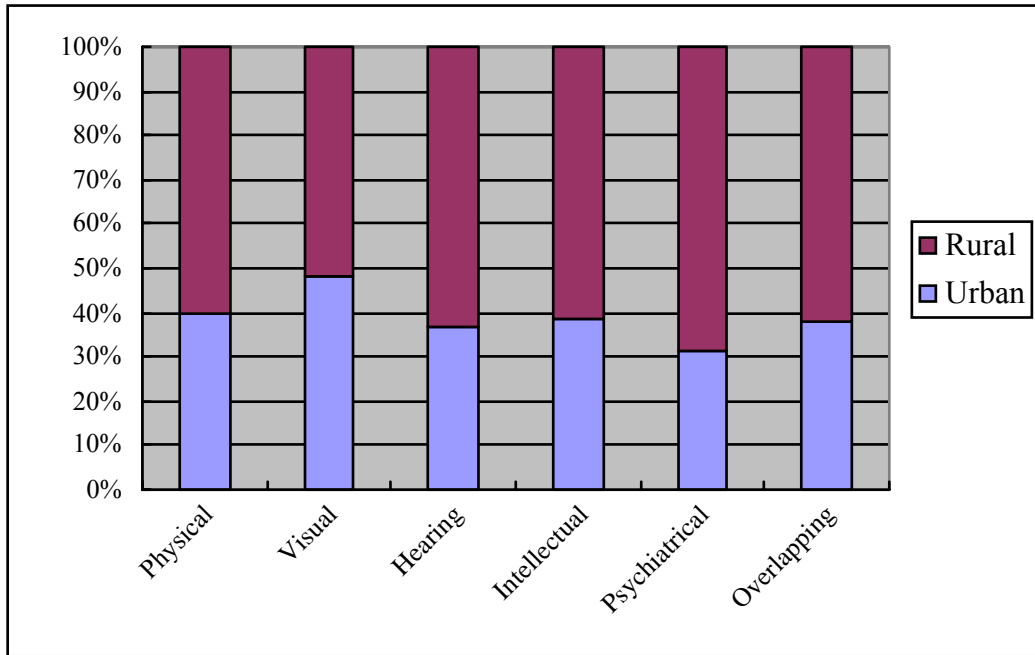
**Figure 2: Persons with Disabilities in Urban and Rural Areas**



Source: The Economic Bureau, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. *Profile on Welfare and Disability in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*. 2000



**Figure 3: Number of Persons with Disabilities by Type of Disabilities**



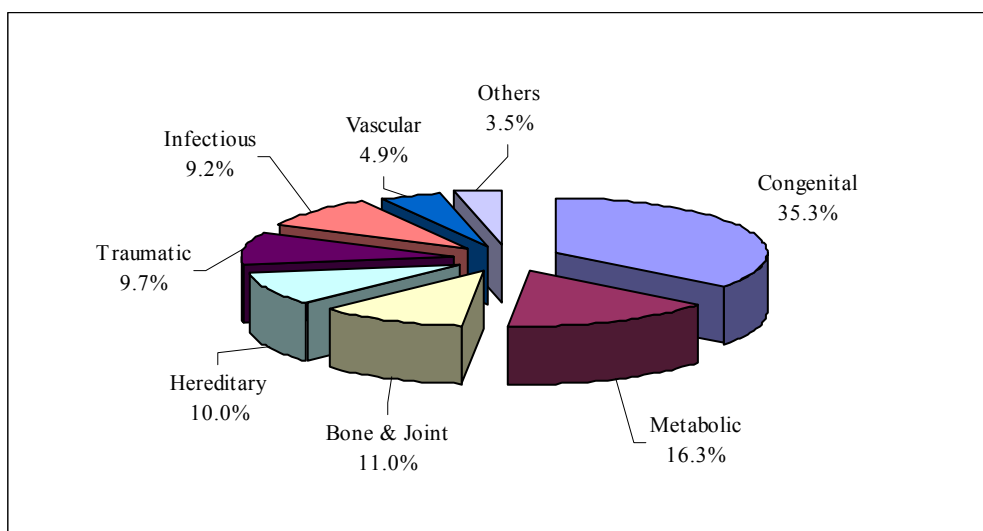
Source: The Economic Bureau, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia . *Profile on Welfare and Disability in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*. 2000

**Grade-specific Data**

N/A

**Cause-specific Data**

**Figure 4: Overall Prevalence of Categories of Disability**



Note: Each category includes etiologies as follows;

- Congenital                      Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation, Spina Bifida, etc.
- Metabolic                        Diabetes Mellitus, Malnutritional Disease, etc.
- Bone and Joint                  Rheumatoid Arthritis, Osteoarthritis, etc.
- Hereditary                        Muscular Dystropies, Haemophilia, etc.
- Traumatic                        Spinal Cord Injury, Traumatic Brain Injury, etc.
- Infectious                        Poliomyelitis, Tuberculosis, Leprosy, Malaria, etc.
- Vascular                         Smoke, Myocardial Infraction, Buerger's Disease
- Others                             Cancer, Collagen Diseases, Other immunological diseases, etc.

Source: The Economic Bureau, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia . *Profile on Welfare & Disability in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*. 2000

**Gender-specific Data**

N/A

## **2. Issues on Disability**

### **2-1. Definition of Disability in Saudi Arabia**

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Under the Labor and Workman Law (Article 51), a “persons with disability” is defined as “any person whose capacity to perform and maintain a suitable job has actually diminished as a result of a physical or mental infirmity.”

### **2-2. Current Situation**

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#### **1. Background of Policies on Disability in Saudi Arabia**

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is based on the Islamic Sharia, which emphasizes human rights, and particularly person with disabilities rights to live with dignity and benefit from welfare.

The Kingdom has focused on person with disability since initiation of its social and economic development plans two decades ago, with the government providing modern and appropriate welfare means for person with disabilities to help them adapt to society, the environment, and life by taking into consideration their intellectual, psychological, physical and livelihood features.

#### **2. Issues on current policies on disability**

Despite medical statistics compiled by the Ministry of Health for its annual reports, there are no regular and reliable reports on disabilities including numbers, types of disabilities, amputee population, or geographical distribution.

Greater attention has been placed on person with disabilities health care services rather than education and training, and there is very little attention given to helping persons with disabilities gain employment. Meanwhile, iClose family intermarriages appears to be a major cause of disability than socio-environmental factors.

Royal family members support public and private organizations and facilities for person with disabilities, and donations are raised from wealthy families in the Kingdom. However, specialized organizations such as hospitals of the National Guard, Military, Social Security

and others, extend services to persons with disabilities as part of their constituency services. Most of these specialized organizations are extremely sensitive about persons with disabilities statistics for security reasons, and it is estimated that statistics are vastly under-reported, when and if they are reported.

Several royal foundations are quite active in terms of developing infrastructure for persons with disabilities, but the type and quality of services are not well known, as these institutions are still under development and not fully operational. Founders and contributors have only recently recognized the need for improved services for person with disabilities at such institutions, as most contributions have gone into the development of facilities and infrastructure.

Institutions for persons with disabilities are more prevalent in urban than rural areas, with an uneven distribution of facilities irrelative to persons with disabilities distribution. Regarding the number and type of prostheses and orthoses for persons with disabilities, there is insufficient data and it is unknown whether needs are being met.

### 2-3. Documentation and Survey on Disability

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#### National Census

【Title】	National Census
【Last published】	1999
【Items regarding Persons with Disabilities】	No information available

#### Other Surveys

【Title】	National Project for Disability and Rehabilitation Research
【Last published】	1993-1996
【Surveyed by】	The Joint Centre for Research in Prosthetics and Orthotics and Rehabilitation Programmes (JCRPO/RP), in collaboration with the Ministry of Health
【Items regarding Persons with Disabilities】	The objective of the survey was to generate demographic and epidemiological baseline data in order to map out the national disability rate <sup>5</sup> . A pre-tested structured questionnaire and stratified cluster sampling techniques were used to survey 10,000 households in all regions of the country. The survey found an overall disability prevalence rate of around 4.5%. This project also categorized types of disabilities.

### **1. Collection of gender and area specific data**

Gender is an important factor that must be considered in Muslim societies. There are separate rehabilitation facilities for males and females but there are no statistics or data to justify the number or distribution of these facilities. The majority of vocational rehabilitation trainees are male, while the majority of social rehabilitation targets on persons with severe disabilities or overlapping are females. This may imply that there is a number of females with severe or overlapping, there is an invisible barrier for women to benefit from vocational rehabilitation, women are not expected to work after training, or perhaps that there are simply no vocational training courses that women have interest in. Therefore, cross-analysis by area, gender and other factors are required to improve services.

### 3. Administration and Policy on Disability

#### 3-1. Administration on Disability

\* See Annex 1 for the list of public organizations

##### **Central Government**

【Organizational chart】

N/A

【Disability-related Central Governmental Organizations】

【Name】	【Description】
Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs	Supervises activities related to vocational rehabilitation and social adaptation of persons with disabilities.
Ministry of Health	Provides healthcare services to persons with disabilities as well as disease control and prevention.
Ministry of Education	Provides educational programs for persons with disabilities.

The Ministry of Education operates the Noor Institute for the Blind, the Amal Institute for the Deaf and the Institute for the Intellectually Disabled. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs operates Career Rehabilitation Centres in Riyadh, Taif and Damman, Social Rehabilitation Centres for the Severely Disabled in Riyadh, Al-Ahsa and Medinah, Comprehensive Rehabilitation Centres in 5 regions, the Institute for Paraplegic Children in Riyadh and Taif, and Social Welfare Centres for the elderly in 7 major cities.

Coordination between person with disabilities welfare and rehabilitation organizations is intended to avoid duplication of services. Royal Decree No. 1219, dated 9/7/1376H establishes a joint committee comprising representatives of the 3 ministries mentioned above.

The main tasks of the committee are to:

- Provide suggestions and recommendations to officials on medical, educational, vocational, social welfare and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities
- Exchange research and studies on disability-related topics and issues

##### **Local Government**

【Organizational chart】

N/A

#### 1. Regional differences and accessibility

Almost all services and programs are concentrated in the metropolitan areas, and thus are not easily accessible to the rural population or nomadic tribes. On the one hand, there are

duplications of efforts in urban areas due to a lack of communication, coordination and cooperation among public and private organizations. And on the other hand, there is a lack of services in rural areas where 58.7% of persons with disabilities are reported to live. Therefore, accessibility considerations should be made for rural and nomadic persons with disabilities in further endeavors.

**【Disability-related Local Governmental Organizations】**

【Name】	【Description】
N/A	N/A

### 3-2. Laws and Regulations on Disability

\* See Appendix 3 for other laws

【Title】	Basic System, Issue No. A/90, Article 27
【Year legislated】	1992 (1412H) <sup>6</sup>
【Purpose】	
【Description】	The government guarantees the rights of citizens in cases of emergency, sickness, disability, or old age by providing social security and encouraging agencies and individuals to participate in charitable activities.

【Title】	The Labor Code (Royal Decree No. M/21)
【Year legislated】	1969 (1389H)
【Purpose】	
【Description】	Emphasizes labor rights and details vocational rehabilitation for persons with disabilities.

【Title】	Council of Ministers Resolution No. 407
【Year legislated】	1973 (1393H)
【Purpose】	
【Description】	Provides for allocation of monthly allowances to persons with disabilities who participate at Disabled Training Centres.

【Title】	Council of Ministers Resolution No. 715
【Year legislated】	1974 (1394H)
【Purpose】	
【Description】	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provides rehabilitation for paraplegics, epilepsy patients and those who require medical care under the supervision of the Ministry of Health.</li> <li>- Establishes mother and childcare centers affiliated to the Ministry of Health, to take care of pregnant woman and children.</li> </ul>

<b>【Title】</b>	Regulation for Rehabilitation Program No. 1355
<b>【Year legislated】</b>	N/A
<b>【Purpose】</b>	
<b>【Description】</b>	<p>Establishes a career rehabilitation department at the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs concerned with the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Follows up and implements career rehabilitation programs, draws up general policies, carries out research on the development of programs</li> <li>- Suggests means of rehabilitation and services for persons with disabilities</li> <li>- Prepares persons with disabilities for employment</li> <li>- Records the types of services provided to persons with disabilities</li> </ul>

<b>【Title】</b>	Decree No. 129
<b>【Year legislated】</b>	1976 (1394H)
<b>【Purpose】</b>	
<b>【Description】</b>	<p>Policy of the General Department of Rehabilitation. Includes creation of special programs for those who could be vocationally trained, and sets other programs for those who are not fit to work by giving them special medical and psychological rehabilitation.</p>

<b>【Title】</b>	Council of Ministers Resolution No. 219
<b>【Year legislated】</b>	1980 (1400H)
<b>【Purpose】</b>	
<b>【Description】</b>	<p>The General Department of Rehabilitation under the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs offers an annual donation of SR<sup>7</sup> 30,000 to persons with disabilities projects initiated by disabled individuals or groups.</p>

<b>【Title】</b>	Council of Ministers Resolution No. 7
<b>【Year legislated】</b>	1999 (1420H)
<b>【Purpose】</b>	
<b>【Description】</b>	<p>Grants approval to raise donations up to SR 50,000 for rehabilitation projects developed by disabled individuals or groups that are intended to achieve person with disabilities training goals.</p>

<b>【Title】</b>	Council of Ministers Resolution No. 187
<b>【Year legislated】</b>	1981 (1401H)
<b>【Purpose】</b>	
<b>【Description】</b>	<p>Persons with disabilities and their companions receive 50% discounts on all government owned transportation including ships, airplanes, trains and buses.</p>

<b>【Title】</b>	Council of Ministers Resolution No. 85
<b>【Year legislated】</b>	1997 (1418H)
<b>【Purpose】</b>	



<p><b>【Description】</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establishes the Person with Disabilities Services Coordination Committee with member a from King Saud University and Presidency of Girls' Education</li> <li>- Donates to person with disabilities' families</li> <li>- Prepares publicity plans for raising disability awareness and finding means of prevention.</li> </ul>
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<b>【Title】</b>	Labor and Workman Law
<b>【Year legislated】</b>	1969 (1389H)
<b>【Purpose】</b>	Vocational rehabilitation of the Persons with Disability
<p><b>【Description】</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establishes and organizes institutions necessary to provide vocational training services.</li> <li>- Promotes persons with disabilities employment.</li> </ul>	

### 3-3. Policies on Disability

#### **National Development Plan**

<b>【Title】</b>	The Sixth Development Plan
<b>【Period】</b>	1995-2000
<p><b>【Items regarding Persons with Disabilities】</b></p> <p>Intensified the follow-up and provision of health care for the most vulnerable including person with disabilities, the elderly, and those with chronic illnesses.</p>	

<b>【Title】</b>	The Seventh Development Plan
<b>【Period】</b>	2001-2005
<p><b>【Items regarding Persons with Disabilities】</b></p> <p>Encourages co-operatives and charities to develop economic and social projects, e.g. operations concerning sanatoriums, hospitals, disability centers and private clinics.</p>	

### 3-4. Measures on Disability

#### **Prevention, Identification and Early Intervention**

##### **【Current situation】**

The following areas have been identified as priorities under prevention, identification and early intervention.<sup>8</sup>

- Genetic counseling for persons with disabilities
- Parental care, mental nutrition, growth retardation, and low birth weight
- Nutrition support of inherited metabolic diseases
- International legislative action to ban land mines

- Disability prevention for the elderly
- Measures to prevent vehicle accidents
- Child safety and injury prevention
- Sport safety for all
- Substance abuse
- Terrorism
- Mass media and public awareness

<b>【Policy/program title】</b>	Unknown
<b>【Year implemented】</b>	
<b>【Description】</b>	

### **Medical Services and Rehabilitation**

#### **【Current situation】**

Over the last two decades, the Ministry of Health has established numerous rehabilitative services for persons with disabilities and other residents in the country. A majority of these programs offer physical, occupational, speech and hearing therapy as well as prosthetic and orthotic services within the existing modern and sophisticated health care service system and infrastructure. Rehabilitation programs and facilities, as an integral part of modern health care delivery services, have received due attention by government authorities, with services being made available to all citizens and residents. Specialized medical centers such as the King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre, and the King Khalid Eye Hospital, are among the most modern health facilities in the world. Plans are now underway for the establishment of the “Prince Sultan City for Humanitarian Services”, which will include multidisciplinary rehabilitation programs and interventions. The system will employ 1,500 staff to care for patients with a variety of illnesses, including strokes, traumatic injuries, congenital anomalies, geriatrics, and related rehabilitative services and programs.

Prostheses and orthoses are provided through government-run medical, educational and social welfare institutions, but details on the actual number and type of prostheses and orthoses prescribed for persons with disabilities are not available.

**Education**

**【Current situation】**

Government education policies issued in 1970 include special education programs for persons with disabilities. The Ministry of Education manages specialized institutions for children with disabilities.

The Ministry of Education provides educational rehabilitation through educational institutions such as the Noor Institute for the Blind, Amal Institute for the Deaf, and the Institute for the Mentally Retarded.

The Noor Institute for the Blind has 10 centers and serves 625 visually impaired children. The institute has staff including 264 qualified teachers, whom hold diplomas in special education, and its branches are equipped with a special curriculum, modules, and specialized assistive devices.

The Amal Institute for the Deaf has 23 branches with additional units in certain public schools. Approximately 3,000 students of both genders with hearing impairments are taught by 606 qualified teachers. Middle and secondary level students are taught certain kinds of technical and career-oriented vocational skills according to their degree of ability, and level of hearing impairment.

By 1992, the number of institutions for persons with intellectual disability increased to 14 and 233 units annexed to elementary schools where 2,250 children with intellectual disability were taught by 476 qualified and certified teachers.

Apart from these special schools, government-owned Social Rehabilitation Centres and other institutes for social welfare provide educational rehabilitation for persons with disabilities in need.

<b>【Policy/program title】</b>	Unknown
<b>【Year implemented】</b>	
<b>【Description】</b>	

## **Social Services**

### **【Current situation】**

Persons with disabilities in the Kingdom receive the following benefits:

- A 50% airfare discount for oneself and a companion
- Artificial limbs
- Employment support on an equal basis with the non-disabled population
- Special parking places at various institutions
- Access to public roads, parks, and gardens
- Educational opportunities for persons with visual, hearing, or speech impairments and intellectual disability at specialized institutions (special education) under the supervision of the Ministry of Education and General Presidency for Girls' Education.
- A subsidy of SR 10,000 for persons with disabilities drivers for modifying their car from automatic to manual.

Apart from institutional welfare, the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs provides various services to those outside the social institution. For example, there is an aid program for paralyzed children living with their families, which provides a maximum annual allowance of SR 10,000 for each paralyzed child. There is also an aid program for persons with disabilities who are cared for by their own families, with a maximum of SR 10,000 per annum for severe cases and SR 6,000 for those who do not benefit from vocational rehabilitation programs.

In addition, the Saudi rehabilitation system provides a government subsidy amounting to SR 50,000 per person with disabilities for individual or collective rehabilitation projects under the supervision of the Administration of Social Affairs through its own Rehabilitation Centres.

Social Rehabilitation Centres, under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, aim to provide shelter and assist severely disabled people who are not able to benefit from vocational rehabilitation programs due to the severity of their disability, multiple disabilities, or severe intellectual disabilities. Full boarding and lodging services are provided separately for each gender. There are 3 Social Rehabilitation Centres in Riyadh, Madinah and Ahsa, which provide services to over 875 people (255 males, 359 females and 261 children from nurseries).

The Comprehensive Rehabilitation Centres are a new type of rehabilitation center combining

rehabilitation services into one unit under the control of one administration. They include vocational sections for vocational rehabilitation, and social sections for social rehabilitation of the severely disabled persons. There are 12 Comprehensive Rehabilitation Centres providing services to 1,562 males, 802 females and 497 children with disabilities through its nursery sections.

Day Care Centres provide rehabilitation services to special cases of children with disabilities between the ages of 3-12 for certain hours of the day to alleviate the burden of their parents, particularly working parents who are unable to provide adequate care and attention during official working hours. One pilot center in Riyadh was opened in 1989/1990 (1410/1411H), which provides social, health and physiotherapy services to admitted children. 113 cases (64 males and 49 females) receive rehabilitation services in Riyadh Centre. Another center has been approved and is under construction in Jeddah.

Polio-Care Institutes provide medical, health, psychological, rehabilitative and educational services to paralyzed children and those who suffer from physical or congenital infirmity resulting in bodily defects that inhibit normal movement. The institutes also attempt to develop remaining inherent capacities and rehabilitate these children socially and psychologically so that they can adapt themselves to the community through full boarding and lodging facilities, physiotherapy and medical care including sophisticated surgical operations in specialized public hospitals and medical centers. There are 2 Polio-Care Institutes operating in Riyadh and Taif which care for 242 paralyzed children (145 males and 97 females).

Social Education Institutes accommodate children with special conditions under a social welfare program of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, and aim to function as an alternative, reliable supporter in the absence of their families. These institutes provide full religious, educational, cultural, health, psychological and social care within Islamic principles to ensure that the children are adequately prepared to lead a decent life, be good citizens and are capable of serving their country in various fields.

Social Welfare Homes mainly provide care for the elderly, but care is also provided to those over 20 years old who are sick or with disability and whose sickness or disability has rendered them unable to work. Such cases are referred by the Ministry of Health, provided they do not have contagious or mental diseases. These homes provide a variety of care including

comfortable accommodation and proper nutrition in a family atmosphere.

<b>【Policy/program title】</b>	Unknown
<b>【Year implemented】</b>	
<b>【Description】</b>	

### **Vocational Training and Employment Promotion Service**

#### **【Current situation】**

The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs has established Vocational Rehabilitation Centres for persons with disabilities. These centers focus on rehabilitation of physically or intellectually disabled persons between the ages of 15 and 45. Rehabilitation is tailored to each persons with disabilities of their abilities and arranged to develop unexploited human potential, to create productive individuals that can adapt socially and psychologically to become effective partners in society.

These Vocational Rehabilitation Centres are comprised of training sections in electricity, book-binding, carpentry, computers, clerical works, typewriting, secretarial works, embroidering, grinding, painting, engraving, ornamenting, landscaping, tailoring, sewing, and dressmaking among other subjects.

Persons with disabilities benefit from the following services during training:

- Medical, social and psychological care, physiotherapy services and assistive devices
- Boarding and lodging
- A monthly allowance of SR 1,200 if the trainees with disabilities are married, and a daily allowance to cover the cost of travel to and from the center in cases where the trainees lives with their family

There are currently 3 vocational rehabilitation centers for males in Riyadh, Dammam and Taif, and 2 for females in Riyadh and Taif. In addition, 4 Vocational Rehabilitation Centres operate in Bukariyah, Hail, Jeddah and Abha. In 1995, the centers and annexes provided training services to 1035 trainees, of whom 822 were males and 213 females.

The Labor and Workman Law (1969) promotes the employment of Persons with Disabilities in Article 54 as follows:

*Any employer who employs 50 or more workmen, and the nature of whose work allows him to*

*employ disabled workmen who have been vocationally rehabilitated, shall employ such workmen to the extent of 2% of the total number of their workforce, whether through nomination by employment offices or otherwise. He shall send to the said office a statement indicating the jobs and positions occupied by disabled workmen who have been vocationally rehabilitated and the pay rate of each such workman*

<b>【Policy/program title】</b>	Unknown
<b>【Year implemented】</b>	
<b>【Description】</b>	

### **Community-based Rehabilitation(CBR)**

#### **【Current situation】**

Saudi Arabia is one of the 12 Eastern Mediterranean countries that collaborate with WHO in CBR, planning and implementing national programs on rehabilitation. Training has been provided to various categories of rehabilitation professionals and supporting WHO publications have been distributed to Member States and regional institutions. In the process of the collaboration, WHO has provided advisory services to Saudi Arabia. Emphasis has been placed on strengthening the exchange and dissemination of information, particularly in relation to CBR.

At a glance, services provided by the government and charitable organizations seem to be plentiful and of high quality, but it could also be said that this provision of institutionalized services or “institutionalization” is a form of “social segregation”, rather than “social integration” of persons with disability. Although the lack of public awareness does not come out clearly in this report, the underlying public attitude towards persons with disabilities may be sympathy and social pity that in turn may be preventing their acceptance into mainstream society. Public awareness campaigns on the feelings and barriers faced by persons with disabilities may be necessary to lay foundations for transition from institutionalization to community-based services and rehabilitation according to international trends.

<b>【Policy/program title】</b>	N/A
<b>【Year implemented】</b>	
<b>【Description】</b>	

**Communication Tools**

【Current situation】

No information available

【Policy/program title】	N/A
【Year implemented】	
【Description】	

**3-5. Experts and Workers in the Field of Disability**

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No information was provided by the local consultant on specialized training and/or qualifications for persons with disabilities support personnel. A review of training institute and/or university course programs reveals some specialized courses, with some reference to specialized care for persons with disabilities.



## 4. Disability-related Activities

### 4-1. Activities by Disability-related Organizations

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\* See Appendix 1 for the list of organizations

#### **Current State of Organizations**

There is an organization for persons with disabilities called the Islamic World Council on Disability and Rehabilitation, but no information on this organization was found.

The following NGOs are said to support persons with disabilities:

- Prince Salman Centre for Disability
- Disabled Children Association
- Joint Centre for Research in Prosthetics and Orthotics and Rehabilitation Programs

### 4-2. Cooperation Projects on Disability Organized by International Donors and Others

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\* See Appendix 2 for the list of projects

#### **Assistance by Multilateral/Bilateral Organizations and International NGOs**

WHO has supported promotion of CBR projects in the Eastern Mediterranean region by providing advisory services to Saudi Arabia.

#### **Assistance by Japan**

There has been no disability-related assistance provided by the Japanese government to date.

## 5. References

This report is edited based on the main source which was drafted by a local consultant.

### Main source:

The Economic Bureau, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (2000), *Profile of Welfare and Disability in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*.

### Other references:

WHO, Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (1994) *Regional Director's Annual Report*, Retrieved March 22, 2002 from <http://www.emro.who.int/Rd/AnnualReports/1994/94%20RD's%20Rep.-Diag.,%20Therap.,%20Rehab.%20Tech.-Disability%20Prev.htm>