Services and Supports for Persons with Disabilities in Japan

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Background

- Political System in Japan
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Three Layers of Government System in Japan

- **Role of Local Governments: about 1,300**
  - Responsible for provision of human services

- **Role of Prefecture and City Governments: 47**
  - Responsible for coordination, supervision and mid-term planning for local governments

- **Role of the National Government (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare)**
  - Responsible for national planning and policy formulation as well as program monitoring and evaluation.
Comparison of Life Expectancy and Mortality (Between 1901 and 2003 in Japan)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1901</th>
<th>2006</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Life Expectancy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infant Mortality</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>2.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mortality from Tuberculosis</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>1.8</td>
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<td>(2002)</td>
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Number of persons with disabilities (home/facility)

Total of persons with disabilities: 7.091 million (about 5% of the population)
Including 6.421 million people at home (90%) and people admitted to facilities: 670,000 persons (10%)

- Persons (children) with physical disabilities at home: 3.327 million (94.6%)
- Persons (children) with physical disabilities who are admitted to facilities: 189,000 persons (5.4%)
- Persons with mental disabilities at home: 2.675 million (88%)
- Hospitalized persons with mental disabilities: 353,000 persons (12%)

The number of persons (children) with physical disabilities was estimated based on a survey in 2001 and others; the number of persons (children) with intellectual disabilities was estimated based on a survey in 2005 and others, and the number of persons (children) with mental disabilities was estimated based on a survey in 2005 and others.
Number of Persons with Physical Disabilities for Different Types of Disability (1996)

- **Physical Disability**: 1,749,000 (53.9%)
- **Visual Disability**: 301,000 (9.3%)
- **Hearing and Speech Disability**: 346,000 (10.7%)
- **Internal Disorder**: 849,000 (26.2%)

Total: 3,245,000 (100%)
Recent Reform of Health and Welfare Policies for Persons with Disabilities

Enactment of Services and Supports for Persons with Disabilities Act, as effective from April 2006
Before recent reform  
(Before 2006.4)

Protection

Recent Reform

Supports

After recent reform  
(After 2006.4)

Special feature Change in the reform for PWDs
Services and Supports for PWDs Act

Universal Platform

Old System
- Each physical, intellectual and mental welfare service has a different system

Recent Reform
- Universal Platform of welfare services for all PWDs
- Centered on Local Gov from the viewpoint of community welfare

User Friendliness

Old System
- Outdated and complicated service menus which do not match current needs
- Rigid regulation of service providers while increasing demands for services

Recent Reform
- Reform of the welfare system in which PWDs can more easily use welfare services.
- "De-regulations" to maximize the utilization of limited social resources in community (not only social welfare corporation, NGOs)

Institution to Community

Old System
- 55% of the disable student move to institutions.
- Only 1% of PWDs leave institutions for employment

Recent Reform
- Fostering and support for employment of PWDs with willingness to work and abilities

Transparency and Clarification

Old System
- No rule of procedures and standards for fair services

Recent Reform
- "Increase of transparency and clarification concerning procedures and standards" for fair services

Stable fiscal resources

Old System
- New service user are increasing, much more financial resources will be need.
- Unstable Gov fiscal responsibility

Recent Reform
- Strengthening of a mutual support system for sharing increasing welfare service expenditures
  1) "Cost-sharing" in proportion to the quantity of services used
  2) "Clarification" of the national government’s "fiscal responsibility"
Paradigm Change in Welfare Services  De-institutionalization

Large Institutions built in 60’s and 70’s

Poor user satisfaction and gaps between services provided and users needs

Multi-Function Group Home

Public Housing

Classical Group Home

Welfare (protected) Factory
Comprehensive Services and Supports Welfare System

Local governments

Care services
- Home help service
- Activity support
- Medical care
- Life care
- Day service
- Short-stay
- Comprehensive supports for severe PWDs
- Cohabitation care

Medical and Welfare Services and Supports

PWDs

Training care service
- Rehabilitation service
- Employment promotion service
- Group home

medical service
- Rehabilitation medical care
- Development medical care
- Public expense for visits to mental hospitals

Assistive device

Community life supports
- Counseling support
- Moving support
- Welfare homes

- Communication support and equipment
- Community life support center

Prefectural and city governments

- Wide-area support
- Coordination, and mid-term planning

Support
Application Procedure for welfare services

Considering what is adequate services for PWDs, local government should provide services to PWDs.

- **Application and Consultation (to Local Gov)**
  - First assessment (Local Gov)
    - Second assessment (committee for certification of need)
      - certification of care need
        - Objective standard to assess physical and mental condition of PWDs
      - Consideration lists
        - Community life
        - Employment
        - Daily life
        - Care giver
        - Living place
    - Interview for applicant
      - Hearing of committee for certification of need
  - Providing Services for PWDs

1. Physical and Mental condition
2. Assessment of community activities, care giver, employment
3. PWDs’s opinion

- Physician’s evaluation
Employment Measures
Persons with physical disabilities

Employment forms of persons with physical disabilities (age 15 to 64)
Persons with intellectual disabilities

Employment forms of persons with intellectual disabilities (age 15 to 64)

- Unemployed: 51%
- Regular employment: 12%
- Part-time employment / temporary: 5%
- Help for self-owned business: 2%
- Self-employed: 0.4%
- Sheltered work institution, etc.: 15%
- Welfare work activity center, etc.: 31%
- Employed / self-employed: 18%
Persons with mental disabilities

Employment forms of persons with mental disabilities (age 20 to 64)
Physical Disabilities Certificate

[Images of a physical disabilities certificate being held and opened]
Thank you for your kind attention!