

ITALIAN ASSOCIATION FRIENDS OF RAOUL FOLLEREAU - AIFO

***STRUCTURE OF THE ASSOCIATION
&
ACTIVITIES IN DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES***

AIFO : A POPULAR ORGANISATION

- **OVER 1.000 OFFICIAL MEMBERS**
- **58 AIFO GROUPS SPREAD ALL OVER ITALY**

- **ILEP (International Leprosy Federation)**
- **CERCLE DE SOLIDARITÉ (Follereau-Damien)**
- **IDDC (International Disability and Development Consortium)**
- **WHO (in official partnership with DAR)**

AIFO

FINANCIAL SOURCES

- **PRIVATE PERSONS (80%)**
- **MAAEE (Italian Foreign Affairs Ministry)**
- **UE (European Union)**
- **LOCAL INSTITUTIONS (Regions, Provinces, Municipalities)**

AIFO

PROJECTS 2008

- **110 (28 Countries)**
 - **66 Leprosy/Primary Health Care**
 - **28 Disabilities**
 - **16 Children**

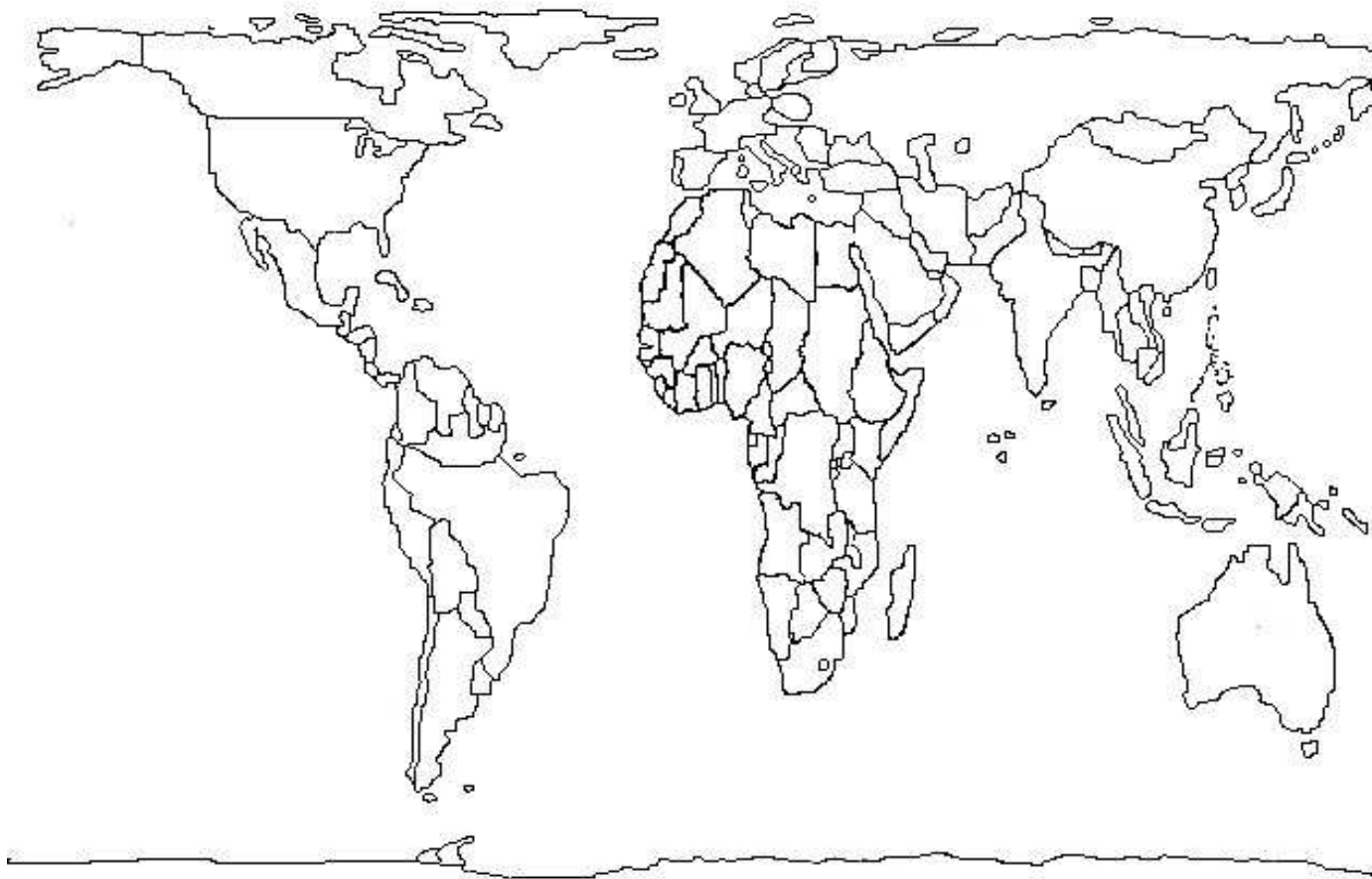


LOCAL PARTNERS

- **GOVERNMENTS**
- **NGOs, PEOPLE MOVEMENTS, DPOs
(DISABLED PEOPLE ORGANISATIONS)**
- **RELIGIOUS CONGREGATIONS**

CO-ORDINATION OFFICES

Brasil, Democratic Republic of Congo, Mozambique India Vietnam Mongolia Indonesia



AIFO IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

- **DEVELOPING PROJECTS (INTERNATIONAL HEALTH CO-OPERATION) IN AFRICA, ASIA & LATIN AMERICA**

- **EMERGENCY: ONLY WHERE AIFO CARRIES OUT DEVELOPING PROJECTS**

AIFO ACTIONS

- **LEPROSY & PRIMARY HEALTH CARE (PRIMARY HEALTH CARE - PHC)**
- **DISABILITIES– PHYSICAL, MENTAL & SOCIO ECONOMIC (CBR APPROACH, SINCE 1988)**
- **CHILDREN**

Community Based Rehabilitation CBR-WHO

- CBR is a strategy in a community development context, regarding rehabilitation, equal opportunities, social inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities.
- CBR is jointly implemented by persons with disabilities, their families and communities and by specific health, educational and social training services.

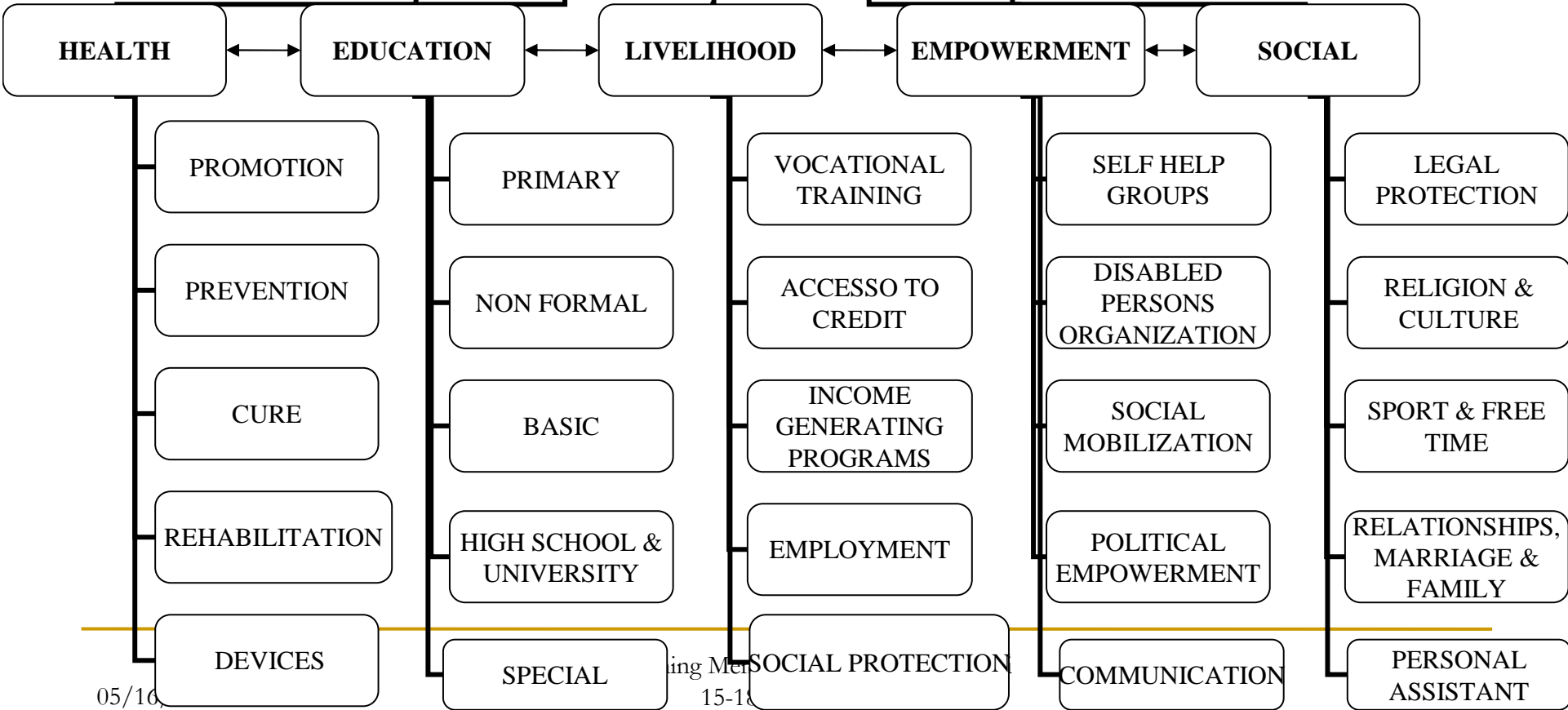




GOAL: HUMAN RIGHTS ~ SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ~ POVERTY REDUCTION

COMMUNITY BASED REHABILITATION

PRINCIPLES: PARTICIPATION ~ INCLUSION ~ SUSTAINABILITY ~ SELF ADVOCACY



AIFO and Psychosocial Disabilities

WHY

- Hystorical parallelism between the marginalisation of leprosy and the madness
- AIFO has an experience in fighting the stigma related to leprosy. The great battle of Raoul Follereau for human dignity. Similar is the stigma related to mental illnesses.
- People affected by leprosy were in Leprosarium or leprosy colonies, as the “mads” in asylums.
- The basic principles of CBR and of community psychiatry are the same

AIFO and Psychosocial Disabilities

- Persons with psychosocial disabilities join the majority of CBR projects
- In 2007 more than 80.000 direct beneficiaries in our CBR projects :
7.000 persons with psychosocial disabilities

AIFO and Psychosocial Disabilities

Examples

- **EGYPT - ALEXANDRIA**
- **DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO - GOMA**
- **INDIA - COCHIN**

Psychosocial need assessment : meeting with 9 CBR projects in India Dec. 2006

Results

- Strong social taboos, more difficult involvement within CBR projects
- Mental illness is not always seen as “disability”
- To find specific DPOs is not easy
- Lack of information on existing simple teaching material, appropriate for CBR projects
- Lack of participation/collaboration of project staff in mental health field

AIFO-WHO Innovative care for Chronic Conditions April 2005 – December 2007, Rome

- New Paradigm: in chronic conditions persons acquire more responsibility and a more active role in self-care, while professionals become facilitators.
- At the beginning, the research involved also a psychiatric rehabilitation project in Costa Rica and a study about self help groups of people with schizophrenia in China
- www.aifo.it/english

AIFO and Human Rights

1. To support the knowledge and implementation of UN Convention on Human Rights of People with Disabilities. Approved by UN Assembly in December 2006, it will entry into force in May 2008
2. Training Manual on Human Rights of People with Disabilities, financed by UNDESA and produced in partnership with DPI Italy during the project “Strengthening the skills of the Federation of DPOs in Mongolia”. Available in AIFO website, in English and Italian. In 2008, it will be published in French, Spanish and Portuguese with the funds of Province of Milan.
3. Organisation in Italy of activities related to the EU project “mainstream disability in development cooperation”, in consortium with other 12 European NGOs , 2006 – 2008.

Other Initiatives

- CBR Regional Congress for Asia and Pacific in Bangkok from 9th to 11th December 2008 – AIFO will organise a workshop on psychosocial disability for CBR projects in collaboration with WHO – DAR. The initiative is still open to other participations.