Reviewer’s report

Title: Effective implementation of the UNCRPD by Thailand State Party: challenges and potential remedies

Version: 0  Date: 14 Nov 2016

Reviewer: Parul Bakhshi

Reviewer's report:

This paper makes an important contribution to the field of disability policy in a Low-Middle income country. It will be strengthened by review of some elements:

1. In the Background section it would be important to have an explanation of how Thailand defined "disability" both officially and historically. There is mention of laws in the 80s as well as the 1991 rehabilitation act but there is need for some information regarding how the paradigm shift from medical to social model operated within the specific context of Thailand. A reminder of the Medical and Social models of disability will also be useful.

2. In the Background section, some information about cultural perspectives on disability will also help better grasp the ongoing policy debates.

3. In the Methods section there is also need for further information regarding how you proceeded with the qualitative analysis of the various texts. I was not sure of how you had proceeded to compare the various documents against the CRPD.

4. In the FINDINGS section there is a need to deepen the analysis. For instance on page 5 "implementation measures and activities" : "Plenty of activities were reported in Articles on general concept (Article 6-9) and on basic services (Article 24-27)". Some discussion on what these might be will help better grasp the discrepancies.

5. The DISCUSSION presents interesting ideas, however some would need to be developed further. The fact that there is no "internalization of the core principle of CRPD" (p9) is a central idea that, I think is one of the main findings of the study. I think that this needs to be unpacked further for presenting a strong argument for working towards conciliating the perspectives of the CRPD and the Thai policy documents on disability.

6. Finally in terms of references there are mostly UN and official documents. There would be a need to include the research evidence in the field of disability policy in the South East Asia region. The paper states that reviews of the literature were conducted but there is very little reference to the research.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
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Not relevant to this manuscript

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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