



# **Social exclusion of handicap people in Spain**

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## INTRODUCTION

‘**Disability**’ is seen as the social and economic disadvantage which results from society’s failure to respond to the needs of people with impairments.

**Social exclusion** is a multidimensional phenomenon, which includes deprivations of economic, social, gender, cultural and political rights making exclusion as a broader concept than material poverty.

The **European Commission** recognizes that people with disabilities, confront multiple barriers in accessing the labour market, social services, education and face high risks of becoming poor and socially excluded.

## 1. LEVEL AND STRUCTURE OF HANDICAP PEOPLE EXCLUSION

Total number of disabled people: 3,8 million (8,34%)

Table 1.Disabled people, depending on age group and gender

AGES	Men		Women		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
0-4	26.161	57,1%	19.665	42,9%	45.826	1,2%
5-9	29.377	65,9%	15.178	34,1%	44.555	1,2%
10-14	26.206	65,8%	13.647	34,2%	39.853	1,0%
15-19	26.010	67,3%	12.626	32,7%	38.636	1,0%
20-24	25.833	57,5%	19.057	42,5%	44.890	1,2%
25-29	37.910	59,9%	25.400	40,1%	63.310	1,6%
30-34	60.922	57,8%	44.448	42,2%	105.370	2,7%
35-39	66.168	52,8%	59.109	47,2%	125.277	3,3%
40-44	83.260	51,7%	77.929	48,3%	161.189	4,2%
45-49	91.745	45,8%	108.568	54,2%	200.313	5,2%
50-54	90.176	43,8%	115.556	56,2%	205.732	5,3%
55-59	108.688	42,2%	149.093	57,8%	257.781	6,7%
60-64	118.449	41,1%	169.588	58,9%	288.037	7,5%
65-69	124.153	42,4%	168.599	57,6%	292.752	7,6%
70-74	147.503	36,4%	257.237	63,6%	404.740	10,5%
75-79	183.190	36,4%	320.637	63,6%	503.827	13,1%
80-84	148.629	30,8%	333.930	69,2%	482.559	12,5%
85 - ...	153.281	28,2%	389.926	71,8%	543.207	14,1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.547.661</b>	<b>40,2%</b>	<b>2.300.193</b>	<b>59,8%</b>	<b>3.847.854</b>	<b>100,0%</b>

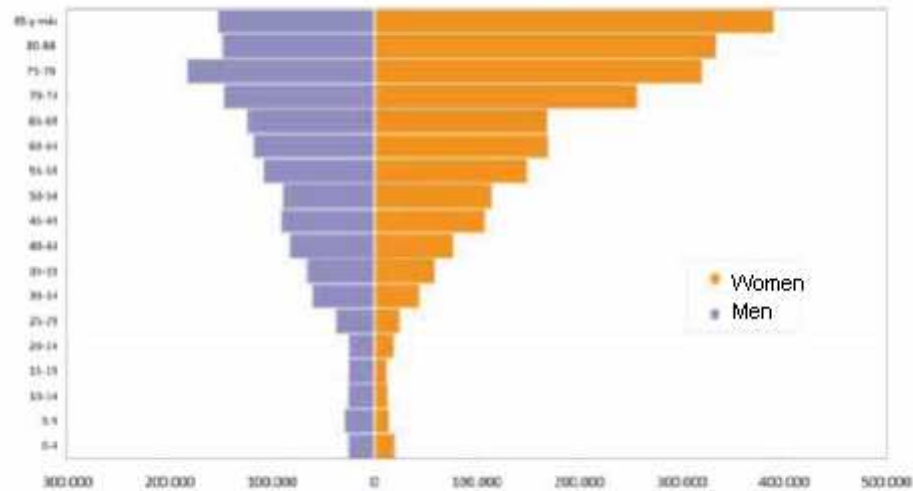
Source: Observatorio Estatal de la Dependencia

### AGE

- 0-15 year-old: 2%
- 16-64 year-old: 4,7%
- Over 65: 29,2%

## GENDER

Figure 1. Structure of handicap people by age and gender



Source: Observatorio Estatal de la Discapacidad

## EDUCATION

10,9% of the disabled are illiterate whereas the proportion of illiterate non-disabled people is 2,4%. Handicap people are four times more likely than others to have no qualifications beyond primary level (34,2% vs. 8,9%) and 7,3 per cent of disabled people hold degree-level qualifications compared to 22,8 per cent of non-disabled people.

## OCCUPATION

From the total amount of disabled people in working age (1,48 million), only the 28,3 per cent are in employment compared to 67,2 per cent of non-disabled people.

## **2. CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF HANDICAP PEOPLE EXCLUSION**

The main **causes** of social exclusion among people with disabilities are:

- 1) Lack or limited access to social environment and unemployment (94%)
- 2) Lack or limited access to services (85,4%)
- 3) Stigmatisation of disabled people (83,3%)
- 4) Lack of adequate training (81,2%)
- 5) Lack of specialised services (80%)
- 6) Inadequate education systems (77,1%)
- 7) Lack of economic policies to compensate for the extra cost of disability (75,7%)
- 8) The structure of the benefit system (75%)
- 9) Living in institutions (60%)

The **consequences** of having a disability are numerous:

-A particularly high risk of poverty:

Unemployment rate for people with disabilities: 72%.

People with a disability face expenses that able bodied people do not (cost of medical aids, healthcare, higher insurance premiums, higher transport costs, special dietary requirements).

-Buildings and facilities are largely inaccessible to many people with disabilities and this denies them mobility, participation and opportunity.

### **3. GOVERNMENT ROLE IN PREVENTING HANDICAP PEOPLE EXCLUSION**

**A. Disabled people and poverty:** additional costs linked to the impairment are compensated by the national protection systems.

**B. Education:** authorities are reforming ordinary education system, adapting teaching material...

**C. Employment:** Projects in partnership with employers and trade unions are being developed, in order to provide for effective integration at the workplace. Also there are various policies to favour job retention and re-integration of disabled persons at the work.

**D. Access to health and social services:** measures for disability awareness training in hospitals, to social assistants, and in vocational training centers, to be carried out in cooperation with disabled people themselves, are being developed.

## **4.INSTITUTIONS AND THEIR ACTIONS**

ONCE is a non-profit organization that focuses its activities on the improvement of the quality of life of people with blindness or severe visual impairment from all over Spain.



This organization helps disabled people with 3% of the financial support obtained with the sales of lottery.  
ONCE Business Corporation (CEOSA) generates over 123.000 job positions.



**The main objective** of the ONCE Foundation is to implement integration programmes of work-related training and employment for people with disabilities, and universal accessibility, promoting the creation of universally accessible environments, products and services.

Since its creation, in 1988, until December 2007, the ONCE Foundation has supported more than **22,000 projects**, presented by individuals and corporations, with a total amount of more than **1,150 million euros**.

PROJECTS AND PLANS	FIGURES
Project received	1.843
Project approved	1.410
Amount approved profit allocation	61.548.362 €
Amount approved Employment plan	39.002.660 €
Amount approved Accessibility plan	22.545.702 €

## **5. OTHER ACTIVITIES AGAINST HANDICAP PEOPLE EXCLUSION**

### **La Caixa:**

- ✓ This society gives 500 million euros.
- ✓ More than 70% is destined to eradicate the disabled people exclusion.
- ✓ These business give job by a temporal moment, they offer special vacant position for disabled people depending on their handicap.

### **Caja Madrid:**

- ✓ Centros Singulares: ten building for study special illness and disabled care (22 million euros).
- ✓ Síndrome de Down: a group of 252 activities (7,6 million euros).

## **Cepsa:**

- ✓ A petrol company; his financial support was around 250 million euros in 2012.
- ✓ Cepsa gives money to the most important organizations.

## **Antena 3 and Europa FM:**

- ✓ They offer to these organizations the possibility of advertise their corporate free of charge.
- ✓ The financial support is around 500,000 euros; this money is invested in two principal goals as Fan3 Channel (360,000 euros) and legal advice (300,000 euros).

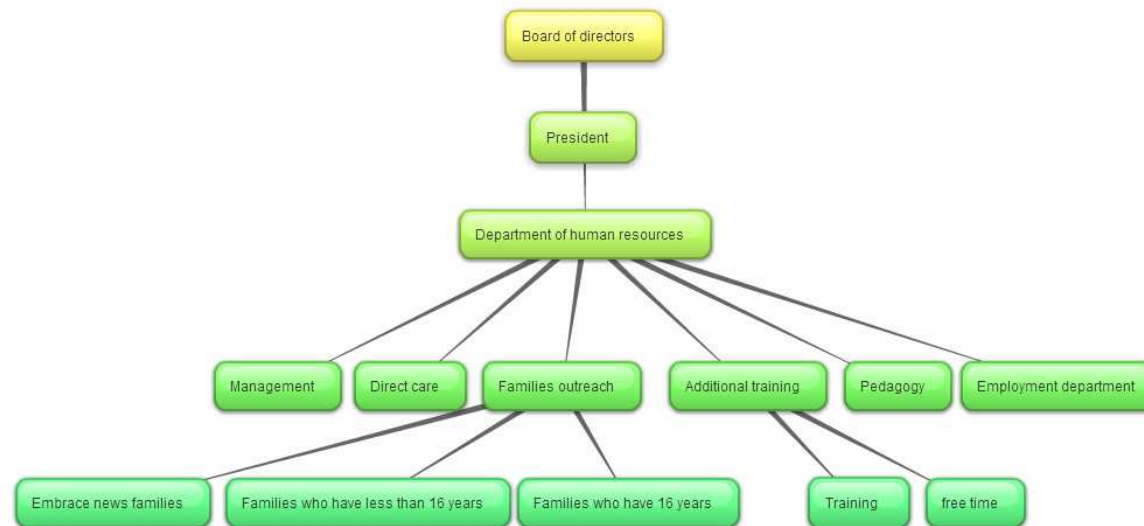


## 6. CHARACTERISTICS OF DOWN LEÓN AMIDOWN

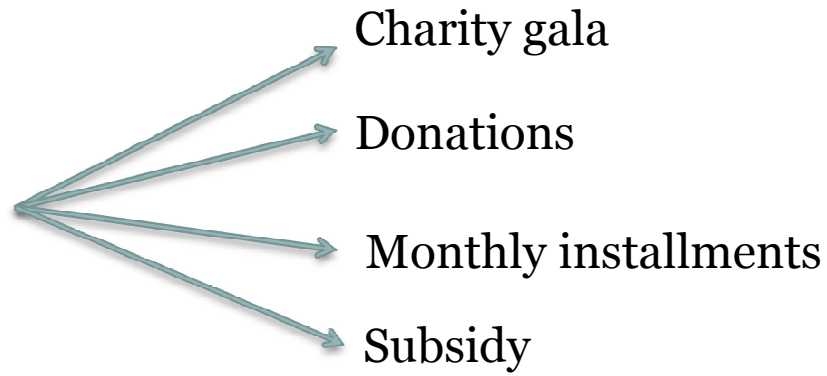
This corporate works against down's syndrome exclusion for this they try to help this people and their families fighting for their rights.



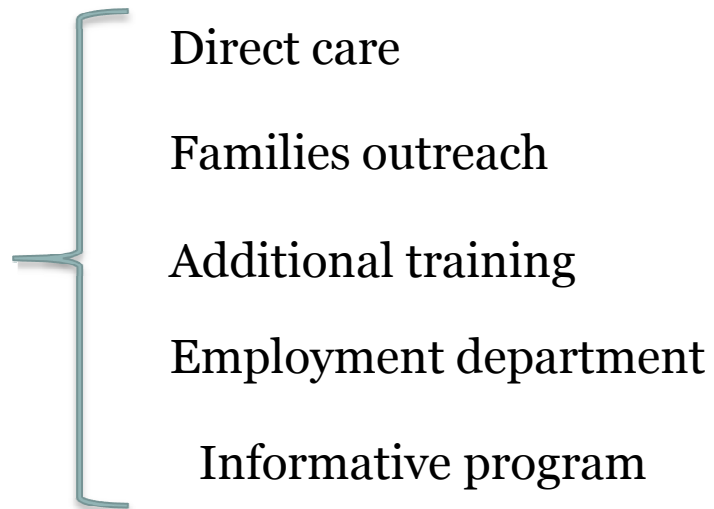
Amidown is made up of people who are specialized in psychology, pedagogy and social workers. Also, they received help of volunteers qualified.



Financial support



Activities



## **7.CONCLUSIONS**

The main causes of social exclusion are related to unemployment, inadequate education and training and the lack of economic policies to cover the extra costs of disability.

Spanish Government should pay special attention to education matters, as the lack of education is one of the main factors leading to social exclusion and poverty.

**Thank you for  
your attention.**