

NORFIL Foundation

The NORFIL Foundation (NORFIL) is a non-profit NGO in Manila. The NORFIL Foundation is the Dutch-based Liliane Foundation's Strategic Partner Organization in the Philippines.

NORFIL was established in 1984, to be a lead organization in the care and rehabilitation of children and young people who have been orphaned, abandoned or neglected and those with disability through family- focused and community-based programmes and services.

Community-Based Inclusive Development

NORFIL aims to empower and sustain families and communities. It implements a Community-Based Inclusive Development (CBID) Programme for children and young people with disabilities. This programme emphasizes integration and inclusion, through which children and young people with disabilities are trained to function in their own environment.

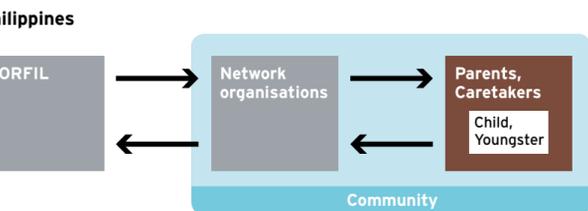
The NORFIL CBID model's primary features are:

- a empowerment of families as effective partners in rehabilitation;
- b community involvement in the early identification and rehabilitation of children with disabilities;
- c multi-level training of stakeholders;
- d enhancing child participation in family and community affairs;
- e partnership with the Local Government Units (LGU) and other stakeholders.

The NORFIL CBID model emphasizes the role of the family and the community in the rehabilitation process. It highlights the importance of inter-disciplinary and inter-agency cooperation and partnership with LGU's for programme implementation and sustainability. Home-based programmes for the children are developed and implemented by the families. The organization of parents serves as an active partner of the LGU's. NORFIL also conducts advocacy activities in schools, communities and the business sector to facilitate the inclusion of people with disabilities.

Network of partner organizations

NORFIL has a widespread network of 25 local Partner Organizations (PO). NORFIL together with the POs collaborate in capacity building activities towards an inclusive society, such as conducting training, mentoring and coaching to enhance the knowledge and skills of POs in the areas of habilitation/rehabilitation, governance and administration, advocacy and networking.



Kushboo: "I have challenged everything in life and proved my abilities."

Kushboo is wonderfully confident

Jan Vikas Samiti (JVS), a non-profit NGO in Varanasi, is the Liliane Foundation's Strategic Partner Organization in the northern part of India. Ranjeet Singh, Programme Manager of JVS says: "We aim to develop a mainstream society where people with disabilities and their families can live a respectful life with greater participation at different levels. This is only possible through a change of attitude towards people with disabilities."

Focus on rural areas

Of crucial importance in the work of JVS is enabling, equipping and empowering children and youngsters with disabilities in the rural areas. In India, a majority of people with disabilities reside in rural areas, where there is still a lack of basic infrastructure for rehabilitation. Ranjeet Singh notes that "disability needs more attention from the governments as people with disabilities account for 10 to 15 percent of the Indian society.". "Disability should be considered as an important issue by the government so

that this important public health problem can be tackled in the community at large. What's lacking is a multi-sectoral approach related to rehabilitation services. A major challenge is understanding the concept of disability and the acceptance of CBR as a valid intervention."

Kushboo became a role model

"A main area of concern for the future is employability for people with disabilities, and matching skills with meaningful work." A young woman who is already earning her own living is Kushboo. She was born without legs or hands and comes from a very poor family. Kushboo was nine years old when her father died. Her mother worked as a sweeper and a cook to be able to feed Kushboo and her two younger sisters.

In spite of their poverty, Kushboo's parents, relatives and friends always supported and encouraged her. Kushboo says: "My parents never let me down. I salute my mother. Even though she faced many diffi-

culties in life, she cared for me as a special child and never let me regret my disability." With the support of JVS and the Liliane Foundation, Kushboo was enrolled in a regular school. People began to look at her ability rather than at her disability. Today Kushboo had completed a diploma in computer application and her bachelor degree. She doesn't need help with day to day activities, makes beautiful pictures, participates fully in community life and she knows what she's worth. "I got a government post as a computer operator in the Forest Department. There was a time when everyone looked at me with pity but today they honour me because I have challenged everything in life and proved my abilities. I have come so far because of my own confidence and hard work, the guidance and backing from my mother and relatives, and the long standing support of JVS and the Liliane Foundation." Kushboo has become a role model for disabled youngsters in the whole area.

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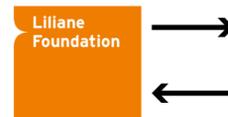
Aisha was born with brain damage. The doctor told Grace, Aisha's mother, that she caused her daughter's disability by eating chicken necks during pregnancy. Luckily she knows better now. Aisha couldn't talk, sit or walk until she was four years old. Then, the support of the Liliane Foundation and its Philippine partner(s) brought about a positive change. In a short time Aisha learned to speak and to walk independently. She also went to school where she learned to read, write and do maths, and where she made a lot of friends. Physiotherapy and speech training keep improving her situation. Grace learned how best to support her daughter at home. Aisha is the apple of her parents' eyes. They think of her as a precious gift.

Empowering children, promoting inclusion

United for Disability Rights



Netherlands



The Liliane Foundation

in partnership with

The Liliane Foundation is a Dutch NGO which originated in 1980 from a private initiative. The organization supports programmes for children with disabilities in 30 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Partnerships

The Liliane Foundation wants to contribute to a world that is open to everyone and where the poorest children and young people with disabilities know their rights and develop their talents. For this, the Liliane Foundation works in each country with a (potential) Strategic Partner Organization (SPO), maintaining a programme on the ground that is appropriate to the context, and ensuring that it is implemented by local partner organizations (POs), who work at grass-root level.

In addition, the Liliane Foundation works in close collaboration with MIVA, a Dutch NGO with related objectives. Together, the two organizations are implementing a joint inclusion programme.

Core strategy

With its local partners, the Liliane Foundation empowers children with disabilities by enabling them to develop and by making their environment more accessible. It does this by improving the functional capabilities of children, including medical and paramedical rehabilitation and education, contributing to a greater resilience. And by removing infrastructural, behavioural and policy barriers that prevent them from participating in society. Through this core strategy, the Liliane Foundation and its partners contribute to a structural improvement in the position of people with disabilities.

Unique characteristic

A particular characteristic of the programmes financed by the Liliane Foundation is that children receive individual tailored support. About 90,000 children and young people are supported each year within the programmes of SPOs.

Lobbying & advocacy

The Liliane Foundation will ensure that the government's commitment to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) translates into policy and practice in the Netherlands.

A new perspective for Frankie

When the outer door was open, Frankie was able to glimpse the world outside. But he did not have a clue about what it really looked and smelled like for a long time. Because of a brain injury evident since his birth, Frankie cannot walk, does not stand up straight, does not turn around, and does not lift his head. He used to spend whole days in bed, staring at the ceiling. Frankie's father works long days at a shipyard and the family can only just survive on his wages. There was no money for what Frankie urgently needed: medical care, rehabilitation, better food.

When employees from a local organization working with the Liliane Foundation's partner in the Philippines met Frankie, he was in bad shape. Not only was he malnourished, but because

he was constantly lying down, he was also very short of breath. His parents were at their wit's end. The future of their eldest child looked bleak.

Nowadays, things are going much better for Frankie. Thanks to dietary supplements and extra vitamins that he has received, he has become a bit stronger. He can now sit up and down in an adapted, custom-made chair, which has improved his breathing. There is now also a mobile bed so that Frankie can go outside regularly, and for the first time in his life, he is receiving therapy. The exercises are doing him good, and he has learned to move his head and arms. Financially, the family got more breathing space: the Liliane Foundation and its Philippine partner made sure that Frankie's



The modified chair. Now that Frankie sits upright now and then, he can breathe more easily.

mother could start a local shop from home, so she can take care of Frankie and earn some money.



The world opened up for Tari

Shortly after her birth, Tari (18) slipped out of someone's hands and fell to the floor. Is her brain disorder (Cerebral Palsy) due to this fall? Her mother still wonders, although she does remember that Tari was born with her hands cramped and in a strange position. Her family and immediate environment have always fully accepted Tari - she had no shortage of love - but when she

was 6 years old and her parents wanted to register her at school, she was rejected. This hurt her and her parents a lot. Tari stayed at home until she was 15. She helped her mother do the dishes, sweep and work on the land behind their home, where the family grows vegetables.

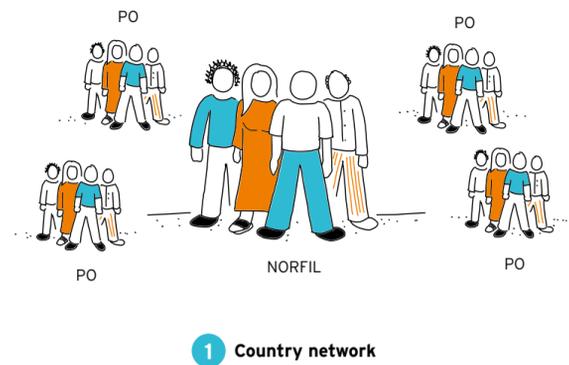
Three years ago, the Liliane Foundation and its Indonesian

partner came to the aid of Tari and her parents. With special physiotherapy, Tari learned to walk much better and to use her hands. She now eats independently, draws and plays games on her phone. At school she learned to read and write in a very short time. She always comes home with enthusiastic stories, about what she has learned, about what happened in class and about her new friends.

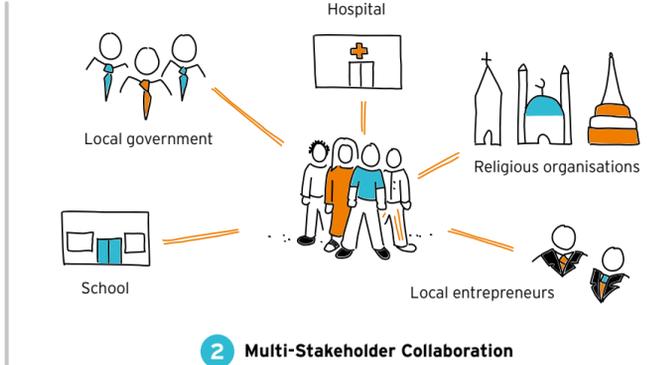
Her mother brings Tari to school every day and picks her up again in the afternoon. "Just to be sure," she says. She doesn't want her daughter being harassed on the way. She has every confidence in Tari herself. "My daughter has become very independent."



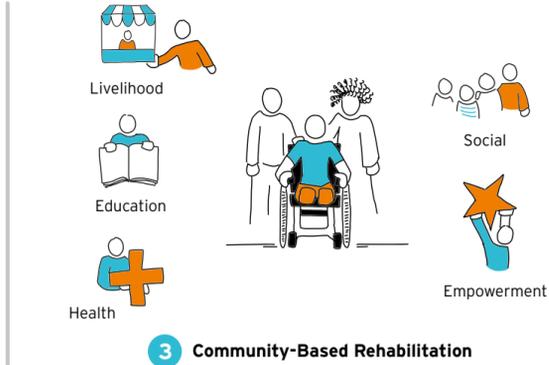
Tari's mother has learned how to practice at home with her daughter and how to massage her.



1 Country network



2 Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration



3 Community-Based Rehabilitation

Urgency

An estimated 35 - 40 million children with disabilities live in the poorest regions of Africa, Asia and Latin America. Many of these children exist outside their communities: they are excluded, have no future prospects, and are much more likely than others to be victims of neglect, abuse and violence.

Poverty and disability

According to the World Bank, one in five of the poorest people is someone with a disability. Of all children with disabilities that seriously hamper their functioning, 85 percent live in low and low-to-middle income countries. These skewed distributions are not a matter of chance. Poverty is the biggest cause of disability, and poor children are especially vulnerable to disability, due to malnutrition, lack of clean drinking water and proper toilets, an unsafe environment, lack of medical care, and ignorance of what is healthy and what is not. At the same time, disability leads to even greater poverty, often for the whole family, because of higher costs, loss of income, loss of social contacts and exclusion by the community.

Starting points

The Liliane Foundation and its Strategic Partner Organizations are strongly committed to working for the 'inclusion' of children and young people with disabilities: societies have to be coordinated and organized to facilitate their participation. The principles of the approach are:

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)

This also includes special rights for children with disabilities.

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006)

This treaty regulates the obligation of states to

promote, protect and ensure the rights of people with disabilities.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (2015-2030)

Should give priority to the most excluded groups in the coming years.

The ICF (International Classification of Functioning) of the WHO

This model shows disability as being the result of the interaction between an individual's condition and factors in the environment.

The CBR (Community-Based Rehabilitation) approach

CBR means that the local community is involved in the rehabilitation and inclusion of children (and adults) with disabilities.

Implementation of core strategy

Customized support for children and the bottom-up approach are typical of the approach of the Liliane Foundation and its partners.

Customization

People close to and in the environment of children in the programme provide individual, broad support, tailored to their needs. This is possible because each Strategic Partner Organization (SPO) cooperates with a network of Partner Organizations (POs) 1, which extends into the fabric of society. A PO communicates with all local parties that are important for the empowerment of children with disabilities and their inclusion in society 2. Through use of these contacts, a multidisciplinary team within the PO arranges customized support for children 3. This is always done in consultation with the parents or caretakers, and of course, with the child, if this is possible. Together, they establish a plan of action. One team member ensures good coordination in the implementation of the plan.

Strong children, an accessible environment

The SPO programme, implemented by the POs and supported by the Liliane Foundation, focuses primarily on strengthening the position of children and young people with disabilities, through:

Enabling children to develop

The programme concentrates on the life areas that are crucially important for every person according to the WHO CBR matrix: health, education, work and income, a social life and self-determination.

Making their environment accessible

The development of children must be accompanied by the dismantling of barriers that prevent them from participating in the community: obstacles in the physical environment, prejudice, stigma, inaccessible information and flawed policies.

Parents have a crucial role in both aspects. They are the preferred partners of the professionals and are therefore given a lot of attention: *Strong parents make strong children.*

Bottom-up approach

From their work at grassroots level, the POs, SPOs and Liliane Foundation contribute to changes at the macro level. The POs thus deliver the 'proof' which the SPOs at national and regional levels and the Liliane Foundation in the Netherlands can put forward to influence policy.

Capacity development

The POs, as the local organizations implementing the programme on behalf of an SPO, must be sufficiently knowledgeable and equipped. The SPO therefore works with the support of the Liliane Foundation to strengthen these organizations and make them more professional. Capacity building is therefore a supporting strategy that contributes to the smooth implementation of the core strategy: to strengthen children with disabilities and make their environment more accessible.

Advocacy

For POs and SPOs, advocacy contributes to increasing the accessibility of the environment for children with disabilities. A PO and an SPO operate at different levels for this. For the Liliane Foundation, advocacy is a strategy for supporting policy: the organization works with the Dutch government and internationally, to claim the rights of children and young people living in extreme poverty.



Liliane Foundation Inclusion Network (LINC)

LINC is the umbrella name of the (3) regional SPO networks. Within these networks SPOs exchange knowledge, experiences and best practices, they set up joint projects and come together for the interests of children and young people with disabilities.

Capacity building: investment in present and future

Not all POs have sufficient in-house knowledge and skills to arrange comprehensive, effective and efficient support for children. SPOs therefore attach great importance to strengthening the capacity of their POs. This focuses on both substantive and organizational aspects, and takes the form of a variety of different activities, for example,

a CBR training course. The stronger the POs become, the better the support that can be secured for children with disabilities in a country, in the short and long term.



Utmost concentration during CBR training in Vietnam.

Call for change from school playgrounds

The action *We ring the bell* was initiated by the Liliane Foundation at a number of schools in the Netherlands. The action was carried out in a playful way by primary school children - by causing one minute of uproar in the school - to draw attention to their more than 20 million peers with disabilities who are still not able or allowed to go to school. Meanwhile many SPOs,

POs and schools in Africa, Asia and Latin America also adopted the action.

Of course, adults should answer the call of the children and take action at the level of policy and decision makers.

This is happening now. *We ring the bell* is serving as a wake-up call and pointer to the example



Students in Bangladesh 'ring the bell'. A playful action with serious undertones.