

# Disability in the Arab World: From Charity to Agency

- It can be any of us – common causes.
- Discrepancy in data reporting on disability in the Arab region
- Progress in Arab governments recognizing rights of persons with disabilities
- Let's promote agency for persons with disabilities—the rights of persons with disability are the rights of everyone.

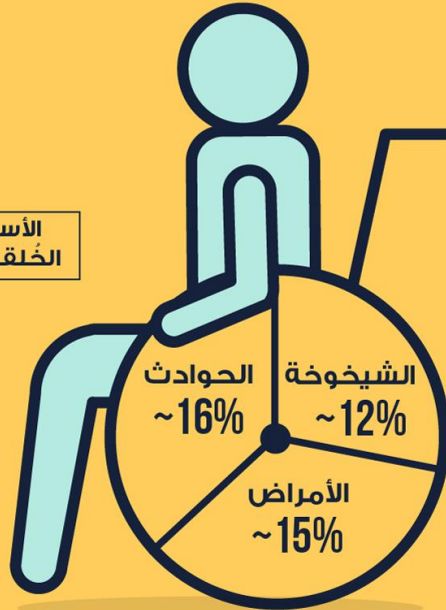
# It can be any of us.

حوالي 60% من الإعاقات تنتج  
عن عوامل غير خلقية

ب

العالم العربي

الأسباب غير  
الخلقية للإعاقة

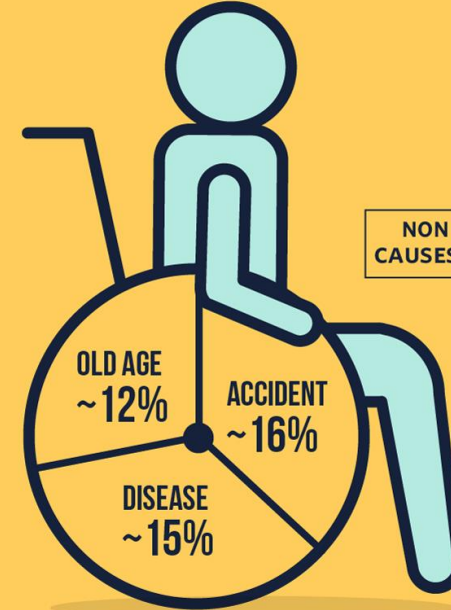


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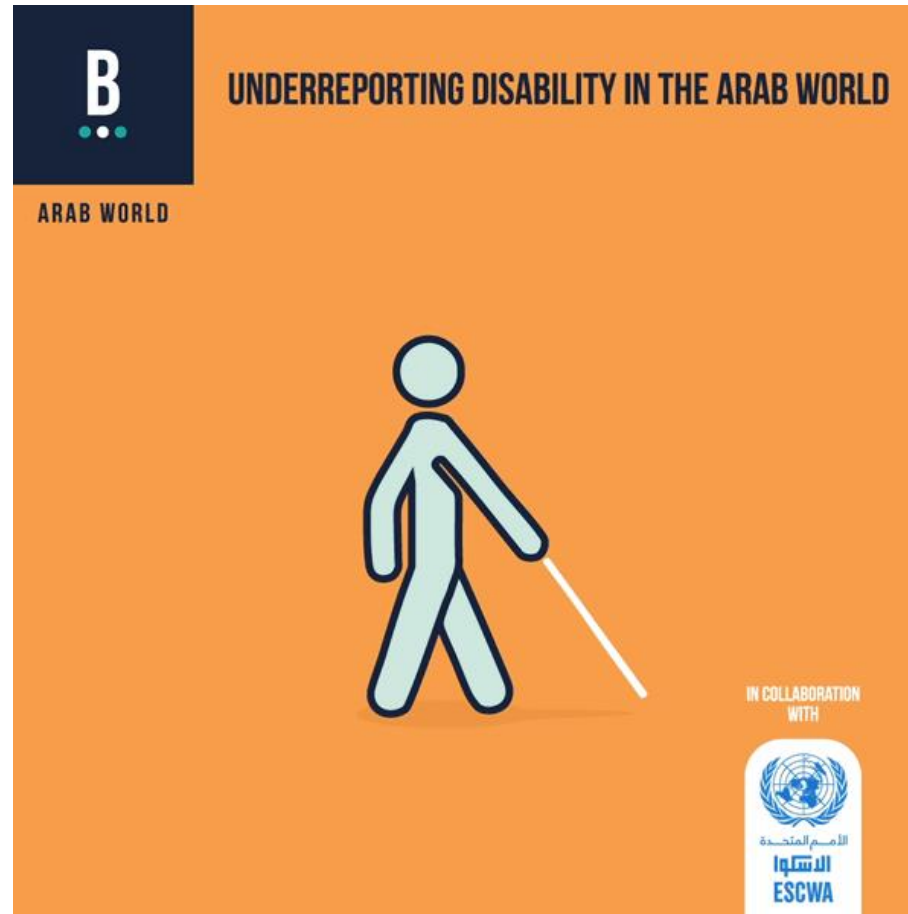
AROUND 60% OF DISABILITIES ARE CAUSED  
BY NON CONGENITAL FACTORS

ARAB WORLD

NON CONGENITAL  
CAUSES OF DISABILITY



# Under-reporting in the Arab World



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# Regional Commitments Towards Inclusion




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# The rights of persons with disabilities are the rights of everyone



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# Blog Post

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## Disability in the Arab World: From Charity to Agency

🕒 2 days ago 📌 Arab World, Human Capital, Society

*This blog post is prepared in collaboration with UN-ESCWA to mark the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on December 3, 2017.*

### What is Disability?

Persons with disabilities include those with long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments. These impairments are sometimes visible to others, and other times hidden. Environmental barriers prevent persons with disabilities from performing day-to-day activities and fully participating in society. Accordingly, policy interventions should focus on resolving these barriers to facilitate the participation and integration of persons with disabilities in society.

### A missing part of disability in the Arab world

Globally, at least 446 million people – or 6 percent of the world population – are estimated to be living with disability. By contrast, only 2 percent of the Arab population is reported to be living with disability. This data varies significantly for different countries in the region from 0.2 percent and 1 percent in Qatar and Mauritania to 4.8 percent and 5.1 percent in Sudan and Morocco. Overall, the numbers are remarkably low given the widespread occurrence of risk factors and disability causes in the region, including armed conflicts, natural disasters, road traffic accidents, and the high prevalence of noncommunicable diseases and intermarriages. This discrepancy in data reporting on disability is caused by challenges in data collection, the different definitions of disability that each country uses, and other factors such as social stigma that discourages people from reporting disabilities.

## SOURCES:

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