

**SOKOINE UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTUE MOROGORO, TANZANIA**

**DEVELOPMENT STUDIES INSTITUTE**

**AN ABRIDGEMENT FOR MARD DISSERTATION**

**TITLE: EFFECTS OF SOCIAL EXCLUSION OF DISABLED PEOPLE ON  
POVERTY ALLEVIATION IN TANZANIA: A CASE OF MOROGORO  
MUNICIPALITY**

**STUDENT: GEORGINA ADDO MISAMA  
(MASTER OF ARTS IN RURAL DEVEOLPMENT)**

**SUPERVISOR: PROF. R.M. WAMBURA**

**2011**

## **1.0 Introduction**

Poverty alleviation in Tanzania and genuine progress towards achievement of Millennium Development Goals requires that disabled people be explicitly taken into account in national and international development efforts. However, they often experience stigmatisation, segregation and exclusion from society. Thus, the purpose of this study was to assess the effects of social exclusion of disabled people on poverty alleviation in selected disabled people's camps in Morogoro Municipality, Morogoro region. Specific objectives of the study were to: identify the effects of social exclusion of disabled people on poverty alleviation; determine the disabled people's capacity to organise and mobilise themselves; and identify opportunities to address social exclusion of disabled people. Data were collected from 104 respondents including 80 disabled people, four disabled people's workers and 20 key informants using questionnaires, researcher's diary and checklist. Data were processed and analysed using SPSS computer programme and "content analysis" technique. The findings revealed the effects of social exclusion of disabled people on poverty alleviation as being denying them opportunities and rights to escape from poverty which leads to insecurity and conflict. However, it was concluded that there is an increasing recognition of opportunities based on inclusive growth, universal service provision and social assistance initiatives that could alleviate the negative effects of disabled people's social exclusion. It was, therefore, recommended that socially excluded disabled people need to be given voice to ensure participation in poverty alleviation programmes and build social movements that demand strong accountability. The study also suggested undertaking case studies on social accountability relationship between government, service providers and disabled people in order to elicit more reliable clues that could contribute to evidence based policy for social accountability.

## **2.0 Summary of Innovative Findings**

- (a) The study found effects of social exclusion of disabled people on poverty alleviation to be under three main categories: denies opportunities to

escape poverty; denies rights of disabled people; and leads to insecurity and conflict.

- (b) Disabled people's capacity to organise and mobilise themselves was found to be under: institutional development; information dissemination; low formal education; material and financial resources; and leadership and management skills.
- (c) Opportunities to address social exclusion of disabled people revealed included: legal, regulatory and policy frameworks; budget and public expenditures; economic opportunities and access to services; promoting political participation in society and their capacity to organise and mobilise themselves; and human rights and domestic accountability. The following Chapter gives conclusions and recommendations based on the major results of the study.

### **3.0 Perceived usefulness of the findings**

The study was anticipated to assess the effects of social exclusion of disabled people on poverty alleviation in selected disabled people's camps in Morogoro municipality, Tanzania. Poverty alleviation in Tanzania and genuine progress towards achievements of Millennium Development Goals requires that disabled people be explicitly taken into account in national and international development efforts. However, they often experience stigmatisation, segregation and exclusion from society. Socially excluded people are often denied the opportunities available to others to increase their income and escape from poverty by their own efforts. People who are excluded like this are not "just like" the rest of the poor, only poor. They are also disadvantaged by who they are or where they live and as a result are locked out of the benefits of development. The purpose of this study was therefore to assess the effects of social exclusion of disabled people on poverty alleviation in selected disabled people's camps in Morogoro municipality, in order to help the stakeholders to recognise where it is a problem, understand it better and where appropriate find different ways of working with the government, the international community and civil society organisations to overcome it.

#### **4.0 Areas for Immediate Application of the Findings**

The study findings are of significant importance to the Morogoro Municipality, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, local government authority offices and all stakeholders who play the role of social inclusion of disabled people. Results will also be made available to Sokoine University of Agriculture library where by the academic community will be able to access and refer; and also results will be available in simplified leaflets for community to use.

#### **5.0 Recommendations**

- (i) The full inclusion of disabled people could contribute to poverty alleviation within households and entire communities.
- (ii) There is a need to support disabled people's initiatives which enhance their skills and capacity to organise into associations and alliance in order to participate in decision making processes for their improved quality of life.
- (iii) Socially disabled people need to be given voice, to ensure participation in poverty alleviation programmes and build social movements that demand strong accountability.