

The United Nations, in partnership with BRITDOC, presents:

A Whole Lott More



Victor Buhler

Victor Buhler has directed and produced award-winning fiction and documentary films including the upcoming "The Beautiful Game" and the Emmy nominated "Rikers High". His short film "Chaperone" was nominated for an Oscar. He has made programmes for a range of broadcasters including Showtime, BBC, Channel 4, ABC, ESPN, NBC and The Discovery Channel. Victor began making "A Whole Lott More" after a car accident put him on crutches for a couple of years. During this time, Victor began to research disability issues and became a supporter of creating more job opportunities for people with disabilities worldwide.



Ade Adepitan

Having survived polio as a youngster, Ade has gone on to compete as a wheelchair basketball player on an international level and has a wealth of TV broadcasting experience spanning fifteen years. Recent credits for Channel Four include Ade Adepitan: My Journey Of A Lifetime where Ade explored the polio endemic still prevalent in the country of his birth Nigeria and Unreported World: The Abandoned where Ade investigated how institutionalised mental health patients are treated in Mexico. Ade was the main anchor alongside Clare Balding during the BAFTA Award winning coverage of The Paralympic Games 2012. Other credits include reporting for The One Show for BBC1 and participating in the ground breaking series Beyond Boundaries for BBC2; which saw eleven individuals all with a physical disability trek across Nicaragua. Aside from his TV work Ade is an inspiring motivational speaker, active charity supporter and campaigner. He received an MBE in 2005 for his services to disabled sport.



Patrick Butler

Patrick Butler is the Guardian's social policy editor. He covers a wide range of social affairs issues including public services, the voluntary sector, welfare reform, poverty, disability, mental health, housing and homelessness. He also writes the Guardian's Cuts blog. For several years he edited the weekly Society Guardian pages. You can follow him on twitter at: @patrickjbutler.



Dima Yared

Is a human rights officer at the OHCHR Regional office for Europe (ROE) in Brussels. Prior to joining ROE, she worked in OHCHR headquarters in Geneva where she was assisting the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. Previously, she worked on the Universal Periodical Review as well as within the Rule of Law section at OHCHR, and at an NGO engaging armed non-state actors on the involvement of children in armed conflict.



Jess Search

Jess has been the Chief Executive of BRITDOC since its launch in 2005. Previously she was a Commissioning Editor at Channel 4 TV in the UK for 5 years. Jess has an MBA from Cass Business School. She is also a moderator at the IDFA Pitching Forum in Amsterdam and remains involved in Shooting People, the online independent filmmakers network she co-founded in 1998.

In developing countries, 80% to 90% of persons with disabilities of working age are unemployed, whereas in industrialized countries the figure is between 50% and 70%.

In most developed countries the official unemployment rate for persons with disabilities of working age is at least twice that for those who have no disability.

Figures from UN Enable: <http://www.un.org/disabilities/default.asp?id=255>

2012 Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights: Thematic study on the work and employment of persons with disabilities

While the reasons for low labour force participation by persons with disabilities are multifaceted, it is evident that one of the core challenges lies in negative attitudes, stigma and stereotypes of persons with disabilities being in some way “unsuitable” to participation in working life, on an equal basis with others. This translates into continued marginalization and discrimination of persons with disabilities in the area of work and employment, and for many persons with disabilities around the world, denial of their right to work.

With the aim of enhancing the employment opportunities of persons with disabilities in the open labour market, States parties should ensure, including through legislation, equal access to vocational training and rehabilitation programmes that are non-discriminatory, accessible to and inclusive of all persons with disabilities, and guarantee that reasonable accommodation is provided. Employers must ensure that employees with disabilities have equal access to such programmes.

Social protection programmes should support persons with disabilities in seeking and maintaining work, and avoid creating so called “benefit traps” which discourage persons with disabilities from engaging in formal work.

The employment situation in the UK

According to the Labour Force Survey, disabled people are now more likely to be employed than they were in 2002, but disabled people remain significantly less likely to be in employment than non-disabled people.

In 2012, 46.3 per cent of working-age disabled people are in employment compared to 76.4 per cent of working-age non-disabled people. There is therefore a 30.1 percentage point gap between disabled and non-disabled people, representing over 2 million people.

Figures from the UK Office for Disability issues: <http://odi.dwp.gov.uk/>

Next Ciné-ONU London screening: Article 12
Rich Mix Cinema, 2 December, 2013
<http://www.unric.org/en/london-screenings>

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