Abstract

The provision of the social protection system in Indonesia has been developed to accommodate the needs of all populations, including people with disabilities, yet the implementation has not fully achieved inclusion and universal coverage. Based on the global and national statistics, disabled people are among vulnerable groups which commonly associated with poverty. Such circumstance gives the impetus of developmental initiatives that aim not only as a charity-based approach but also empowering the capability of disabled people as human resources. This thesis investigates the way in which the existing social protection system has been implemented to cover the needs of disabled people of working ages. This study also identifies the available and appropriate approaches to promote a more inclusive social protection scheme for disabled workers.

This study adopts qualitative research method in which data collection was taken from literature reviews and in-depth interviews with ten disabled workers in Yogyakarta. The literature reviews include but are not limited to governmental and institutional documents and academic literature related to social policy, social inclusion/exclusion, social protection, and people with disabilities topics. The interview sessions were conducted in two days from 4-5 July 2019. The first day involved eight disabled workers participating in the formal sector, while the second day incorporated two disabled workers from the informal sector. This study applies the thematic analysis to identify and examine patterns of the data generated from the literature reviews and in-depth interviews. This analysis method has helped build a comprehensive picture of disabled workers under the social protection system in Indonesia.

Results showed that the majority of participants are not covered under the social protection system provided by the national and local government. Instead of receiving adequate social protection, the majority of participants were assisted with vocational training which has helped them participating in the labour market. It is considered that having access to receive income make them less dependent on any social assistance. This study highlighted the discussion on inclusion/exclusion towards the disabled workers under the social protection policy. The results of this study encourage the idea to leverage the existing regulation and improve engagement with the disabled community to promote more inclusive developmental programs. Finally, it has been found that disabled workers tend to have less knowledge of the social protection programs, which presumably becomes one of the main factors of making them excluded from the service. Inadequate promotion and low compliance especially from the employer have significantly influenced the low awareness, thus making the current programs less inclusive for the disabled worker.

Keywords: *Disabled Worker, Social Exclusion, Social Inclusion, Social Protection*

Introduction

The promotion of disability inclusion has gained greater prominence in recent global development agenda, namely the Sustainable Development Goals (henceforth SDGs). It is a collective plan consisting of 17 goals and 169 targets for all countries and stakeholders to address global challenges in achieving sustainable development by 2030. The SDGs was developed to fulfil what had not been adequately achieved by the Millennium Development