

# Physical Accessibility in Ethiopia

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## Situation of physical accessibility in Ethiopia (specifically in Addis Ababa)

### Overview

Lack of physical accessibility is among the challenging areas for persons with disabilities. An accessible infrastructure benefits not only peoples with disabilities but also:-

- ▣ Aged persons
- ▣ pregnant women and mothers carrying babies
- ▣ people with cardiac problems
- ▣ persons carrying heavy loads
- ▣ persons with temporary impairment
- ▣ sick persons or person with over weight

## The back ground of the Presentation

- ▣ The bases for the facts are the researches recently conducted by Ethiopian Center for Disability and Development (ECDD)
- ▣ The survey has covered more than 600 establishments but for the sake of the research only 384 were dealt with
- ▣ The research has 24 different broad category of infrastructural classifications but squeezed to only 19
- ▣ The presentation deals with general physical accessibility in the capital

## Symbols for disability accessibility



fully accessible



partially accessible/ with assisting person



fully Inaccessible



accessible toilet/bath room



partially accessible toilet/bath room



Inaccessible toilet/bathroom

## Symbols for...



Information in braille available



Reserved parking space available



Sign Language Interpreter Available



Other information



Difficult or Dangerous Access to blind or partially sighted persons



Easy access to blind or partially sighted persons

Establishments	Number Surveyed	Physical Accessibility					
							
<b>Hotels</b>	63	22	15	26	8	20	35
<b>Guest Houses</b>	12	3	2	7	1	6	5
<b>Restaurants, cafes, night clubs</b>	110	53	29	27	8	35	64
<b>Shopping malls</b>	13	3	5	5	—	4	9
<b>Supermarkets</b>	15	4	6	5	—	—	6
<b>Electronic Goods</b>	6	1	2	3	—	—	—
<b>Souvenir Shops</b>	6	5	—	1	—	—	—
<b>Beauty salons,</b>	9	2	4	3	1	—	3

Pharmacies Drug stores	8	—	1	—	—	—	—
Airline offices, Travel, Tour & car Rental Agencies	32	14	5	13	5	—	—
Banks	25	9	13	5	1	1	—
Fitness Center	9	2	—	6	2	3	5
Cinemas, Theatres, sports centers	12	5	2	5	1	4	5
Libraries	7	3	2	2	1	—	1
Art Galleries, Cultural centers, Museum	12	2	2	8	1	—	1

## Other General observations

- ❑ The rural areas are mostly inaccessible for persons with disabilities because of the terrain feature (mountains, hills, rivers, gravel roads, transportation means, etc...)
- ❑ Inappropriate racks at the entrances
- ❑ Thresholds are slippery
- ❑ Elevators (not to the required standards)
- ❑ Bathrooms
- ❑ Transportation mostly not accessible

## Encouraging things

- ❑ A building code is in place
- ❑ Most pedestrian roads covered by cobble stone
- ❑ An accessible bus has started delivering service
- ❑ A fully Accessible National Rehabilitation Center has started operation (it has an excellent accessible rack up to the third floor)
- ❑ Some offices have started marking parking space for Persons with Disabilities.

## Recommendations

- ❑ Encourage accessible infrastructure which is very important for so many things.
- ❑ It is estimated that fulfilling all sorts of infrastructure for a building costs less than 2% of the total cost which is insignificant as compared to its use
- ❑ All physical accessible infrastructure need to be encourage to be available
- ❑ Awareness raising should be increased



A bridge across a ring road



Pedestrians on a cobble stone road



Cobble stone road



A wheelchair user...



Addis Ababa from the air