Disability: Inclusive approaches for productive work

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The brief is part of the section on promoting equality and addressing discrimination in 'The informal economy and decent work: A policy resource guide supporting transitions to formality' As a result of labour market discrimination and social exclusion disabled people are most often found in the survivalist end of the informal economy, particularly in developing countries. There is a significant economic cost of not having disabled people productively engaged in the economy. In both developed and developing countries, underutilization of disabled people in the workforce has a significant negative effect on the productivity of national economies. Inclusive approaches within policies to support the transition to formality in areas such as education, training, entrepreneurship, access to productive resources and work opportunities can help transform the cycles of poverty and marginalization which characterize the lives of many disabled people.

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