The Development of Accessible Design in Malaysia: Built Environment and Transportation

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THE DEVELOPMENT OF ACCESSIBLE DESIGN IN MALAYSIA
Built Environment and Transportation

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Content

• Demographics
• Legal regulations
• State policy
• Standardization
• Industry efforts
• Research and development
• Conclusion
Disabled People Demographics

• Malaysian population estimated at 27 million

• Voluntary registered number of disabled persons 313,685 (1.16%) (August 2010)

• Unpublished census: 2.7% of population

(Department of People with Disabilities, Malaysia quote)

(WHO estimates 5 - 10%)
Malaysian Regulations: Built Environment

1994: Proclamation on the Full Participation & Equality of PWD Asia-Pacific Region

2008: Persons with Disabilities Act
- Articles 26 & 27: Public facilities, amenities, services, buildings, transportation
- Article 28: Education
- Article 29: Employment
- Article 30: ICT
- Article 33: Habilitation & Rehabilitation
- Article 35: Health

1974: Street, Drainage and Building Act
1991: Amended to include UBBL 34A

1994: MS 1183 & MS 1184
- Compliance with MS 1183 & MS 1184
- MS 1331: Code of Practice Access for Disabled persons Outside Buildings

2008: Persons with Disabilities Act

MS 1184 & MS 1331 Integrated (2012): Part I Exterior Areas and Part II Indoor Areas
‘Scene of Malaysian Life’
Problems Review

“We did not manage to get into any of the buses. The feeder buses serving housing estates have steps and it is impossible for wheelchair users to board. There are buses with ramps but these are serving trunk routes only. At the moment, these buses do not allow wheelchair users to board because there is a lack of suitable bus stops. Even if we can board these buses, there is a lack of connectivity from the housing estates to the bus hubs where we can catch the buses with ramps”

Malay Mail (2009) Rahman, S.
Standardization
Public Transport

• No legal requirement to make public transport accessible to disabled people
• No code of practice for access for disabled persons to public transport
• Current accessible facilities in public transport are on trial and error basis
• RapidKL working with Disabled Persons Organisations on ad-hoc basis on accessible bus design
Point of origin to final destination must be seamless.

A break anywhere in between will cause problems.
Industry Efforts

Mobility vehicle for wheelchair users
Accessible parking in at Tasik Titiwangsa Park, Kuala Lumpur
‘I am unable to participate equally in life; education, employment, recreation, conduct day to day living because everything seems unreachable’
Platform lift in Tasik Titiwangsa Park Stadium, Kuala Lumpur
Hydraulic lift in Stadium Merdeka
Pedestrian crossing lift over a street (Jalan Loke Yew), Kuala Lumpur
Ramp to a bridge to social housing
Accessible lift at KLCH building
Low counter at KLCH building
Research & Development

• Most local universities researching on transportation, including behaviour studies of passengers, ergonomics and design of transportation vehicles as well as research pertaining to Universal Design.

• Workshops on access audits for local government officers.

• Disability Awareness Training.

• Revision of Code of Practice to keep up with current technology and advances.
Wayfinding - scented and textured plants
Safety - poisonous, thorny or allergenic plants
Management and maintenance
Advisors in committees and task forces

AIG training local government technical personnel

ACCESS sharing of information on accessible and safe built environment
Simulation Exercise and Audit

Sharing experience and understanding barriers
14 Weeks Elective Course Program

First batch of trained students help to train second batch of students
Consultancy for new and existing buildings

Before construction

Testing the ramp

Steel handrail installation
Conclusion

• Need for policies, regulations and standards.

• Accessible Design of Services is very much to be determined by the different sectors and proper guidelines is not made public or published.

• Accessible Design of Products needs the government to initiate with policies and regulations.
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