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**TÍTULO:** Implementación del programa estatal de Ambiente Accesible de la Federación Rusa para el período 2011-2020 en la región Trans-Baikal como un mecanismo para mejorar la calidad de vida de las personas con discapacidad.

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**RESUMEN:** El artículo trata de revelar el mecanismo de mejora de la calidad de vida de las personas con discapacidad representado por el programa estatal de la Federación de Rusia titulado: 'Ambiente Accesible'. La implementación del programa estatal disminuye la carga económica en el presupuesto del país, mejora la calidad de vida de las personas con discapacidad, las hace participar en los procesos sociales y económicos y supera las barreras que impiden que las personas con discapacidad lleven una vida activa. El artículo analiza los enfoques básicos para el estudio del término "calidad de vida", encuentra sus características esenciales y su certeza funcional y tiene valor práctico para las agencias reguladoras y las agencias estatales, las organizaciones no gubernamentales y la sociedad mundial en general.

**PALABRAS CLAVES:** calidad de vida, personas con discapacidad, programa estatal, estudio sociológico.

**TITLE:** Implementation of the Accessible Environment state program of the Russian Federation for 2011-2020 in the Trans-Baikal region as a mechanism of improving the quality of life of people with disabilities.

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**ABSTRACT:** The article tries to reveal the mechanism for improving the quality of life of people with disabilities represented by the state program of the Russian Federation entitled: 'Accessible Environment'. The implementation of the state program reduces the economic burden on the country's budget, improves the quality of life of people with disabilities, makes them participate in social and economic processes and overcomes the barriers that prevent people with disabilities from leading an active life. The article analyzes the basic approaches to the study of the term "quality of life", finds its essential characteristics and its functional certainty and has practical value for regulatory agencies and state agencies, non-governmental organizations and world society in general.

**KEY WORDS:** quality of life, people with disabilities, state program, sociological study.

**INTRODUCTION.**

Today, researchers, volunteers and practitioners pay more frequent attention to the problems of people with disabilities, which are pressing for the majority of modern countries. The interest is sparked by the processes developed in the social practice. Countries change their social policy regarding the disabled. The society is actively involved into solving the problems of the people, implementation of their civil, economic, political and other rights and freedoms, and their social

rehabilitation (Syтин, 2003). New disablement models arise that require their scientific substantiation when developing the mechanisms of life quality improvement for the disabled community.

Purpose: to find the effect produced by the 'Accessible Environment' state program of the Russian Federation on the quality of life of the disabled community in the Trans-Baikal Territory for 2011-2020.

Hypothesis: the 'Accessible Environment' state program of the Russian Federation (2011-2020) is an effective mechanism of improving the quality of life of the disabled community in Russian regions.

Modern researchers G.L. Albercht, P. Devliegar, R. Imrie, E. A. Averina, N. V. Antipieva, L. A. Karasaeva, M. Y. Suslova, I. N. Yasyryova consider different aspects of disability in their works [1, 3, 8, 20, 29, 34]. P. V. Romanov and E. R. Yarskaya-Smirnova belong to the scientists who study the rights of the disabled community (Averina, 2011; Antipieva, 2002; Grigoriev & Subetto, 2000; Suslova, 2000; Albercht et al, 2008; Imrie, 2001). They consider the existing models of disability and differentiate between social and medical models (Romanov & Yarskaya-Smirnova, 2006). V. S. Tkachenko analyzed disability theories and proposed certain groups of disability definitions based on the social dominant share and possible integration into the environment (Tkachenko, 2007).

The issues of social work with the disabled community and improvement of medical and social expertise are discussed by D. V. Zaitsev, T. V. Zozulya, A. I. Osadchikh, L. V. Syтин, etc. (Aronov & Zaitsev, 2002; Zozulya, 2005; Osadchikh et al, 2005; Syтин, 2003).

The integral indicator of involvement of people with disabilities into life-sustaining activity of modern society is represented by their quality of life (Allardt, 2002). The problem of life quality was first examined by A. Pigou in 'The Economics of welfare'. He considered the 'quality of life' notion in the context of the study of social and individual welfare (Liga & Shchetkina, 2011). His ideas are still pressing today. In particular, welfare both of a country and an individual and criteria of welfare estimation continue to be relevant.

The basic notion in the economic welfare theory by A. Pigou is national income as a set of material and nonmaterial benefits acquired by a person with money. According to the scientist, national income is a criterion of individual and social welfare effectiveness. Social welfare will promote life improvement if certain conditions are followed: growth of per capita income, reduction of inequality of income distribution, earning stability in real terms.

Alongside with economic aspects, individual welfare includes the attitude of a human to its living environment. The main form of this expression is satisfaction of the person with various aspects of life. Individual welfare is the unity of a human economic status and quality of life. Individual welfare constituents that have no literal manifestation and monetary value (type of professional activity, relations, social position, status, education, health) form the quality of life. Labor activity is the basic factor that determines the quality of life but not income level and life standard.

A. Pigou pays much attention to external factors that influence the quality of life such as forms of social wealth distribution and ecological setting. A. Pigou defined the quality of life as satisfaction of a person with his/her needs determined by the state economic policy, a person's scope of activity, standard of living and environmental condition. At the same time, the scientist removes economic variables from quality of life. According to A. Pigou, the determinant factor of life quality is the type of professional activity as it determines the quality of life. Quality of life of a person who performs monotonous employment duties is much lower than that of the person who, for instance, practices craft.

The scientist tried to find technologies of achieving good life quality among population and that was his merit. According to him, the technologies included progressive taxation, creating conditions for income redistribution, fostering various research studies and education development. In the 40-50s of the XX century economic advancement of countries and vital activity of individuals were still estimated using such categories as 'living standards', 'standards of life', GDP. Scientists and

politicians believe that one of the reasons for interest in economic indicators can be fast economic growth attributed to intense redevelopment of economy destructed during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War in many countries. It allowed to meet material requirements of population.

However, at the end of the 50-60s of the XX century things changed drastically. Rapid technological progress resulted in new tendencies in the social and economic sphere. GDP remained the basic indicator of development of countries. However, the production sector of non-material values and services was slowly increasing. Such social branches as education, healthcare, culture, social support, etc. were more responsible for GDP growth, as they were aimed at the satisfaction of the so-called human growth needs. The sector of high-tech branches (trade, finances, insurance and real property) is also important.

Establishment of knowledge economy and occurrence of new driving forces of development (knowledge, information, intellect) updated the issue of resource investment not only in methods and technologies but in a human as well. This is the time when a new policy regarding a personality is formed. The human economic model is substituted by the human knowledge model that reflects the need in the development of new criteria estimating how the society and activity of the individual are developed.

The thesis of President of the USA J. Kennedy stating that ‘the quality of American life must keep pace with the quantity of American goods’ was a response to the occurring changes (Mitin, 1977). The quality of life was taken as a set of material resources, housing facilities, transport availability, favorable environment, ability to obtain an education, conditions for the development of physical and spiritual health in the environment of freedom and justice. In his speech, J. Kennedy determined preferred directions for country development.

Quality of life would be the criterion judging whether the set goals were effective. Scientists were offered an assignment to provide for scientific development of this notion and promote its active implementation into the formation of social and economic policy. In 1964, President L. Johnson evaluated how the country was developed stating that the Americans had then every right to declare satisfaction of not only material needs, but also of the needs in education, healthcare and other social services. Current purposes of the American Nation 'cannot be listed in the ledger of accounts. It is to enrich the quality of people's lives' (Popov, 1977).

State policy orientation towards human resources development required new criteria to estimate its effectiveness. Quality of life became such a criterion. The system of social accounting describing economic and social values of life quality was developed that time. Meanwhile, social values were considered very broadly and included as follows: social losses and innovation net profit, losses due to social diseases and economic growth potential; setting up a budget for social needs and economic potential. Quality of life was taken as the difference between societal costs and benefits.

Representatives of post-industrial society developed various concepts of life quality (J. Galbraith, D. Bell, A. Toffler, U. Rostow, etc.) (Yakunin & Sulakshin, 2012). They believed that quality of life could exist only in advanced cultures. U. Rostow differentiated between the stages of society development based on the economic growth, technical progress and formation of the new production structure. He enumerated the following stages any country must go through using these criteria: 'traditional society', 'transitional society', 'take-off', 'drive to technological maturity', 'high mass consumption' (Rostow, 1973).

The last stage of economic growth is called by him the stage of life quality characterized by high technology level as the factor determining advancement of education, healthcare, culture and the human. In this stage, the main objective was not to develop production technologies, but to provide for good life quality (Polyakova, 2004). He stressed that not every country could reach the stage.

According to the scientist, the USA went through the stage in the 1950s of the XX century (Rostow, 1973).

In the post-industrial society of D. Bell, high quality of life is possible at the postindustrial stage only, which is characterized by high technology and science level. 'I insist that information and theoretical knowledge are the strategic resources of the postindustrial society. Moreover, they become landmarks of modern history. The first landmark consists in the change of science nature itself. Science as universal knowledge was the basic productive force of the modern society. The second landmark frees the technology from its imperative nature and turns it into a rubber stamp' (Polyakova, 2004). D. Bell displays the following basic technologies of good quality of life achievement such as information, knowledge, education and healthcare.

A. Toffler developed the concept of 'three waves'. In the third wave stage, economic progress is united with a person's humanism and needs. Thus, it is possible to achieve the quality of life in this stage only. The third wave 'brings with it a genuinely new way of life based on diversified, renewable energy sources; on methods of production that make most factory assembly lines obsolete, on a novel institution that might be called the electronic cottage. The emergent civilization writes a new code of behavior for us and carries us beyond standardization, synchronization and centralization, beyond the concentration of energy, money and power' (Toffler, 1999). According to Toffler, quality of life is a set of ecological, economic and social components. Only the unity of the three components provides for good quality. Thus, the ecological component can arise when we struggle environmental pollution, 'population density, noise, dirt... i.e. restoring the physical inhabitable environment and improving the quality of life' (Toffler, 1999). The economic component is associated with the satisfaction of spiritual needs alongside with economy advancement determined by the technological progress. The social component was taken as a set of modern values carried by a new generation. The basis for the

formation of new values is advancement of economy as the factor leading to the satisfaction of material needs and transition to the needs of self-implementation and self-actualization.

So, the followers of post-industrialism believed there was a relation between good quality of life and advancement of economy and technical progress. According to them, only economic progress can provide for good quality of life.

At the same time, another opinion was formed regarding the role and significance of technical progress in the society advancement. This group of scientists discussed an adverse effect of economic growth on life quality (T. Adorno, G. Markuse, E. Mishan, L. Mamford, F. Rozak, B. Skinner). Economic growth causes rise in unemployment, worse ecological setting, load on the nervous system, social isolation, and decreases adaptational capacities, etc. (Dobrenkov, 1994; Aron, 1972). Optimistic post-industrialism representatives and pessimistic scientists admitted the role and significance of technical progress in the societal life estimating its consequences for a human differently.

Considering the issue of life quality, E. Fromm refers to 'be' and 'possess' modes. The modes are the ways of human existence. 'Possession is a normal function of life: we need to possess things to be alive. Moreover, we need to possess things to derive pleasure from them. That's why it seems that possession is the essence of existence, that a person is nobody if he/she owns nothing' (Fromm, 2004). Unlike post-industrialism representatives who associated quality of life with the state social and economic activity, E. Fromm's quality of life was determined by the vital function, needs and values of a person. The scientist wrote about its negative consequences for a human and life quality not denying significance and importance of technical progress. Technology humanization and teaching a person to control the machines created by him were treated as ways out.

Z. Bauman applies the problem of life quality to the modern, 'individualized' society. He differentiates between the following aspects of life quality:

- Diminished control over social processes, developing the feeling of insecurity, spreading instability, insecurity, ultimately leading to disintegration of a human social and individual life;
- Loss of a human ability to control his/her fate,
- Change in the human axiosphere, revision of the entire system of values that were inviolable in the recent past (Bauman, 2005).

According to Bauman, quality of life changes are associated not with economic processes but with moral, ethical life, spiritual life of both the society, and the person. Quality of life worsens when moral declines. Thus, good quality of life is possible when social life spiritual bonds are reviving.

The Club of Rome – International Non-Governmental Organization - made a good contribution into development of life quality problems. Good life quality was one of modern global problems.

In the Club of Rome, the first model of life quality was created by J. Forrester who wrote the book ‘The World Dynamics’ (Forrester, 2003). The scientist determines quality of life as the measure of the world system functioning and enumerates the following indicators of its estimation: food supply, capital investment that determines living standards, pollution, level of population growth. The reports prepared by the Club of Rome addressed different aspects of life quality and developed its provision technologies. A brief outline of approaches to the value of life quality developed by the Club of Rome are as follows:

- Satisfaction of basic needs and providing every person with equal possibilities to realize its needs and personal potential (‘The Limits to Growth’, D. Meadows, etc.).
- Achieving satisfactory life conditions (‘Alternative Future’, A. Errera);
- Good living standard and moderate prosperity of all people in the world (‘The Review of International Order’, J. Tinbergen);
- Ensuring prosperity of all people on Earth (‘Human Purposes’, E. Laszlo);
- Satisfaction of basic human needs (‘Beyond the Age of Waste’, D. Gabor, U. Colombo);

- Ability to adjust to the environment ('No limit to learning, J. Botkin, M. Elmandjra, M. Malitza);
- A certain system of values ('Routes to the Future', B. Gavrilishin);
- Satisfaction of needs in the favourable development of ecology and economy ('Dialogue about the wealth and well-being', O. Jarini);
- Satisfaction of material needs on the basis of active use of microprocessors ('Microelectronics and Society', A. Schaff, G. Friedrichs);
- Satisfaction of needs when developing local production ('The Barefoot Revolution', B. Schneider);
- Satisfaction of human material and spiritual needs ('Beyond the Limits to Growth', E. Pestel);
- Meeting material demands of people, formation of new spiritual values ('The First Global Revolution', A. King, B. Schneider);
- Conditions that provide people with material wealth, social justice benefits, economic stability ('Beyond the Limits: Global Catastrophe or Stable Future', D. Meadows, D. Meadows, J. Randers);
- Convenience and comfort ('Factor Four: *Doubling Wealth – Halving Resource Use*. F. Weizsäcker, A. Lovins, H. Lovins).
- Satisfaction of human needs based on the development of human qualities ('Development of Human Qualities', A. Peachey);
- Fair distribution of resources ('Ways leading to the Millennium', E. Laszlo);
- Favourable environment ('Macrosift', E. Laszlo).

Thus, the members of the Club of Rome viewed quality of life in the light of safety, convenience and comfort for a human (Zakharova et al, 2013). According to them, the maximum quality of life can be achieved but a new human being must be brought up for that.

Due to ideological reasons, Russian scientists, politicians and community workers paid attention to the issues of life quality in 80-90s of the XX century only. The Soviet social science took life quality as a term used to justify the western way of life. 'Having occurred as the issue of environmental

protection, health and renewal of cities, the issue of life quality acquired a common meaning. Integrating the problems of purposes and values of a modern middle-class society, it is considered by its ideologists and politicians from the point of view of capitalism survival and its historical perspective' (Tolstykh, 1975). During the period, Soviet scientists were actively examining the way of life. They believed that the category shows all the parts of society activity.

The following research schools have been started and developed in Russia:

- Research school of the Institute of Social and Economic Studies of Population of the Russian Academy of Science. N. M. Rimashevskaya was the first to use a set of demographic, sociological, mathematical and economic methods when examining the living standards and quality of life;

- Research school of the All-Russian Center of Living Standards engaged in the following developments: to substantiate the characteristics of interrelated spheres of quality life and living standards formation, substantiate and define the system of regulatory consumption budgets such as low income (minimum living wage), socially acceptable (restorative), middle class and high class consumption budgets which have no analogues both in Russia and in the rest of the world.

These are criterial social standards that allow comparing the actual maturity of a person, social groups and society and their consumption of materials goods, services and information; All-Russian monitoring of income, standards of living and quality of life is carried out;

- Research school of endometric examination of life quality of the Central Economic Mathematical Institute of the RAS. Its representatives developed the system of quality models and examined the issue of consumption typology;

- Research school of synthetic qualimetry and studies of life quality that treats a life quality concept as a united system of spiritual, intellectual, material, sociocultural, ecological and demographic life components. In this system, health is considered as the integrated quality of life indicator;

- Research school of Academician T. I. Zaslavskaya that revealed the four-part structure of the Russian society where, unlike in western countries, the majority is presented not by high net worth middle class but by basic layers engaged in low-paid wage labor (Bobkov et al, 2016).

In modern research literature, they denote the following trends when studying various aspects of life quality: conceptualization of 'quality of life' notion, creating the models of life quality, developing indicators and methods that estimate life quality, setting up and using the technologies that provide adequate life quality. These aspects are examined using scientific approaches such as philosophical, economic, medical, ecological, psychological, legal, and sociological (Liga & Schetkina, 2011).

In this study, quality of life is characterized using a sociological approach via living space level of organization and vital force degree development across population. Satisfaction (unsatisfaction) of social and individual subjectivity determined by the life strategy and social state policy is paid special attention to (Liga et al, 2018; Afriyani et al, 2018; Alzahrani, 2017).

Quality of life is determined using a set of indicators that characterize the possibility of an individual to be comfortable at work, have an adequate standard of living, get qualitative education and medical aid, have better living conditions, use benefits of culture under good safety conditions. This approach reveals the interaction and interrelation between the vital force and life force of the disabled. According to followers of vitalism sociologists, using the life force means formation of an accessible environment, conditions that could promote their human potential and enable development of vital force among the disabled. At the same time, people with disabilities can influence, improve and change the life space.

## **DEVELOPMENT.**

### **Materials and methods.**

To reveal the effect produced by the implementation of the 'Accessible Environment' state program of the Russian Federation on the quality of life of the disabled community in the Trans-Baikal region

for 2011-2020, a sociological study aimed at the estimation of the state program by people with disabilities was carried out in 2017.

An interview questionnaire form was the principle method of interview. First, questionnaire as a written interview form reveals opinions of a group of people in a certain sequence and a non-random manner. Second, being a structurally organized set of questions, logically associated with the study purpose, a questionnaire form is an effective tool when a large number of people need to be interviewed during a short interval of time.

Those surveyed must think over their answers thoroughly consulting the printed form. The form contained 23 questions divided into conceptual blocks. Four blocks of questions estimated the quality of life of those disabled, accessibility of life facilities, attitude of the society towards the problems of the disabled community as estimated by those disabled, and social and demographic status of those surveyed.

The field stage of the study took place in March-April 2017. 1,200 people with disabilities from the Trans-Baikal region were interviewed as per the sampling study plan (level of confidence (accuracy) was 95%, confidence interval (bias) ranged  $\pm 5\%$ ). Cluster (territorial) single-stage sampling was used in the study. Sample composition was specified based on general population proportions. Thus, principle characteristics of a sampling population were presented as follows: women prevailed by gender (62.3% of those surveyed in total), 37.7% of those surveyed were men.

Principle age groups were 60 to 69 years old (25.5% of those surveyed); 70 and elder (22.3%), 45 to 59 (25.1%), 35 to 44 (15.3%), 25 to 34 (7.8%), 18 to 24 (2.5%), 1.7% of those surveyed did not indicate their age.

The educational level was as follows: secondary professional education (31.3%), incomplete secondary education (26.5%), secondary general education (18.3%), higher education (13.1%), incomplete higher education (5.6%), and 3.8% failed to respond. People with sight disability (17.8%),

hearing disability (10.9%), disabled people who needed moving help (22.5%), disabled people who needed constant nursing care (10.5%), disabled people who must be accompanied in public places (8.2%), 30,1% of those surveyed failed to respond.

Subsequent processing and analysis of the data obtained were done using theoretical analysis and statistical and mathematical methods. Thus, during theoretical analysis, the obtained empiric material was processed, hypotheses were confirmed and rejected, basic principles were made. Statistical analysis of an empirical study results was performed using contingency tables and data processing with IBM SPSS Statistics 23.

Some groups of sociological indicators were found during the study:

- Indicators reflecting living standards of the disabled;
- Indicators that characterize the level of satisfaction of the disabled people with accessibility of principle objects and services in the sphere of healthcare, culture, transport, information, communication, social protection, education, sports and physical culture;
- Indicators displaying the attitude of the society to those disabled;
- Indicators displaying satisfaction of those disabled with life;
- Indicators displaying satisfaction of those disabled with accompanying services provided by social welfare institutions;
- Indicators displaying attitude of the society towards those disabled.

The indicators were estimated based on respondents' opinions.

Index of satisfaction of those disabled with accessibility of social infrastructure facilities and their services was utilized as a condition of good quality of life to estimate environmental accessibility.

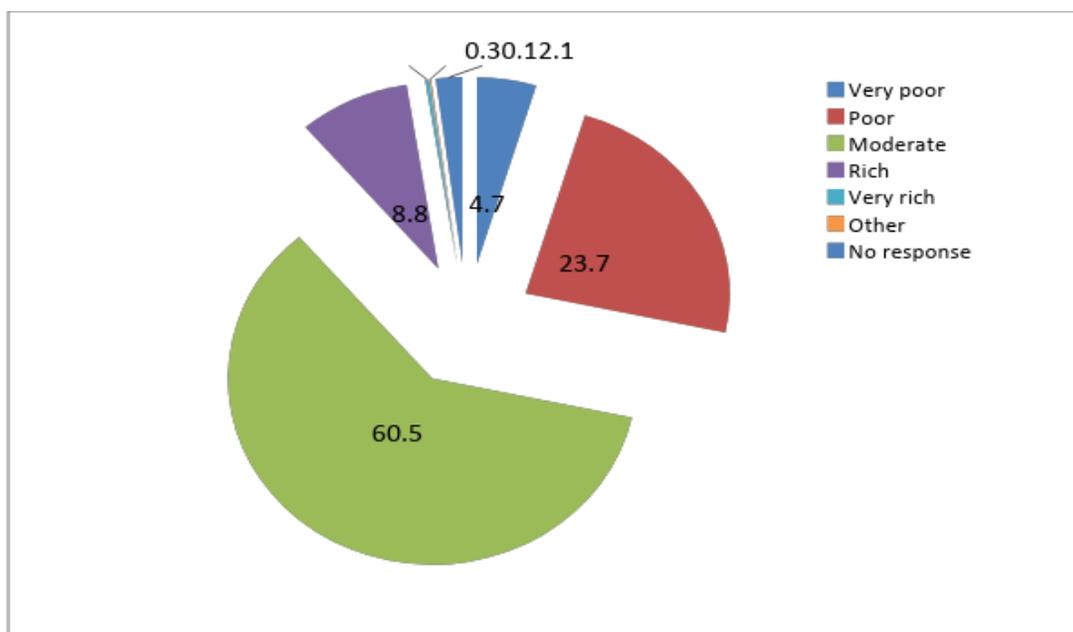
The Index of satisfaction is calculated as follows:

$IS = Sc \times 100\% / Rn$ , где: IS is Index of satisfaction; Sc is for consumers satisfied with accessibility of facilities and services; Rn is for a number of respondents participated in the interview.

## Results.

A question characterizing life quality of those disabled and their material wealth was included into the questionnaire to estimate the effectiveness of the activities implemented under ‘The Accessible Program’ state program (diagram 1).

**Diagram 1. Please, estimate your material wealth. How do you live? (%).**



A number of groups can be found in the social structure of those disabled from the Trans-Baikal region depending on living standards. A group of people with disabilities, who estimated their life as moderate, was the largest (60.5%). Poor people constituted another big group. Its representatives need material help. The group accounts for 23.7% of the total number of respondents. Those respondents who considered their life quality as high (rich) belong to the third group (8.8%).

A very poor social group of people with disabilities who can't even pay for food constitutes another group (4.7%). Elite people with disabilities form the smallest group (0.3%). The quality of life estimate is definitely subjective. People with a low level of life are often satisfied with it and vice versa. However, low income always decreases satisfaction with vital requirements.

Availability or non-availability of residential property belong to quality of life satisfaction values. According to interview results, 41.1% of disabled respondents have an apartment of their own, 23.2% have a house, 19.4% stay with their parents, 3.9% rent an apartment, 3.9% stay in a hostel; 1.3% stay with a husband's (wife's) parents, 2.4% live in board and care facilities, 2.0% rent social apartments, 0.6% own a manor, 2.2% did not respond. Thus, the majority of respondents have a residential property.

Today, the state tries to integrate people with disabilities into the society using the model of social and environmental changes by implementing the 'Accessible Environment' state program since 2011. The program is expected to improve life quality of the disabled community (The 'Accessible environment' state program of the Russian Federation for 2011-2020).

However, not all people with disabilities inhabiting the Trans-Baikal region are aware of this program. 32.9% of respondents are aware of the program theme, its activities and results; one third part of those surveyed are not familiar with the program (34.3%), only 6.1% know the concept well. 9.6% of respondents are familiar with the program content and results. 14.0% of those surveyed stated that it was difficult to respond. 3.1% failed to respond at all.

Thus, it is obvious that the major part of respondents is not aware of this program. This can be due to insufficient informative and explanatory work. At the same time, according to planned activities of the 'Accessible Environment' program, regional means of information are supposed to transmit promotional videos about the social project, and an information letter is issued in Russian regions with 'Preodeleniye' information letter being issued in the Trans-Baikal region.

Trans-Baikal regional organization of the All-Russia Society for People with Disabilities is supposed to conduct a purposeful work with the disabled community explaining the basic purposes and tasks of the program and promoting more active participation in the activities, which are associated with

integration into the society. Another reason for low program awareness is the lack of proper interaction between the society, state and disabled community.

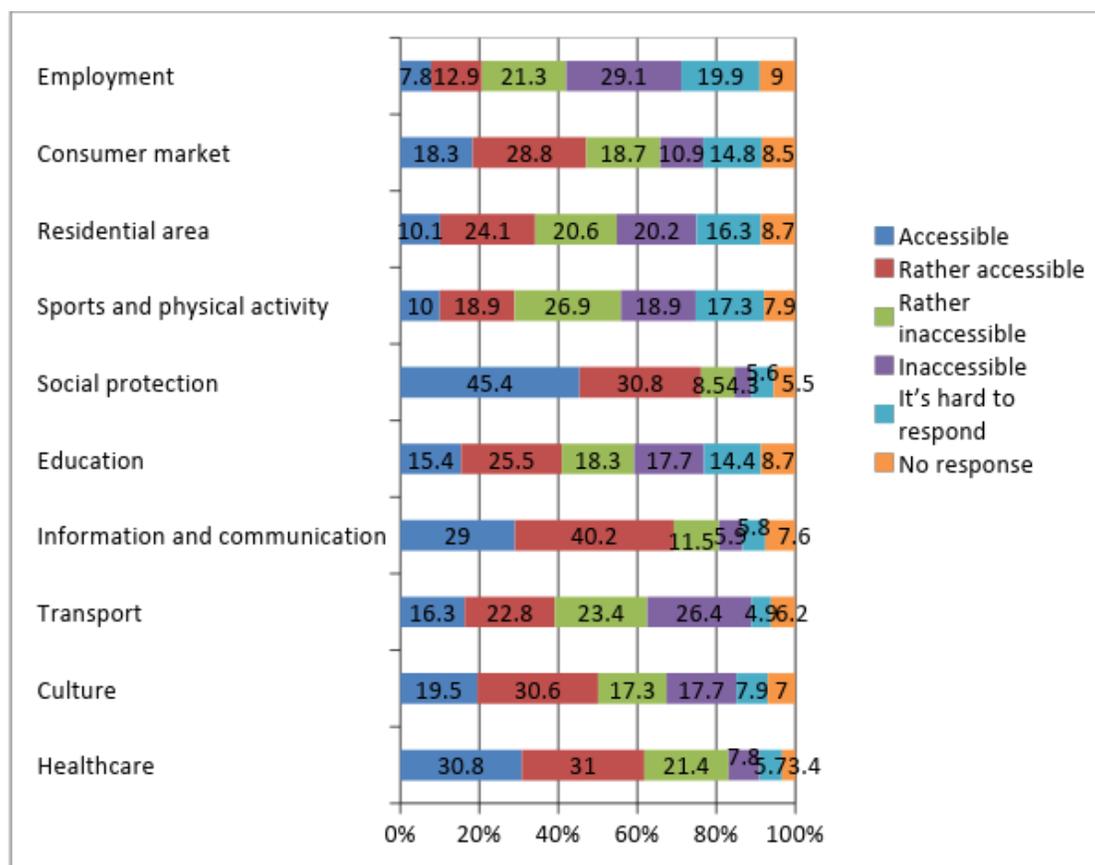
One of the state program tasks is to provide for an equal access to priority objects and services in different living environments of people with disabilities and other handicapped citizens. According to the program, the priority infrastructure facilities the accessibility of which determined the quality of life for those disabled include healthcare, education and culture, information and communication, social protection and employment, sports and physical training, residential accommodation, consumer market and transport.

The sociological study estimates the extent of accessibility of principal facilities and services in the priority spheres for the disabled community. The results obtained are presented in diagram 2.

On the one hand, the surrounding environment is a condition of their integration into the society. On the other hand, it can be the reason for social risks and negative attitude of those disabled to the society (Naberushkina, 2010). Modern theory and practice of creating an activity-friendly environment uses the term 'universal design'. It means that the environment must be accessible for the entire population where the disabled community is equal to other population (Agenda of Science for Environment and Development into the 21st Century, 1992). Universal design is accessible for the entire population including people with disabilities.

The order of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy of the Russian Federation interprets the universal design as a set of regulatory and organizational basis for the system, which makes facilities of social infrastructure and services for the disabled and other handicapped people accessible.

**Diagram 2. Please, estimate the accessibility of principle facilities and services in the priority living environments for people with disabilities (%).**



Consumer market	Accessible
Residential area	Rather accessible
Sports and physical activity	Rather inaccessible
Social protection	Inaccessible
Education	It's hard to respond
Information and communication	No response
Transport	
Culture	
Healthcare	

The levels of satisfaction with accessibility of social infrastructure facilities were as follows depending on the satisfaction index: high level of satisfaction (1-0.8), moderate level of satisfaction (0.7-0.5), low level of satisfaction (0.4-0). Neither sphere provided a high level of satisfaction (table 1).

Moderate level of satisfaction refers to the spheres of social protection, information and communication, and healthcare. Low level of satisfaction characterizes the accessibility of facilities and services in the sphere of culture, education, sports and physical culture, residential area and consumer market.

**Table 1. Index of satisfaction with the accessibility of social infrastructure facilities and services.**

№	Living environment	Index of satisfaction
1.	Healthcare	0.61
2.	Culture	0.41
3.	Transport	0.39
4.	Information and communication	0.69
5.	Education	0.40
6.	Social protection	0.76
7.	Sports and physical education	0.28
8.	Residential area	0.34
9.	Consumer market	0.47
10.	Employment	0.20

'The Accessible Environment' state program has been implemented in Russia since 2011. At this time, people with disabilities could estimate the results obtained when the program-related activities were carried out. Thus, the questionnaire included questions estimating the extent of living environment accessibility for the disabled community. A considerably increased accessibility is noted in the system of population social protection (45.1%). Only 5.3% of respondents claim that accessibility in this sphere is lower. Lower accessibility is noted in healthcare where 29.3% of respondents claim that accessibility is increased whereas 34.3% believe that accessibility is decreased.

The percentage of people who failed to respond should be of note.

### **Discussion.**

Thus, according to the sociological study results, the 'Accessible environment' state program implementation (2011-2020) produces a little effect on the increased quality of life of people with disabilities. The conclusion confirms the suggested hypothesis.

However, percentage of poor people with disabilities is still present (23.7%). The majority of those disabled consider their quality of life as moderate (60.5%). Though the program has been implemented in Russia since 2011, neither sphere of social infrastructure was assigned high level of satisfaction with its accessibility.

The 'Accessible Environment' state program for 2011-2020 has turned into a mechanism of increasing the quality of life for people with disabilities. It shows the way how their problems in Russian regions can be solved. Its principle purpose is to increase the accessibility of priority facilities and services in the priority living environments for those disabled and handicapped thus providing a good quality of life.

Improving the quality of life for people with disabilities is a pressing issue for the majority of civilized countries. The results obtained in an empirical study presented actual data on implementation of the 'Accessible environment' program in the Russian Trans-Baikal region and expanded objective data based on subjective opinions of those disabled.

The results revealed pressure points of integration of those disabled into the society. These are as follows: the society is not ready for their integration in the society and their active participation in its activity; social facilities are insufficiently accessible, etc. The obtained results can be used during development of various social programs, projects aimed at the integration of the disabled into the society, overcoming their social isolation, social rehabilitation.

## **CONCLUSIONS.**

The results obtained must become a basis for a constructive dialogue between countries, non-governmental organizations and people with disabilities. The subjective data shall be useful during development of significant activities of social rehabilitation that expand the possibilities for integration of people with disabilities; implementation of social programs and projects intended for improved quality of life of people with disabilities in different countries; and development of recommendations on how to decrease the satisfaction of disabled people with social services.

The interview results are necessary to optimize the procedure of provision of services and have an informative and explanatory work with those disabled. When developing the programs of improving the quality of life of those disabled it is necessary to consider the experience of other countries and use positive social practices aimed at the formation of favourable environment for people with disabilities.

Modern international community needs to solve the following problems:

- Develop legal literacy and civil dignity in people with disability;
- Attract attention of the society to the problems of those disabled;

- Help those disabled to participate in the life of society alongside with other citizens;
- Estimate the quality of life of people with disabilities by the disabled themselves;
- Monitor implementation of social programs and projects aimed at the increased quality of life of those disabled;
- Study the extent of population tolerance for the problems of those disabled considering various target groups and opinions of people with disabilities regarding the possible social integration;
- Prepare to communicate with those disabled;
- Active use of mass media, modern information resources to inform the disabled of certain social programs and projects implemented in a certain country.

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