

## ICF takes centre stage in Taiwan



**WCPT policy consultant Catherine Sykes was invited to present a paper at the first conference on the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) held in Taiwan in March.**

The impetus for the event was the development of a new national disability eligibility assessment process in Taiwan, using the ICF as its basis. This will be implemented in 2011. The conference presented an opportunity for a WCPT representative to meet with members of the Physical Therapy Association of Taiwan (Republic of China).

“Physical therapists seem well placed to engage in the development and implementation of the new disability eligibility process” says Catherine Sykes, WCPT’s Professional Policy Consultant. She presented papers on disability data in Australia and use of ICF in Europe and Asia. “The aim of the talks was to show the participants how the ICF has been used in different types of data collections in different countries as a background to the development of a new disability eligibility assessment process for Taiwan.”

“A strong programme of ICF research is underway in Taiwan, with physical therapists taking the lead in such activities as translating the classification into Chinese, monitoring child development using the ICF and a range of other studies.” The Taiwan research programme will be featured in a future edition of WCPT News.