



Faith Actors Destigmatizing Disability to Improve Community-based Rehabilitation

15 March 2022



Capacity Building



Networking



Fellowship



Advocacy



**Inspired by Faith.
Committed to evidence-based practice.**

Christian Connections for International Health

Faith Actors, Communities and People with Disabilities



Housekeeping

- Put questions in Q&A Box
- Recording on www.ccih.org > Events > Webinar Recordings

Our Panel Today



Cynthia Bauer is US Executive Director and Co-Founder of Kupenda for the Children. Her work as a wildlife biologist brought her to Kenya, where she was inspired to start Kupenda. As a person living with a disability, Ms. Bauer was especially motivated to help children with disabilities overcome discrimination and stigma. She has over 10 years of experience as a wildlife biologist with multiple nonprofit and government agencies. She has also taught biology classes for over a decade, and has a Master's degree in Biology and Ecology and a Bachelor's degree in Wildlife Conservation.

Our Panel Today



Abdulgafoor Bachani, PhD, MHS is Associate Professor in the Department of International Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and Director for the Johns Hopkins International Injury Research Unit (JH-IIRU). Dr. Bachani has a particular interest in strengthening health systems to enhance access to rehabilitation services in low-resource settings; and applying new and innovative information and communication technology approaches to injury prevention, disability, and rehabilitation.

Johns Hopkins International Injury Research Unit

World Health Organization
Collaborating Center
for Injuries, Violence and
Accident Prevention



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Current status of disability and response in low-and-middle-income countries

Abdulgafoor M Bachani, PhD MHS

Associate Professor & Director

Johns Hopkins International Injury Research Unit

Health Systems Program, Department of International Health

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Key issues

- Why consider disability?
- Current status and issues
 - Conceptualization of disability
- Disability and rehabilitation



Sources:

• <https://www.istockphoto.com/photos/special-needs>

Why consider disability?

- Globally, 1 in 7 people live with some form of disability
 - Short-term vs long-term, temporary vs permanent vs relapsing
- Changes in disease patterns – chronic conditions including COVID19
- Individuals, caregivers, families, society is impacted
- Consequences
 - **Health:** physical limitation, rehabilitation needs, chronic conditions,
 - **Social:** caregiving needs, stigma, marginalization, limited educational opportunities, living standards, exposure to violence
 - **Economic:** exposure to shocks, asset ownership, health expenditures, multidimensional poverty

Sources:

- World Report on Disability, 2011
- Bright T, Wallace S, Kuper H. A Systematic Review of Access to Rehabilitation for People with Disabilities in Low- and Middle-Income Countries. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health. 2018; 15(10):2165.
- Mitra, S. and Yap, J. (2021). The Disability Data Report. Disability Data Initiative. Fordham Research Consortium on Disability: New York.
- <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5739437/>

Why consider disability?

Global Goals

- [UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities \(CRPD\)](#)
- Universal Health Coverage
- Disability-related Sustainable Development Goals:
 - Inclusive education (Goal 4)
 - Inclusive employment opportunities (Goal 8)
 - Social, economic and political inclusion (Goal 10)
 - Accessible cities, transport services, and public spaces (Goal 11)
 - High quality, reliable and timely availability of disability data (Goal 17)

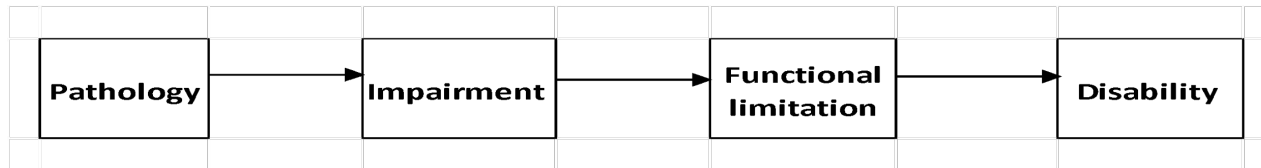
Disability: Current Status & Issues

- Estimates for disability historically problematic due to a variety of reasons:
 - Conceptualization:
 - Medical & Social models □ interaction of health, environmental, social, and cultural factors (2-6)
 - Identification of disabled individuals – social stigma
- Measured through 1-2 questions in national censuses or, cross-sectional studies to meet specific needs
- Measures lack comparability and for many LMICs, simply unavailable
- Efforts to standardized measurement

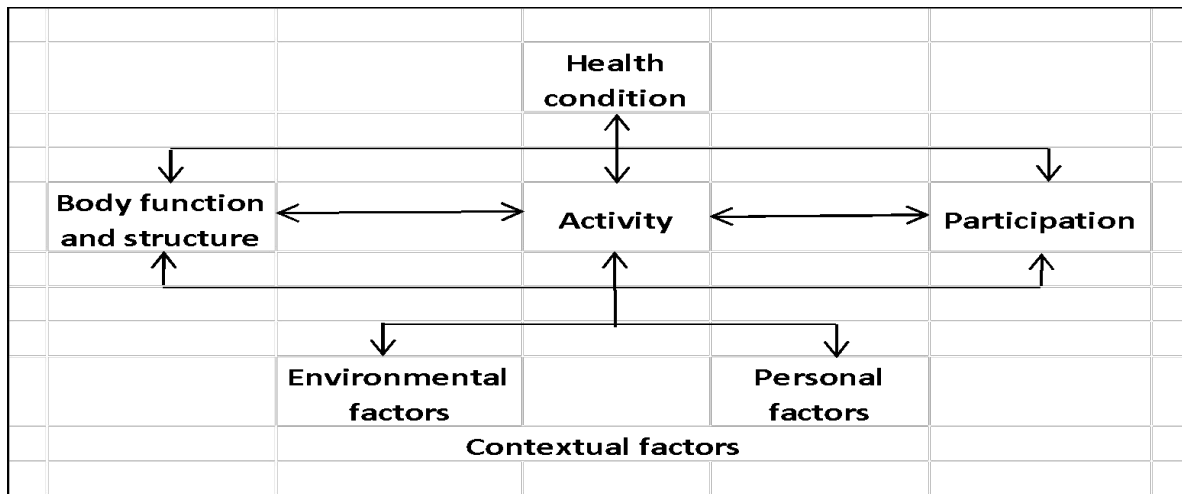
Source:

• Mitra, S. and Yap, J. (2021). The Disability Data Report. Disability Data Initiative. Fordham Research Consortium on Disability: New York.

Linear Medical Model



International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health



Sources:

- Adapted from: IOM (Power and Tarlov), 1991
- International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health, 2001

Response: Efforts to understand the burden of disability

- Disability Data Initiative
- Analysis of disability questions in national censuses and household surveys between 2009 and 2018
- Internationally comparable questions on functional difficulty were found for only 47% of countries and 16% of household surveys and censuses under review, despite impetus towards standardizing disability measurement
- Any type of question about disability was lacking for 24% of countries and 65% of reviewed datasets
- Opportunity for measuring disaggregated data to impact policies and interventions

Sources:

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/article/PIIS2214-109X\(21\)00312-0/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/article/PIIS2214-109X(21)00312-0/fulltext)

• Mitra, S. and Yap, J. (2021). The Disability Data Report. Disability Data Initiative. Fordham Research Consortium on Disability: New York.

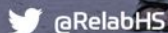
Response: Inclusive Health Systems

- Universal Health Coverage & SDGs
- Health systems currently not designed to be inclusive for people with disability
- Barriers:
 - Physical access, attitudinal, financial
 - Training
 - Equipment
 - Socio-cultural
- Some efforts underway to address these issues



Learning, Acting, and Building for Rehabilitation in Health Systems

www.relabhs.org



An estimated **2.4 billion people** are living with a health condition that would benefit from rehabilitation; **less than 10%** have access to the care they need.

Challenges



Global Efforts

- Increasing number of policies and programs for rehabilitation and AT
- Growing investment in data collection and research
- Creation of rehabilitation and AT-focused divisions within government ministries
- Increasing the number of workforce and examples of successful service delivery models
- Guidelines developed to standardize care

ReLAB-HS Goal

Development of **health systems** that are responsive to **growing needs for rehabilitation** across the **lifespan**

- Improve the **health and well-being** of the population
- **Provide down-stream benefits** in terms of future health care costs, increased productivity, and social inclusion

Technical Approach

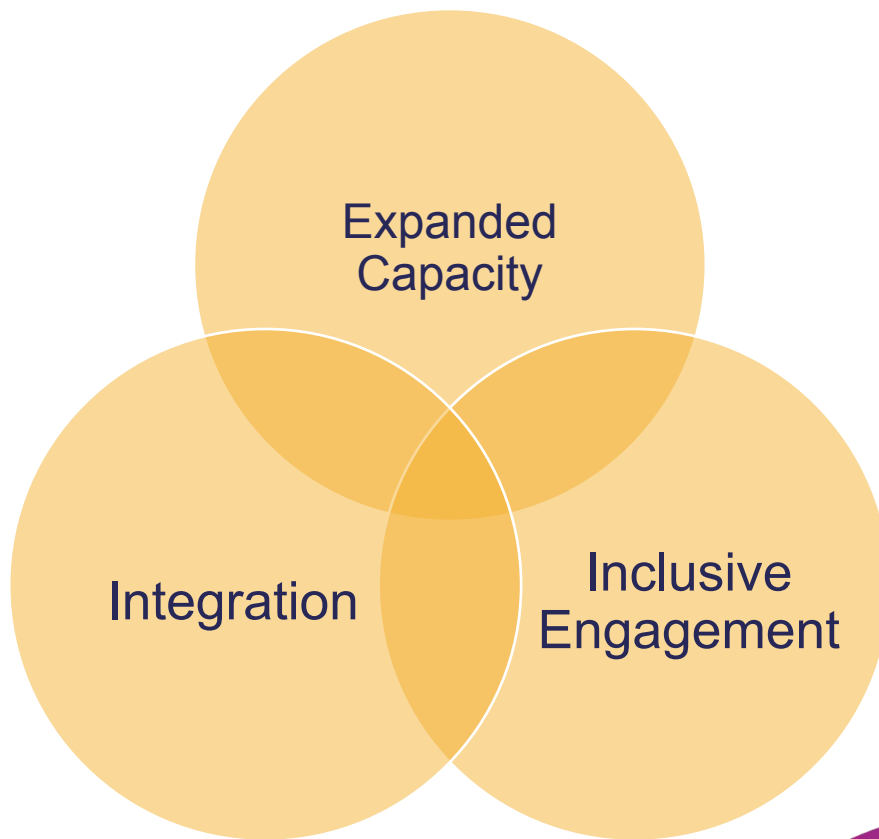


Country Programs



Anticipated Impact


Health systems
strengthened
through a
sustainable
approach





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Our Panel Today



Earnest Kioko serves as CURE International's Senior Director, Spiritual Ministry. In this position, Mr. Kioko provides functional support and guidance to the Spiritual Ministry teams across the CURE network and oversees the development, dissemination and organization of CURE's Christian ministry resources. He previously served as the Spiritual Director of CURE Kenya and is an ordained Reverend with the Africa Inland Church, Kenya and is currently pursuing a PhD in Theology and Development at Africa International University in Kenya.

Our Panel Today



Leonard Mbonani is Kenya Executive Director and Co-Founder of Kupenda for the Children. He has over 40 years of experience working in disability programs as a special needs assessment officer for the government, a disability researcher for an internationally funded nonprofit organization, and an educator at special schools and units throughout Kilifi County, Kenya. His compassion for people with disabilities began within his own family, when interacting with relatives who were deaf and unable to communicate due to lack of sign language training. He holds certificates in Secondary Education and Primary School Management and Diplomas in Special Education and Learning.