

Inception Report (Draft)

Prepared by

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Training Course: J1300881

Intellectual Disability in Community

Activities 2013

Organization: National Council of Disabled

Persons of Zimbabwe (NCDPZ)

Country: Zimbabwe

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **Name of Country :** Zimbabwe
2. **Area (sq.km):** Total area is 390 757 sq/km
3. **Life Expectancy: Overall** 51 years (male:50 years and females:47years)¹
4. **Infant Mortality rate:** 725 / 100 000 live births
5. **Maternal Mortality rate:** 960 deaths / 100 000 live births
6. **Literacy rate:** 90%
7. **²Population (by district, Age and Income level):** The population of Zimbabwe is **12 973 808**.

There are **6 234 931** males and **6 738 877** females. The population distribution indicates that Harare has 16% of the total population as the most populous province. Manicaland Province 14%, Midlands 13%, Masvingo 11%, Mashonaland West 11%, Mashonaland Central 9%, Matabeleland North 6%, Bulawayo and Matabeleland South with 5% each. The last Poverty Assessment (2003) indicated that the population living below the total consumption poverty line (TCPL) was 72%.

8. Education System (Number of Schools and students in each district):

Province	Number of Schools	Province	Number of Schools
Harare Metro	311	Mashonaland West	1032
Bulawayo Metro	169	Matabeleland South	126*
Manicaland	1120	Matabeleland North	82*
Midlands	1094	Mashonaland Central	686
Masvingo	576	Mashonaland East	984

¹ Index Mundi: Zimbabwe Demographical Profile 2013

² Zimstat: ZWE Census Preliminary 2012 report

9. Health System (Number of Hospitals in each district, Social health care system for indigent patients):

The public health system is centralized for policy, administrative guidance and coordination of all responses to national health issues hence all activities are administered from the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare (MOHCW). The Ministry of labor and Social Welfare is also in charge of such indigent patients by providing the necessary services and also being a referral centre and link to various service providers. Manicaland has 262 health institutions; Midlands has 217; Masvingo has 179; Mashonaland West has 178; Mashonaland East has 193; Mashonaland Central has 142; Matabeleland South has 121 and Matabeleland North has 120. These institutions range from Provincial hospitals, rural hospitals, rural health centers and Clinics (NB: each province has a provincial while each district has a district hospital). Bulawayo City has at-least 31 institutions and Harare City has at-least 61 institutions that range from Hospitals, Medical Centers, Clinics and Polyclinics.

10. Major Industry (Number of people working for each industry):

Industry	Est. No. of People	Comment
Mining	43,000	Currently Fastest growing industry in Zimbabwe.
Tourism	300,000	No. are people directly and indirectly
Agricultural	815,000	Estimated people employed by end of 2010

11. Employment rate: Zimbabwe's unemployment rate has been estimated at 75% as on the 22nd of April 2013. It is however very difficult to gauge the real level of unemployment as countless of Zimbabweans are making a living in the informal sector.

2. INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

1. Laws concerned with persons with Intellectual Disabilities:

- Mental Health Act of Zimbabwe 15/12
- Public health Act 15/09
- Disabled Persons Act 17/02

- Social Welfare Assistance Act 17/06
- Education Act 25/04

2. Financial Assistance for persons with Intellectual Disabilities

In Zimbabwe people with disabilities are entitled to US\$25, 00 per month as and when government has funds available through the Ministry of labour and Social Welfare. However DPOs, NGOs and Church based organization have also been complimenting government efforts by running programs that also offer cash disbursements to PWIDs in the communities they operate in. *Government has recently started Harmonized Social Cash transfers where ultra-poor and labour constrained households receive US\$25,00 per household/ month. PWDs are also part of this scheme though specific figures are not yet compiled to see the exact number of PWIDs benefiting.

3. Services including CBR available for persons with Intellectual Disabilities

- Services available for PWIDS range from: Rehabilitation; Psychosocial support services for parents and children with intellectual disabilities; Access to health and treatment; Life skills and Vocational skills training services. (Note: almost all Provincial and District hospitals have a Rehabilitation centre for PWDs.)

4. Number of services provided including education, welfare, employment promotion and so on and those beneficiaries in each district (province)

It is very difficult to determine the exact number of services provided that includes education, welfare, employment creation/promotion as there has not been a finalized survey to determine the exact number of beneficiaries per district or province. This is mainly due to the fact that some DPOs only operate in certain provinces or district and are not found in other districts. However PWIDs also benefit from services such as the harmonized cash transfers by government (as alluded in 2*) and they also benefit from the government Basic Education Assistance Module (BEAM) where school fees is paid for children in both primary and secondary level. State run Vocational Training Centers

such as Ruwa rehabilitation centre trains PWDs and also offers job placement programs though most of the trainees end up in the informal sector. Revolving loan scheme for PWDs is also available through the Ministry of labour and Social Welfare (as and when government has funds) and we are yet to compile the exact number of PWIDs that have benefited thus far.

3. OUTLINE OF YOUR ORGANIZATION

1. Background, Vision, strategy

National Council of Disabled Persons of Zimbabwe (NCDPZ) is a cross disability mass membership organization of persons (women, men and youth) with disabilities. It was formed by persons with disabilities in 1970 and formally registered in 1975 under the Private and Voluntary Organization (PVO) Act of Zimbabwe. The formation was in response and furtherance to the persistent campaigning and lobbying by persons with disabilities to be included as equal partners in life and work of mainstream society. Secondly it was in respect of the philosophy that the rights of persons with disabilities are best promoted by persons with disabilities themselves and the right to represent their own interest and concerns. The organization holistically campaigns to bring the voice and opinions of persons with disabilities to the attention of policy makers and put the disability agenda at the heart of local, district, provincial and national development programs. The main goal of the organization is to advocate for equal opportunities for persons with disabilities through the stimulation of initiatives of families, communities and civil society groups formed in all social settings including the workplace.

2. Major programmes, covered areas, covered population, number of beneficiaries

The organization has 97 branches throughout the country and runs various programmes and activities that promote the interests including aspirations of its membership who are persons with disabilities. The organization carries out its development/outreach work with a special focus on 8 thematic areas namely; *Health and Reproductive Sexual Health; Protection; Livelihoods; Water*

and Sanitation; Disaster Management (Emergency Preparedness Response); Education and Training; Nutrition; Human Rights and Civic Education.

Program	Area covered	Population covered	No. of beneficiaries
Market Gardening Project	Zezani Beitbridge	+3000 family members and community residents	200 households of persons with disabilities
E.C Livelihoods Program	Iminyela Bulawayo Urban	+3500 community residents	75 households of persons with disabilities
Civic Education	Whole Country	10 provinces	2 million persons with disabilities
Advocacy on the Signing of the UN Convention	Whole Country	10 provinces	+ 2 million persons with disabilities
Education Program	3 provinces	Children with disabilities of School going age	250 children with disabilities (over the past three years)

3. Your position and duty

1. Currently I work as the Development officer for National Council of Disabled Persons of Zimbabwe (NCDPZ).
2. Part of my duties I work on a day to day basis in the office of NCDPZ handling on a case by case issues that affect persons with disabilities who visit the office. I coordinate Capacity Building activities/ projects for 35 NCDPZ branches/groups of grassroots based persons with disabilities (Developing and implementing the Capacity Building strategies for these groups/PWDs. I also coordinate lobby and advocacy programs that seek to promote the mainstreaming of disability within the country's development framework. I do resource mobilization, writing of reports for donor projects and implement various policies as formulated by NCDPZ national Board. I also coordinate the activities under the new program that seeks to lobby the government of Zimbabwe to sign, ratify, implement and domesticate the UNCRPD. I am the secretary to the National Disability Taskforce commissioned to monitor the implementation of this program.

4. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WHICH INCLUDE INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY ISSUES AS ONE OF THE ACTIVITIES (IF YOU KNOW ANY)

Progress Learning Centre (Harare Central Hospital) Children Rehabilitation Unit provides integrated classes for ordinary children and those with intellectual disabilities offering appropriate educational programs, sports activities and a variety of skills training from an early age. The program was put together through the cooperation of parents, community, business community and service staff from Ministry of Health and Child Welfare.

5. SITUATION OF PERSON WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

1. Diagnosis (professional responsible for diagnosis)

There are two types of procedures available to pregnant women: screening tests and diagnostic tests. Screening tests estimate the risk of the fetus having Down syndrome and diagnostic tests tell whether or not the fetus actually has the condition. However these tests are not readily available in government run institutions and are mainly found in private expensive institutions thus not readily available to ordinary pregnant mothers.

2. Education (Special Education and or integrated education)

Lately there has been a nationwide campaign for inclusive education which has given birth to integration of PWIDs into mainstream schools. In the past most schools that admitted PWIDs were funded by churches. Inclusive education in Zimbabwe now seeks to enhance the civil liberties of students with disabilities and their families. Its practice is now supported by some government policy documents and by implication, by several pieces of legislation. Some Parents and guardians still have credible concerns regarding the safety and quality of learning experience for their students with disabilities in non-inclusive school settings. Therefore, a commitment by all stakeholders to

binding legislation for inclusive education has been crucial for the promotion of inclusive education in Zimbabwe. In Zimbabwe, there are significant differences in the quality of inclusive education between urban and rural areas. Urban centers tend to have better-developed education infrastructure and are better planned for inclusive education. The government of Zimbabwe has expressed its commitment and support to inclusive education through the parent Ministry of Education, Sports, Arts and Culture and Ministry of Higher Tertiary Education. Now all teacher training institutions are now required to have special education as part of their curricular in order to train teachers so that they are able to teach effectively both students with and without disabilities. Other Colleges and Universities have also introduced Degree programs Special education for practitioners.

3. Vocational training and job Opportunity

Traditional institutions like the Jairos Jiri Association have been left with the task of offering vocational skills training for persons with disabilities. Other institutions that offer rehabilitation and vocational skills training are Ruwa Rehabilitation Centre and Kapota School for the Blind. They also offer life skills and offer counseling so as to promote self sustenance or integration within the community. Organization like ZimCare trust also run a program where they habilitate and train PWIDs and do job placement programs where they are able to monitor the progress of each person placed within the companies. They train PWIDs to do or carry out those duties that are not too demanding in the workplace.

4. Support Organizations

a) government agencies

- National Disability Board ; Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare; Ministry of Health and Child Welfare and Advisor to the President on Disability issues

b) Number of NGOs concerned with Persons with Intellectual Disabilities

Currently in Zimbabwe there are more than 6 organizations and service providers whose work also concerns PWIDs. Namely, ZimCare Trust; Zimbabwe Downs Children Association; Tose Respite Centre; St. Giles Rehabilitation Centre; King George VI Children rehabilitation Centre; Danhiko Project; Autism Zimbabwe; Zimbabwe Mental Health Association; National Council of Disabled Persons of Zimbabwe (NCDPZ) and National Association for the Care of the Handicapped(NASCOH).

5. BASED ON THE INFORMATION ABOVE, WHAT ARE THE ISSUES TO SOLVE TO CONDUCT EFFECTIVE SUPPORTS FOR PERSONS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES?

- There is need to come up with ways of creating and developing necessary support structures that will enable the proper mainstreaming and integration of PWIDs while ensuring that they receive medical, educational, social and financial support necessary for them to develop and function to their fullest potential and be an integral part of their society whenever possible.
- There also need to enhance monitoring mechanisms and implementation strategies for community rehabilitation as a means to sustainable development for PWIDs
- Review and enactment of policies that are specifically focused on PWIDs in Zimbabwe