**END OF PROJECT REPORT**

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**Strengthening Integrated Systems to Promote Access to Services for**

**Persons with Disabilities in Namibia**

**Namibia**

**1 December 2018 – 31 March 2022**

**END OF PROJECT REPORT**

**Strengthening Integrated Systems to Promote Access to Services for Persons with Disabilities in Namibia**

Sign: Date:

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Anne Madzara

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Sen Pang

UN Resident Coordinator

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**ABBREVIATIONS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CLaSH** | Children with Language, Speech and Hearing Impairments |
| **CRC** | Convention on the Rights of the Child |
| **CRPD** | Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities |
| **CSO** | Civil Society Organisation |
| **DHS** | Demographic and Health Survey |
| **DPOs** | Organisations of Persons with Disabilities |
| **DSAN** | Downs Syndrome Association of Namibia |
| **ECD** | Early Childhood development |
| **EMIS** | Education Management and Information System |
| **HIS**  **ICT** | Health Information System  Information Communication Technology |
| **IUM**  **LNOB** | International University of Management  Leaving No One Behind |
| **LRDC**  **MICT** | Law Reform and Development Commission  Information Communication Technology |
| **MGECW** | Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare |
| **MHETI** | Ministry of Higher Education, Training and Innovation |
| **MoEAC** | Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture |
| **MoHSS** | Ministry of Health and Social Services |
| **NDC** | National Disability Council |
| **NDP5** | Fifth National Development Plan |
| **NFPDN** | National Federation of People with Disabilities in Namibia |
| **NGO** | Non-Governmental Organisation |
| **NSA** | Namibia Statistics Agency |
| **NOYD**  **NUST**  **OPDs** | Namibian Organization of Youth with Disabilities  Namibia University of Science and Technology  Organizations of Persons with Disabilities |
| **PWDs** | Persons with Disabilities |
| **SDGs** | Sustainable Development Goals |
| **UMIC** | Upper Middle-Income Country |
| **UNAM**  **UNCG** | University of Namibia  United Nations Communications Group |
| **UNCT** | United Nations Country Team |
| **UNDP** | United Nations Development Programme |
| **UNESCO** | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization |
| **UNFPA** | United Nations Population Fund |
| **UNICEF** | United Nations Children’s Fund |
| **UNPAF** | United Nations Partnership Framework |
| **UNPRPD**  **WB** | United Nations Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities  World Bank |
| **WG**  **WHO** | Washington Group  World Health Organisation |

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**END OF PROJECT REPORT FOR:**

**“Strengthening Integrated Systems to Promote Access to Services for Persons with Disabilities in Namibia.”**

**Name of Country - Namibia**

**Project Duration: 1 December 2018- 31 March 2022.**

**DISCLAIMER**

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INTRODUCTION

The Namibia 2011 Population and Housing Census estimated that there were 98, 413 people with disabilities in the country, representing 5 per cent of the total population. However, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank (WB) estimates are closer to 15 per cent. Countless people with disabilities globally, including Namibia, have lower education and health outcomes, high levels of unemployment, limited participation in economic activities, less representation in decision making and higher rates of poverty than people without disabilities. This is partly because they experience barriers in accessing those services as well as information on the services or access thereof. The discrepancy can be understood due to stigma and discrimination and negative cultural traditions and practices they experience.

Of the 98, 413 people with disabilities in Namibia, the majority 68, 908 representing 35, 460 female and 33,448 male persons live in rural communities with limited or no access to services such as health and nutrition, early childhood development and education, information, technology, social protection, welfare, and employment opportunities (Namibia Statistics Agency, 2016, Disability Census Report). While 45 per cent of the 77,915 persons with disabilities 15 years and above are economically active, 39 per cent of people with disabilities are unemployed, compared to the national unemployment rate of 33.4 per cent. Many persons with disabilities are in the age groups of 10-24 years, with males (12,075) outnumbering females (10,997). There is a considerable disparity in school attendance, depending on disability status. 41 per cent of females with disability never attended school compared to 17 per cent among those without disability. The discrepancy is significant for males, where 37 per cent have never attended school compared to 15 per cent of those without a disability. Furthermore, many young children with disabilities are denied opportunities to be prepared for formal learning and lifelong education. 87 per cent of these children, ages of 0-4 years, have never attended early childhood development (ECD) programmes.

Namibia is signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and its Optional Protocol of December 2007 and has a conducive legislation and policy environment to address the needs of person with disabilities considering these global and national instruments. While disability is increasingly being understood as a human right and social issue, persons with disabilities continue to experience many challenges at personal, community and societal level. The Preamble of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) highlights the fact that ‘*the majority of persons with disabilities live in conditions of poverty, and in this regard recognizing the critical need to address the negative impact of poverty on persons with disabilities*.’

To address the challenges faced by persons with disabilities, Namibia received US$400,000 through the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) in December 2018 to implement a three-year project entitled: “**Strengthening Integrated Systems to Promote Access to Services for Persons with Disabilities in Namibia**”. The project was implemented jointly by the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Namibia, through UNFPA, UNDP and UNICEF under the overall coordination of the UN Resident Coordinator Office. The Office of the President - Disability Affairs was the overall Government project coordinator, with UNICEF Namibia being the UN coordinator for the three main project outcomes.

All the three key outcomes were contributing to ensuring disability inclusion in Namibia is in line with the principles and provisions of the UNCRPD and its Optional Protocol, and national laws, policies and strategies on inclusive service provision. The key project outcomes were:

1. Data collection systems are strengthened to inform planning, budget allocation and service delivery to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities under the coordination of UNFPA.
2. Strengthened coordination mechanism including participation of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) under the coordination of UNDP.
3. Children with disabilities identified very early in life and referred for assessment and early interventions and access inclusive ECD programmes under the coordination of UNICEF.

The successfully implementation of the project can be credited to the overall coordination of the National Project Steering Committee which consisted of representatives from the following organizations:

1. Office of the President, Disability Affairs
2. National Disability Council
3. Law Reform and Development Commission
4. Namibia Statistics Agency
5. Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture
6. Ministry of Information, Communications and Technology
7. Ministry of Health and Social Services
8. Down Syndrome Association of Namibia
9. Side by Side Early Intervention Center
10. National Federation of People with disabilities in Namibia
11. Association for Children with Language, Speech and Hearing Impairments of Namibia
12. National Federation of the Visually Impaired
13. University of Namibia
14. Namibia College of Open Learning
15. Namibia University of Science and Technology
16. United Nations Development Programme
17. United Nations Population Fund
18. United Nations Children’s Fund

Please note the report should be accessible.[[1]](#footnote-2)

# OVERALL PROGRESS

*Please describe the progress made during the reporting period towards the realization of the project’s expected impact. Please make sure to capture, in your description, relevant shifts in capacity development as well as in the wider disability inclusion agenda and implementation of the SDGs in the country. Please also comment, as appropriate, on the variations in impact indicators reported in Table 1.*

The project’s expected impact was to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities are realized through improved data, strengthened coordination and access to inclusive quality services. The main outcomes of the project were achieved through the technical support by the 18-member Steering Committee which consisted of representatives from key government ministries, organizations of persons with disabilities, disability service providers, and UN agencies. The Project Steering Committee coordinated the project activities and met monthly. To ensure impactful coordination at the national level, the project facilitated establishment of a National Disability Forum (NDF), which played an advisory role on matters related to disability.

The role of the NDF included advising government, OPDs, disability service providers and other stakeholders on the importance of understanding and implementing the core principles of the UNCRPD, collecting, and analyzing data, and ongoing advocacy to ensure that disability is meaningfully mainstreamed in all sectors. The Forum was instrumental in advocating for the inherent rights and dignity of persons with disabilities to be respected and met. Overall progress is highlighted in the table below as per the project Theory of Change annexed to the report:

COVID-19 was pronounced a pandemic which had severe negative health consequences to the Namibia population and the world at large. As such the President of the Republic of Namibia, declared a state of emergency on 17 March 2020 to curb the threat of COVID-19. As indicated above, persons with disabilities are often amongst the most excluded groups and amongst the hardest hit during crises and are more likely to experience higher rates of violence, neglect, and abuse in any crisis-affected community. COVID-19 further compounded this situation, disproportionately impacting persons with disabilities both directly and indirectly.

The COVID-19 pandemic prevention and response measures taken by the Government from March 2020, resulted in lockdowns, travel restrictions and school closures. As such, project implementation was negatively impacted for most of 2020 and half of 2021. While organizations and institutions introduced the use of Information Communication Technologies (ICT) to ensure continuity of services, many individuals with disabilities and their respective organizations were left behind. Therefore, the majority of OPDs, disability service providers and their representatives experienced challenges in accessing online portals. This resulted in the cancellation of many project activities, in particular the trainings, capacity building workshops, steering committee meetings as well as the National Disability Forum Meetings. In an effort to support continuation of coordination, UNDP provide electronic tablets to 13 OPDs, which were preloaded with relevant information on the project as well as the convention.

Moreover, to ensure that persons with disabilities are protected from COVID-19, the project, in collaboration with the Ministry of Information, Communications and Technology (MICT) and the COVID-19 Rapid Response Team, conducted an extensive advocacy campaign and disseminated information, in accessible formats to ensure that persons with disabilities receive COVID-19 Infection, Prevention and Control messages through radio, television and print materials.

Disability service providers such as Side by Side Early Intervention Centre, the Association for Children with Language, Speech and Hearing Impairments of Namibia (CLaSH) and the Disability Benefit Trust conducted ongoing advocacy to protect children with disabilities from COVID-19 infections. Advocacy included individual home visits to parents of younger children with disabilities, especially those from far remote and poor communities in 10 of the 14 regions of Namibia, who could not access services. These parents were specifically trained on how to prevent their children and themselves from COVID-19 infection. They received donations of masks, sanitizers, blankets and food parcels.

Albeit the project was implemented under difficult circumstances due to COVID-19, and in a shorter timeframe, it has significantly contributed to further enhancing knowledge of the broader Namibian society about the rights of persons with disabilities. It has also contributed to society’s understanding about the impacts of stigma, discrimination and negative cultural practices and norms.

Efforts were made to ensure the active participation of women with disabilities and their representative organizations. Women with disabilities were invited to be members of the Steering Committee and representatives of children with disabilities to ensure that their voices are heard.

The project recruited a youth with a disability who supported project implementation as a UNPRPD Project Assistant. She has immensely contributed to advocating for the rights of persons with disabilities, especially young women to be advocates for their rights to be respected and not to shy away from competing for employment in professional positions.

The UNCT was sensitized to the project and supported its implementation. In addition, they were also trained on the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy. Following the advocacy and the training on the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy, the UN Resident Coordinator took a keen interest and committed to support implementation of the Strategic document. To ensure that the UN House is in line with the 15 common-system indicators, a Disability Accessibility Audit was conducted in May-June 2021. Due to COVID 19, the audit was conducted virtually and provided several key recommendations which are still to be implemented, including improving accessibility to the UN House and universal design, creating employment opportunities for persons with disabilities within the UN, and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in all planning processes.

# Progress towards impact and specific outcomes

*Using the table format provided below, please provide information on the progress towards impact and the achievement of outcome indicators that took place during the reporting period. Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, additional narrative information should be provided detailing why that was the case and what plans have been put in place to ensure that the relevant data will be provided.*

## Table 1. Progress against impact indicators

| **Impact** |
| --- |
| **The rights of persons with disabilities are realized through improved data, strengthened coordination and access to inclusive quality services.** |

### Impact Indicators

| **Indicator\*** | **Start level** (Beginning of the project reporting period) \* | **Target\*** | **End level**  (End of the project reporting period) **\*** | **Means of Verification** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The initial State Report on the CRPD, and the shadow report, are produced and submitted to the UN. Subsequent reports will be submitted every four years. | 0 | 1 | UNCRPD State Report translated in 9 Namibian languages, including Sign language, Braille, and large font | Copies of the translated Reports |
| Training of NSA, Statistics units in ministries and DPOs on disability statistics and data collection tools. | 0 | 10 | The Namibia Statistics Agency with support from UNFPA conducted 14 regional consultative meetings and trainings with different government ministries and offices on strengthening disability statistics and introducing the WG Questions on disability on different administrative systems.  About 126 people participated in these meetings, of which 53 were female and 73 were male. | Meeting Minutes and report |
| The national census data incorporates the Washington Group (WG) Questions on disability. | 1 | 1 | With support from the Washington Group Secretariat, the WG short set on functioning (6 WG disability questions) were incorporated in the 2021 population and housing census questionnaires. The pilot census was conducted, and the NSA is busy with evaluating pilot census data with the activity expected to be completed by April 2022. | NSA census Questionnaires |
| Guidelines developed for inclusion of disability statistics in ministerial administrative data collection systems (e.g. EMIS, HIS, Disability Grants) | 3 | 3 | 6 WG Questions on Disability and questions incorporated into EMIS, however this could not materialize with Health Information System (HIS), and DHIS. The plan is to incorporate these questions into the HIS during 2022.  Support through UNDP, the NSA developed and gazetted the Namibia Statistical System *Standard for Measuring “Leave No One Behind”* | EMIS Questionnaires  Leave No One Behind Standard (NSA) |
| Training provided to OPDs on how to analyze and use data for planning and budgeting purposes. | 0 | 3 | The NSA with support from UNFPA, conducted two sessions, one with the National Inter-Agency Technical committee and another one with OPDs. 81 officials attended the meetings. In addition, the NOYD with support from UNFPA conducted a youth congress as a training and advocacy intervention with youth with disabilities and this was attended by 74 youths (42 females and 32 males). The main objectives of these meetings were to strengthen the national capacity when it comes to data specifically data that are disability inclusive, and to enhance capacity to use data for planning and budgeting purposes. | Report |

| **Outcome 1** |
| --- |
| **The data collection systems are strengthened to inform planning, budget allocation and service delivery to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities** |
| **Type of Lever: legislation and Policy; Knowledge; Access** |

### Outcome 1 Indicators

| **Indicator\*** | **Start level** Baseline  (Beginning of the project reporting period) \* | **Target\*** | **End level**  End line  (End of the project reporting period) \* | **Means of Verification** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The initial State Report on the CRPD, and the shadow report, are produced and submitted to the UN. Subsequent reports will be submitted every four years. | 1 | 1 | * 2000 copies of the UNCRPD State Report translated into 7 Namibian languages, Sign language, Braille, and large font and disseminated widely. * Alternative report (Shadow report) on the Implementation of the UNCRPD in Namibia was finalized and submitted by NFPDN to the CRPD Secretariat in Geneva in February 2022. | Copies of the translated Sate Reports  Shadow report |
| Training of NSA, Statistics units in ministries and OPDs on disability statistics and data collection tools. | 3 | 4 | * In total, 126 stakeholders including representatives of OPDs, service providers and project staff benefitted from the trainings on the WG Questions. 47 Forum members – Male with disability – 10; Females with disability – 10; Male no disability – 8 & Female no disability - 19 * 72 (32 Male-42 Female and) youth from the Namibian Organisation of Youth with Disabilities.   6 WG Questions on Disability incorporated into the 2021 Population and Housing Census Questionnaires | Training Report and attendance register trainings |
| The national census data incorporates the WG Questions on disability. | 1 | 1 | 6 WG Questions on Disability incorporated into the 2021 Population and Housing Census Questionnaires | Census Questionnaires |
| Guidelines developed for inclusion of disability statistics in ministerial administrative data collection systems (e.g. EMIS, HIS, Disability Grants) | 3 | 3 | WG Questions on Disability and questions incorporated into EMIS | EMIS Questionnaires |

| **Outcome 2** |
| --- |
| **Strengthened coordination mechanism including participation of Disability Persons Organizations** |
| **Type of Lever: Participation, Capacity of key Actors, Networking, Knowledge, Access, Tools, Culture** |

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### Outcome 2 Indicators

| **Indicator\*** | **Start level**  Baseline  (Beginning of the project reporting period) \* | **Target\*** | **End level**  End line  (End of the project reporting period) \* | **Means of Verification** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Establishment of the National Disability Forum under the coordination of the Department of Disability Affairs. | 0 | 1 | National Disability Forum established and met quarterly. 17 Male: 26 Female | List of Forum Members, Pictures, Forum meeting minutes and live streaming sessions. |
| Training provided to the National Disability Forum and the Inter-Ministerial Disability Committee with aim to improve coordination and strengthen the capacity of OPDs, NGOs, CSOs and the private sector to implement disability inclusive and gender responsive programmes at national, regional and community level. | 0 | 6 | 6 Forum trainings benefiting 46 members: 20 Male and 26 Female | Minutes |
| Disability Communication Strategy | 0 | 1 | 1000 hard copies disseminated and many shared via email | Communication Strategy |
| Advocacy material about disability rights developed and disseminated, including through media. | 0 | 1000 | 1000 copies each in 9 different languages | Appropriate language Terminology Chart |
| Awareness campaign related to disability issues in the context of human rights carried out. | 0 | 3000 | 1,8 million through radio and television | Media articles, radio clips |

| **Outcome 3** |
| --- |
| **Children with disabilities identified very early in life and referred for assessment and early interventions and access inclusive ECD programmes** |
| **Type of Lever: Capacity of key Actors, Knowledge, Access, Tools, Culture** |

### Outcome 3 Indicators

| **Indicator\*** | **Start level**  Baseline  (Beginning of the project reporting period) \* | **Target\*** | **End level**  End line  (End of the project reporting period) \* | **Means of Verification** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Guidelines developed, and training provided on the early identification, assessment and referral of children with disabilities. | 0 | 1 | * 5000 copies in total of the 5 Manuals * 1000 copies of the Early Identification Chart | Copies of Manuals |
| Training provided to health care workers, educarers, social workers, NGOs, CSOs and DPOs in the early identification, assessment and referral of children with disabilities to services as well as on inclusion of children with disabilities in ECD centers and services. | 0 | 2000 | **Trainings-Total: 1621- Male 408 - Female 1213**   * **2019:** 211- Male 81- Female 130 * **2020:** 452- Male 80- Female 372 * **2021:** 958-Male 247-Female 711   **Home visits-Total: 283 Families reached: 41**   * **2020:** 134 visits and 12 families reached * **2021:** 149 visits and 29 families reached. | Training Reports  stakeholders |
| Children with disabilities identified early at birth in health facilities, in communities and ECD centers and referred for assessment and intervention. Children with disabilities were identified and continue to receive necessary and inclusive services before entering formal education. The impact of the project provides for identified children to be referred and have obtained birth certificates, are registered to attend pre-primary classes, are registered for disability grants, have been provided with wheelchairs and other assistive devices. Additionally, parents have an increased understanding of where and how to access services for children with disabilities. | 0 | 100 | **Total:** **424**   1. le- 207 Female  * **2020**: 189 - Male 102- Female 87 * **2021:** 235**-** Make 115 Female 120 | Reports |

# 3. PROGRESS TOWARDS SPECIFIC OUTCOMES

*Please describe the progress made during the project period towards the realization of each of the outcomes envisaged in the approved project document. To the extent that is possible, clearly outline the link between the outputs delivered by the project and the described outcome-related progress. Please also comment, as appropriate, on the variations in outcome indicators reported in Table 2.*

The project was implemented with full support of the Government through the Office of the President: Disability Affairs under the coordination of the Deputy Minister and the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator in Namibia. The strong political leadership and support and the participation of OPDs and disability service providers contributed to the success of the project implementation. The National Federation of People with Disabilities of Namibia, an umbrella organization for persons with disabilities in the country played an instrumental role to ensure the meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in the project implementation and to share information at regional and community level.

1. **Outcome 1: The data collection systems are strengthened to inform planning, budget allocation and service delivery to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities**
2. **Enhanced Governance and Accountability for Policy making**

One of the key outcomes of the project was to ensure that Namibia, as a country, submit the First State Report to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

At the project proposal development stage and during the first year of implementation, the project continued to advocate with government Ministries; the Ministry of Justice and the Office of the President: Disability Affairs to submit the country Report. The project was not involved in the development and submission of that report to the UN. The Report was officially submitted in May 2020 and the project received a copy. To ensure access to the State Report, the project facilitated its translation in 9 Namibian local languages, in Braille and in Large Font.

Following the submission of the State Report, OPDs expressed the urgency to draft the Shadow Report. In the absence of national expertise in this area, an international consultant was recruited. Due to limited financial resources and in light with COVID-19 restrictions, consultations were held only in 10 of the 14 regions of Namibia. In total, 100 people (43 Females and 57 Males) with different type of disabilities, including representatives of children with disabilities were consulted and provided extensive inputs to guide the development process. The final Shadow Report was finalized, and report submitted by the National Federation of People with Disabilities of Namibia to the CRPD secretariat end of February 2022.

1. **Population Based Surveys**

As indicated above, persons with disabilities globally are stigmatized and discriminated in some cultures, which has contributed to many challenges to measurement and inclusion. The WG Questions on Disability defined an approach to measuring disability based on identifying those who, because of difficulties doing certain universal, basic actions, are at a greater risk than the general population for limitations in participation. The objectives of the WG Questions are to identify persons with similar types and degree of limitations in basic actions regardless of nationality or culture; that would represent the majority (but not all) persons with limitations in basic actions; and represent commonly occurring limitations in domains that can be captured in the Census context. Once the data has been collected, government and stakeholders should be able to compare levels of participation in employment, education, protection, or family life for those with disability versus those without disability to see if persons with disability have achieved social inclusion; monitor effectiveness of programs and policies to promote full participation. Disability data across some government ministries is collected based either on the medical model or on perceptions which resulted in data being skewed and not being used to meaningfully address the social and physical barriers experienced by persons with disabilities.

The NSA played a crucial role from the project inception throughout the implementation period. NSA highlighted the importance of producing and the availability of disability inclusive data to inform planning, budgeting and access to services and shared valuable information with both the Project Steering Committee and the National Disability Forum on the value of collecting quality and relevant data.

During the project implementation, stakeholders were trained to move away from looking at disability within a charity and medical model and to focus on disability within a human rights societal issue. The trainings focused on sensitizing stakeholders to have an improved understanding that disability is a consequence of the interaction between a person’s functional limitation and an unaccommodating environment that results in the inability of an individual with a disability to fully participate in society. Hence the focus on introducing Namibia to the WG Questions on Disability.

The WG Secretariat supported the NSA and the Project Steering Committee to adopt the 6 WG Questions of Disability in administrative systems, national surveys, and the National Population and Housing Census Questionnaires. The support included online training sessions with NSA as well as with the Project Steering Committee and the National Disability Forum. In addition, to learn from the ***south-to-south*** experiences, online sessions were also held with UNFPA Malawi, the National Statistical Office of Malawi (NSO), and Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) where the two countries shared their experiences on how they incorporated the WG Questions in their population and housing censuses. Namibia was also given the opportunity to share experiences at the site event of the General Assembly of Disability where the Deputy Executive Director in the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture presented on the inclusion of the WG Question in EMIS. Even though only one person with disability was recruited for the pilot census, the NSA consulted the NFPDN through its Chairperson. Curriculum Vitae (CVs) for persons with disabilities were submitted to the NSA, but only one person met the requirements for the field work.

Trainings conducted for the project steering committee and the National Disability Forum focused on ensuring that the stakeholders have an informed understanding of the WG approach, and the linkages made to the ICF Child Functioning Module which was developed in response to an internationally recognized need of comparable data.

In total, 126 stakeholders including representatives of OPDs, project staff and service providers benefitted from the trainings on the WG Questions. These included 47 National Disability Forum members (Male with disability – 10; Females with disability – 10; Male no disability – 8 & Female no disability – 19). Moreover, this this included youth from the Namibian Organisation of Youth with Disabilities who were trained during their youth congress in December 2019. Five online trainings and meetings were held with the WG Secretariat and the NSA Statisticians, 4 meetings on south-south collaboration held with NSA and Stats SA, and 4 with the EMIS staff of the MoEAC.

It is important to point out that there were mixed feelings from some of the Project Steering Committee and the National Disability Forum on the inclusion of the WG Questions in the national data collection systems. However, with the support of the UNPRPD Secretariat at Headquarters and the WG Secretariat, Namibia Statistics Agency and the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture have integrated the 6 WG questions in the 2021 National Population and Housing Census and the Education Management and Information Systems (EMIS) Questionnaires, respectively.

**iii) Administrative data**

The 6 WG Questions were incorporated into the EMIS. The WG Secretariat provided technical support to the Ministry through a virtual training to understand EMIS. Following the training, UNICEF provided further support to the EMIS Division during 2020 and 2021, to have a better understanding of how to analyze the questions. The questionnaires were pilot tested with a group of EMIS regional colleagues before it was finally approved and adopted.

The integration of the 6 Questions in the Census and in EMIS will surely contribute to Namibia collecting internationally comparative census and administration data which will be of high quality and transparent. A meeting was held with the Executive Director in the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS) to advocate for the inclusion of the WG Questions on disability in both the Namibia Demographic and Health Survey (DHIS) and the Health Information System (HIS). This has not been accomplished at the moment and follow-up advocacy meetings will be held with the technical teams. The inclusion of the WG questions on DHIS and HIS is included in the 2022 activity workplan for NSA and the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS) under UNFPA support.

It should be noted that COVID-19 has disrupted project implementation which included extensive advocacy with government ministries on the importance of interoperability of data and inclusive disability data collection to move towards adopting globally accepted data collection models. Advocacy with the movement ministries will have to be continued long after the project has ended.

1. **Outcome 2: Strengthened coordination mechanism including participation of Disability Persons Organizations**

The project was implemented within the framework of the motto ‘**Nothing About Us Without Us**”, where persons with disabilities and their respective organizations were at the forefront of project implementation. One of the immediate activities at Project Inception in February 2019, which was attended by 63 participants (40 Female and 23 Male) representing OPDs, government ministries, UN, academia, service providers, media, individuals with disabilities. The Inception was used as an opportunity to further sensitize stakeholders on the UNCRPD, the National Disability Policy and other national laws and policies promoting the rights of all persons to be treated equally. The Inception Meeting significantly contributed to raising the interest of OPDs to participate in the project implementation. Having more OPDs in the project contributed to addressing the real needs of persons with disabilities in the country and to align the project outcomes to those needs.

While the Government had an established Inter-ministerial Committee on Disability, there was no dedicated platform for government and OPDs or disability service providers to meet and discuss issues of national interest. As such, the project Steering Committee with the support of the Office of the President: Disability Affairs, launched the National Disability Forum on 3 December 2019 on the International Disability Day in the presence of over 100 participants and media. The mandate of the Forum was to ***bring together a cross-section of stakeholders with an interest in, or responsibility for the rights of persons with disabilities, to promote and support government interventions on the implementation of policies, strategies and programmes to mainstream disability***.

Following its launch, a training session for all members was conducted where members were sensitized to the provisions of the UNCRPD and on various national legislation and policies addressing the rights of persons with disabilities. Presentations during the training also focused on the importance of strengthening coordination and collaboration between government and all stakeholders, sharing of information, collecting quality data for disability inclusive planning and budgeting, universal design, access to services and addressing negative cultural practices, including stigma and discrimination.

The roles and responsibilities of representatives of government ministries and OPDs were clarified. Members had pledged their commitment as advocates of implementing the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Sustainable Development Goals and to promoting the meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in society.

In addition, the Committee also advocated for the rights of children with disabilities to be heard through the participation of organizations of children with disabilities and or parents of children and service providers.

The UNPRPD Communications Strategy was distributed to OPDs, line ministries, service providers, and other disability stakeholders. During the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown, the project facilitated radio and television panel discussions where members of the Forum and the Steering Committee went on national radio and television and provided information on COVID-19 prevention for persons with disabilities. The National Disability Forum is taking ownership and the lead in advocating for disability inclusion in national legislation and policies and are monitoring disability inclusion programmes and in community advocacy. National Disability Forum Meeting are planned and jointly coordinated by the UN in collaboration with the Office of the President: Disability Affairs. Sustainability of the Forum depends on the leadership of the said Ministry in organizing meetings and ensuring that Forum Members submit their annual plans for coordination purposes.

Coordination was also strengthened within the UN Agencies in Namibia through the training to the UNCT members, who have fully supported disability mainstreaming across the UN and in government. This ensured that communication for the UN system in Namibia moving forward was disability inclusive and responded to the SDGs.

Persons with disabilities are portrayed in local media as poor, cannot support themselves and need to be pitied. The United Nations Communications Group (UNCG) was trained on inclusive reporting and accessibility. Subsequently, two training workshops were conducted for the Namibian Editors Forum, which also focused on positive reporting about persons with disabilities and the use appropriate language when referring to persons with disabilities. A disability appropriate terminology poster was produced and disseminated at the training as well as to media houses. Although still a challenge, some positive changes are observed in how persons with disabilities are reported in some local media channels.

To ensure that persons with disabilities are reached with information and messages on their rights radio and television as well as in print. Materials were also developed and shared either during meetings, training workshop or through mass media. The Deputy Minister of Disability Affairs in the Presidency has been on national television to advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities and was committed to attend the National Disability Forum Meetings.

UNDESA supported the Office of the President: Disability Affairs with training workshops in 2019 at national and regional level. Focus was placed on ensuring linkages and synergies between the training workshops conducted by UNDESA and the UNPRPD to avoid duplication of services and enhance coordination.

In addition, linkages and coordination was ensured between the project and the UNPRPD funded project on ***Ending Stigma and Discrimination, Breaking the Cycle of Poverty and Marginalization of Persons with Disabilities in Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe***, being coordinated by UNESCO in Namibia. Representatives of OPDs and disability service providers participated in the project Inception meeting.

A WhatsApp Group consisting of 32 Steering Committee members and a Disability Movement WhatsApp Group consisting of 247 members were created. Information on various disability related issues is discussed and shared daily. These groups will contribute to the sustainability of project activities as they will be used to update stakeholders on what is happening on the ground, achievements, and challenges experienced by persons with disabilities and their respective organizations. Information on radio and or television is also shared via these platforms.

The following are key highlights under Outcome 2:

1. 72 youth from all 14 regions of Namibia participated in the 2019 Congress of the Namibian Organisation of Youth with Disabilities and were trained on the UNCRPD and Disability data.
2. 2019, 2020 and 2021 International Day of Persons with Disabilities commemorated, and information shared via various news media houses
3. A Disability Mainstreaming Plan was launched in December 2020, by the Deputy Minister Hon. Alexia Manombe-Ncube, MGEPESW: Disability Affairs Deputy Minister in collaboration with the University of Namibia (UNAM) and the NSA.
4. Six (6) National Disability Forum meetings were held where emphasis was on strengthening coordination, resource mobilization, popularize the Convention, advocate for inclusive disability data address challenges related to access to services.
5. The National Disability Forum members pledged to advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities to access services such as early learning opportunities, education, housing, social protection, and employment.
6. UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF participated in the joint University of Exeter and University of Namibia workshop on Disability in Namibia: Religious and Cultural Perspectives, in December 2020 where the project presented on the rights of persons with disabilities, the CRPD and the importance of disability inclusive data.
7. 45 representatives of the National Federation of Persons with Disabilities of Namibia (NFPDN) participated in the NFPDN Congress in 2021.
8. 30 Project Steering Committee Coordination meetings held monthly.
9. The long-term institution result and highlight at institutional level is the Forum contribution in the development of the National Gender Policy, Gender Responsive Budgeting and Planning curriculum for both public servants and an abridged version for Members of parliament.
10. Representatives from the National Disability Forum significantly contributed and participated in the social protection policy development.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Publications** | **Quantity** |
| UNPRPD Communication Strategy | 1000 |
| Appropriate Language Disability Posters in 9 Namibian languages and in Braille | 4000 |
| Early Identification Chart | 1000 |
| Early dentification Manuals | 5000 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Namibian population reached through national media** | **Numbers Reached** |
| **Television coverage** | 800 000 (Namibia Broadcasting Corporation (NBC)) and 180 000 (One Africa television); |
| **Radio coverage** | 1.8 million (NBC); 130 000 (99 FM); 600 000 (Future Media); |
| **Namibia Daily Newspapers** | The Namibian 243 000 daily readership; New Era Newspaper 107 000 daily readership; Die Republikein 63 000 daily readership |

1. **Outcome 3 Children with disabilities identified very early in life and referred for assessment and early interventions and access inclusive ECD programmes**

As highlighted in the Introduction above, 87 per cent of children with disabilities between the ages of 0-4 years have never attended ECD programmes. In addition, according to the EMIS 2019, of the 30,244 leaners with perceived physical and functional disabilities (Female 14,256 and Male 15,988), only 246 learners (Female 106 and Male 140) were attending pre-primary classes in Namibian schools in 2019.

Evidence-based interventions in early life can mitigate the long-term impacts of developmental delays and disabilities in young children. Therefore, early intervention services set a path to enhance the quality of life of a child with a disability. The project supported a study on the ***Early identification and early intervention services for young children (0 to 6 years) with developmental delays and disabilities in Namibia****,* which was conducted in 2019 in 11 Regions of Namibia reaching 211 stakeholders. The Assessment revealed the high levels of stigma and discrimination, and negative cultural practices against persons with disabilities. In addition, it highlighted the challenges regarding access to and quality of services. It also pointed to fathers who are often absent in the lives of children with disabilities. It revealed that parents and family members who are confronted with the news that a young child has developmental delays and/or disability go through an emotional crisis and are often in denial. These parents would need to be supported to accept their child with a disability.

Younger children with disabilities may require a range of support services which include access to childcare, health and nutrition, protection and child stimulation and early learning. Children with disabilities are more vulnerable to emotional, physical, sexual and verbal abuse and neglect and would need extra care and protection and would need parental support to survive and thrive.

One of the barriers to timely provision of appropriate continued services for children with identified developmental delays and difficulties is the absence of a clear referral systems and capacities of parents, caregivers, or services providers to provide the necessary individual support for the child with a disability. The fragmentation of services and lack of coordination also results in a missed opportunity to support children more effectively. Therefore, based on the findings and recommendations from the regional consultations, the project supported various capacity building interventions focusing on mothers and disability service providers and developed and printed 1000 copies of an Early Identification Chart and a set of 5000 Manuals on the *Early identification and early intervention services for young children (0 to 6 years) with developmental delays and disabilities in Namibia*. The training manuals were pilot tested with disability service providers before they were developed.

During 2021, practical training sessions were conducted with parents of children with disabilities, disability service providers, health professionals and university student interns. The topics covered during the sessions included: the UNCRPD; understanding disability and inclusion; early childhood development; health and nutrition and access to immunization and birth registration; the role of health professionals in supporting parents; day care and community rehabilitation; school readiness; *care of the carer* and women’s health and community support. Following the practical training sessions, home visits were conducted to assess the impact of the trainings at home and in the community.

In addition to the training sessions and home visits during that year, extensive media advocacy and communication activities were undertaken during project implementation, which has resulted in an improved understanding and appreciation of the rights of persons and children with disabilities to access critical services such as birth certificates, disability grants, social protection services and enter formal education.

The following are key highlights under Outcome 3

1. 1000 Copies of the ***Early Identification Chart*** distributed at health facilities in all 14 regions of Namibia.
2. 5000 copies of the Manuals on the ***Early Identification, Assessment and Referral to Services of Children with Disabilities*** developed and disseminated
3. 300 copies of the report on the early identification, assessment and referral to services entitled ‘***Theory of Change’***
4. 2515 stakeholders including parents, health providers, disability service providers and OPDs in 10 regions benefited from national, regional and community level trainings including home visits.
5. 424 (217 male- 207 female) children referred to services and have received a birth certificate, assistive devices, nutrition services and accessing pre-primary classes.
6. To mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on children with dishabilles, an extensive media campaign was conducted, and home visits undertaken to train parent om how to protect their children from COVID-19 infections, and to adhere to COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control measures. Parents from most vulnerable and poor communities received food parcels, masks and sanitizes.

# 4. Equality between men and women

* *How did the project take into account differences in the barriers faced by men and women with disabilities?*
* *In what way did the project advance gender equality?*
* *How have the specific actions undertaken by the project contributed directly to the empowerment of women and girls with disabilities? Please include here baseline and end line data on how women with disabilities were included and impacted while implementing the project. Kindly note that in the expenditure section below projects are requested to state the overall funding spent on these activities.*

The project focused on advocating for access to services for individuals with disabilities or through their representative organizations. The Steering Committee continuously advocated for more women, especially woman with psycho-social disabilities. The Project Steering Committee specifically advocated for the participation of women with disabilities and representatives of children with disabilities benefit from the project. Women with mental disabilities demonstrated a keen interest to learn about their rights and how to support other women with menta disabilities to access services. As a result, the Namibian Association of Differently Abled Women (NADAWO) and the Namibian Association of Children with Disabilities (NACD) were members of the project Steering Committee.

Men and women were encouraged to participate in project activities. Women were more active in attending Steering Committee and National Disability Forum Meetings. In addition, more women than men benefited from the parental sessions on the early identification, assessment, and referral to services of children with disabilities. Data shows that more women than men are taking care of their children. Therefore, the project focused on building their capacities to provide improved care for their children with disabilities.

Parental workshops and community workshops were held in 10 of the 14 regions of Namibia. The trainings did not only focus on building the capacities and knowledge of parents to understand the inherent rights of children with disabilities and how to support them children to access services. They also focused on addressing stigma and discrimination. Considering the challenges that many parents, especially those without support structures at home and in the community, the parents training included a module on ‘***caring for the carer’***. The sessions focus on the health and wellbeing of the parent. Another aspect considered is the importance of promoting play between parents and their children as a means to enhance social and communication skills. Parents were taught how to make easily accessible, inexpensive and child friendly homemade materials to promote play at home.

# 5. Full and effective participation of persons with disabilities

*Please describe how the project ensured the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations. Kindly include the following information in your response:*

*How were persons with disabilities involved in the project’s governance as well as in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation phases of the project cycle?*

*Please provide details on how OPDs were engaged in project implementation and describe how OPDs participated and contributed on specific outcomes and outputs.*

*How did the project support OPD engagement in national policy and systems as a result of the UNPRPD project actions?*

*Which specific actions were undertaken by the project that contributed directly to strengthening the capacity of Organizations of persons with disabilities including underrepresented groups? (Kindly note that in the budget section below projects are requested to state the overall funding spent on these activities).*

* *In addressing the above points, please elaborate as appropriate on how the heterogeneity of the various groups of persons with disabilities, and their experience of multiple and compound discrimination, was taken into account throughout the project cycle.*
* *Please provide information on the level of representation of type of Organization of persons with disabilities involved.*

Most of the project participants were individuals with disabilities and/or representatives of OPDs. The UN project implementing Agencies played an advisory role. The project Steering Committee was fully represented by OPDs and individuals with disabilities. Committee and National Disability Forum Meetings were used as the platform to have the voices of persons with disabilities heard, under the logo of ‘***Nothing for us without us’***. Representatives were given opportunities to lead and present during meetings, co-facilitate meetings and trainings and to be interviewed on national television to share their views on the project and on disability rights.

The project inception phase contributed to enhancing the understanding of the UNCRPD compliance and the importance of ensuring that persons with disabilities take the lead in any programme or project conceptualization, planning, implementation, and evaluation.

In addition, the voices of women with disabilities came out strongly, and women with disabilities, who are normally quiet, meaningfully contributed to the development of the project log frame through their participation in the inception phase.

Sign language interpretation was provided during meetings and training workshops, including the translation of materials into Braille. Project information and detailed proposal and planning documents were provided in accessible formats prior to the Inception meeting to ensure full participation during the meeting. Meeting venues were accessible to persons of different types of disabilities, including accommodation facilities.

While emphasis was placed on getting persons with disabilities to lead, financial resources did not always allow for their travel to attend meetings. In addition, COVID-19 equally hampered the meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in all project activities.

The key highlight under this Section is the meaningful participation of OPDs in the project implementation. This included planning, facilitation, presentation, and coordination of meetings.

## Table 3. Meaningful participation of persons with disabilities

### Indicators- Meaningful participation of persons with disabilities

| **Indicator\*** | **Baseline\*** | **Target\*** | **End line\*** | **Means of verification** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Project Steering Committee Participation | 0 | 12 Monthly  meetings | 30 Meetings held in total | Attendance registers, meeting minutes |
| National Disability Forum | 0 | Target 4 quarterly meetings | 6 meetings held | Attendance registers, meeting minutes |
| CRPD Shadow report regional Consultations | 0 | Target 100 participants from all 14 regions | 100 people consulted (43 Females and 57 Males) | Attendance register, meeting report |

*\* Please provide sex disaggregation here as relevant or include indicators on meaningful participation of representative organizations of women and girls with disabilities as well as disaggregate by type of disability.*

# 6. Partnership-Building

*How has the project contributed to partnership-building across key constituencies? Please describe the different stakeholders involved and how they worked together. Please indicate if new partnerships (formal and informal) with OPDs have been established.*

The project has contributed to further strengthening partnerships and collaboration, especially amongst the OPDs, service providers, institutions of higher education and the key ministries of education, health, and child welfare. Partnerships have also been strengthened with the Employment Equity Commission, the Ministry of Information, Communications and Technology and the NSA. These are amongst the key government ministries which will be expected to play a crucial role in supporting the Office of the President: Disability Affairs to sustain the project activities and advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities to be protected.

The forum has also established partnership with key civil society organizations to promote women with disability in the workplace. As a result, the Forum partnered with the Namibia Institute for Democracy to host the international women’s day breakfast event highlighting women with disability in the workplace. The event is highlighted on the Namibia Institute for Democracy Facebook page and can be accessed through the list of links.

Additionally, the partnership fostered with the Ministry of Justice promoted participation and representation of PWD in the development of the Namibia report of the International Covenant for Economics, Social and Cultural Rights. 1 male representative from the Forum participated in the development of the report for Namibia.

# 7. Promoting ONE UN approach to disability Inclusion

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*How has the project contributed to greater UN inter-agency collaboration to advance the rights of persons with disabilities in the country? How has it contributed towards disability mainstreaming within your offices and at the broader UNCT level? Please describe how the UNPRPD project has contributed directly to the UNDIS scorecard reporting and has contributed towards progress against the UNDIS indicators. How has the project contributed to disability mainstreaming within the UN system including the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks/ UNDAFs.*

In line with SDG strategies of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB), the United System in Namibia under United Nations Partnership Agreement Framework (UNPAF) is supporting the Government to promote the rights and access to services for persons with disabilities across all four strategic pillars/outcomes namely: Economic Progression, Social Transformation, Environmental Sustainability and Good Governance. UNDP Supported the NSA to gazette the LNOB standard and is attached as an annexure for the report.

The UNPRPD project activities are reported in the corresponding UNPAF pillars under the Social Transformation Pillar and the sub-pillar for Social Protection. Membership in the Pillar consist of representatives from various ministries, academician, private sector, OPDs and non-governmental organizations.

The UNCT was sensitized to the project and to the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy and has committed to ensure disability programming in the UN work in Namibia. Following the presentation in April 2020, the Office of the Resident Coordinator committed to coordinate and ensure the implementation of the Strategy.

The project technically supported the United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) to roll-out the UN Disability Strategy. To support its implementation, a national consultant was recruited and conducted an extensive United Nations House Disability Accessibility Audit in May and June 2021. The Resident Coordinator’s Office and the UNCT have taken note of the recommendations of the Audit. The recommendations will assist the UNCT to support the implementation of the UNCRPD and other international human rights instruments, national laws, and policies as well as the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). They will also assist the UN in Namibia to systematically embed the rights of persons with disabilities into its work, through programming, internally and externally. The UN will continue to advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities to be valued, dignified and respected and for services to reach persons with disabilities. However, to fully implementation requires financial resources which will be facilitated and led through the Office of the Resident Coordinator.

On the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3 December 2020, the UNCT was trained on disability social protection, and the importance of disability inclusion. In addition, the UNCT took part in a disability experience through a walk through the UN House to appreciate the challenges faced by persons with visual impairments. A video recording was also produced and shared with all staff members.

**8. Linkages to national development agenda**

*Please reflect on the project’s influence on and linkage to the national development agenda and initiatives including SDGs implementation, monitoring, budgeting etc.*

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030. Namibia as a member state through the UNPRPD project supported several interventions to pledge commitment towards inclusion of persons with disability in the National Development Plans. Through the support of The National Planning Commission (NPC) The 2020 - 2022 Communication Strategy on Sustainable Development Goals is aimed at supporting Namibia’s sustainable development agenda and highlights the importance to ensure inclusion of persons with disability. The strategy remains a critical precondition to achieve the national development agenda in order to engage in long-term public awareness and advocacy campaigns in support of sustainable development at all levels of society including persons with disability.

The 17 SDGs are integrated and recognizes that action in one area will affect outcomes in others, and that development must balance social, economic and environmental sustainability. Through the pledge to Leave No One Behind, countries, including Namibia have committed to fast-track progress for those furthest behind first. The project specifically influenced the following SDGs: 3, 4, 5, 10, 16 & 17.

**9. COVID-19**

*Please indicate if the project has contributed directly to disability inclusion in COVID 19 response and recovery plans. Please list specific products and activities.*

The National Disability Forum members were strengthened to advocate for the inclusion of person with disabilities in COVID -19 response. As a result, they were able to educate the public on national television and radio on the importance of COVID-19 prevention for persons with disabilities. Advocacy messages included access to accessible information such as Braille, sign language and sub-titles on national television and the use of Large font and imagines on prevention.

Persons with disabilities were part of the panelists and were given the opportunity for their voice to be heard. The Hon. Minister of Justice also went on national television in 2020 to advocate for access to information for persons with disabilities.

During the national lockdown in March 2020 and in 2021, Side by Side Early Intervention Centre and CLaSH conducted over 283 home visits, providing individual training and support to parents on how to care for their children with disabilities. During the year 2020 and 2021, more home visits were conducted to support parents to prevent COVID-19 infections and to provide nutritional support to those in poor and marginalized communities. Support is also provided for parents to access disability grants, birth certificates and assistive devices. Since many parents were from poor and marginalized communities, they all received food parcels, sanitizers and masks.

During 2021, despite lockdown and country restrictions, the project supported training for a total 958 participants (Males = 247 and Females = 711). Additionally, in the same year 149 field visits and 29 families were reached.

The project further supported the production of IEC disability accessible COVID-19 communication, as well as the dissemination of these materials to persons with disabilities in Zambezi, Kavango East, Kavango West, and Erongo Region in collaboration with National Federation for the Visually Impaired and Development Workshop Namibia.

# 10. Creation of knowledge and communications materials

*How has the project contributed to generating new knowledge on how best to promote the rights of persons with disabilities to support policy and system changes? Please also describe in this section any unique expertise and products developed by the project that could be used to support other countries within a south-south cooperation framework. Please list type of knowledge products.*

Sharing information and materials in languages that can be understood by the intended beneficiaries contributes to learning and to enhance knowledge. The project took a strategic decision to ensure that persons with disabilities and the broader Namibia society has access to disability inclusive information through the printing and dissemination of various materials. As indicated above, several communication materials were developed and disseminated widely to various stakeholders. Communication was shared via radio, television and in print media. Materials were also emailed to stakeholders including to the National Disability Forum members. Parents received materials during the training workshops or home visits. Some materials, such as the Early Identification Chart were distributed at health facilities.

* What communications strategies did the project adopt?
* Please list type of communications materials.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of product** | **Type of product (report, guidelines, assessment etc.)** | **Purpose and process**  **Describe what was the purpose of the product who participated in the development of product (OPDs, NGOs, Academia etc) and if the product was tested/ validated.** | **Link /attachment** | **Accessible formats** | **Validation**  **Has the product been validated by national actors. If yes by whom?** |
| 1. 1000 copies UNPRPD Communication Strategy | Strategic document | Conduct broader communication and awareness raising on the CRPD and rights of persons with disabilities. OPDs, government, academia, disability service provides and UN |  | PDF | UNPRPD Steering Committee and UNCG |
| 1. WG Questionnaires added to EMIS | Data and policy | To ensure inclusive data collection |  | PDF | MoEAC EMIS |
| 1. 300 copies of the report the on the early identification, assessment and referral to services entitled ‘Theory of Change’ | Assessment Report | OPDs, government, academia, health providers, parents, disability service provides, UN |  | PDF | Steering Committee |
| 1. 1000 Copies of the Early Identification Chart | Assessment tool | Easy practical guidance for health providers, ECD, providers and parents to monitor child growth and identify developmental delays |  | PDF | UNICEF |
| 1. A set of 5 manuals on the Early Identification (attached) | Training manuals | Developed following the recommendations from the regional consultations. |  | PDF | Disability service providers, Ministry of Health, UN, inclusive lecturers |

| **Name of Product** | **Type of Product (Toolkit, Video, Poster, publication etc.)** | **Purpose** | **Dissemination** | **Links/ Attachments** | **Language** | **Accessible formats** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 Appropriate Disability terminology | Poster | Use appropriate terminology when talking about persons with disabilities at school, media, community etc | 1000 copies disseminated but also sent via email |  | 9 Namibian languages and in Braille | PDF |

1. **List of Online Sources**

1. UN Namibia Country office accessibility: .<https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=4843096859097421&id=483159128424571&m_entstream_source=timeline>  
  
2. 2020 IDPD UN House Namibia Country Office Commemorations: <https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10220691736337887&id=1070520460&m_entstream_source=timeline>  
  
3. 2021 IDPD Commemorations Promotional video: <https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=413063243793260&id=100052687628711&m_entstream_source=timeline>  
  
4. 07/09/2020  National Disability Forum Meeting: <https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=188286019754267&id=102057258377144&m_entstream_source=timeline>  
  
5. Two short films aired on One: Prepared by: Side by Side Early Intervention Centre

<https://fb.watch/amzHSTXnaa/> and <https://fb.watch/amzYk9FUx6/>

6. Journalists brush up on disabilities reporting:

<https://neweralive.na/posts/journalists-brush-up-on-disabilities-reporting>

1. Early disability detection is key: <https://www.namibian.com.na/95627/read/Early-disability-detection-is-key>
2. International Woman’s Day, 8 March 2022, Celebration of women with disability in the woerkplace: <https://fb.watch/c1BkM8cmSv/>

# 11. Challenges

*Please describe any major challenges that arose during the project’s implementation. Please indicate specifically if due to the COVID 19 emergency the project implementation has been affected.*

While great strides have been made during implementation, the project experienced some challenges and delays.

* 1. A major challenge is the lack of capacity building for OPDs to meaningfully participate in dialogue and advocacy to promote for their rights and implement programmes at national, regional and community level.
  2. A lack of providing reasonable accommodation for all OPD representatives to actively engage in meetings and workshops was a significant challenge, particularly from an accessibility perspective at training venues or virtual engagement. Institutions often do not meet the basic criteria for reasonable accommodation for PWDs during meetings, dialogue and engagements.
  3. Limited financial resources to attend all meetings and training workshops negatively impacted on the participation of more stakeholders to trainings, especially those outside the capital city. In addition, COVID-19 contributed to the cancellation of several trainings as representatives of OPDs had no access to online facilities and the project could not cater for all their needs. UNDP procured and donated 13 tablets to OPDs to assist persons with disabilities to access meetings and have information on disability readily available, particularly on the UNCRPD.
  4. COVID-19 lockdowns and restrictions which resulted in the use of online platforms and reduced the active participation of OPDs whose representatives did not have access to online platforms.
  5. Competing priorities which affected the participation and calling of steering committee meetings and follow-up activities.
  6. Limited participation and ownership of project Steering Committee members in committee meetings during the COVID-19 lockdown affected the implementation of the project activities, especially at regional and community level.
  7. The lack of human resources in the Office of the President for Disability Affairs, contributed to some delays in the establishment of the National Disability Forum and capacity development of OPDs at both national and regional level.
  8. Limited project funding to recruit an expert in disability and COVID-19 lockdowns contributed to the delays in conducting national and regional consultations to facilitate the drafting of the Shadow Report.
  9. COVID-19 national lockdowns and restriction and the diversion of national resources to focus on mitigating the negative impacts of COVID, resulted in the postponement of the 2021 Population and Housing Census, which will only be conducted in 2022.
  10. Disability data is not used for planning and budgeting purposes across the different sectors.
  11. Stigma and discrimination against persons with disabilities continues to impact on access to ECD, education, health services, safety and protection, and employment.
  12. Parents not aware how to access health care services for their children with disabilities and poverty contributes to lack of I formation to access critical services such as social protection services and early childhood development programmes.
  13. Absence of birth certificates by persons with disabilities resulting in them not benefiting from disability grants.

# 12. Project follow up and Sustainability

*Please provide an overview of initiatives planned by various stakeholders in order to follow up on activities initiated by the project. Kindly make sure to cover at least the following stakeholders: relevant parts of Government, organizations of persons with disabilities, UN system, and other development partners operating in the country. Please outline how the medium-to-long term sustainability of the work initiated by the project will be ensured after the end of the Project.*

The project plans to conduct quarterly National Disability Forums, which will bring together cross-section of stakeholders with interest in/ or responsibility for disability to promote and support government interventions on the implementation of policies, strategies and programmes to mainstream disability. These bodies inter alia include, the National Disability Council, Office of the President for Disability Affairs, Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare (MGECW), Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture (MoEAC), Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS), and the National Federation of Persons with Disabilities of Namibia (NFPDN). The National Disability Forum will support the strengthening of the Disability Committees at regional level so that Namibia can have a strong national and regional body consisting of a broad range of stakeholders to address disability issues in a coordinated manner and thus to avoid duplication of efforts and resources.

This Forum will contribute to strengthening coordination and ensuring the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities, with a focus on women and girls and children and young people with disabilities, and to promote respect for their inherent dignity. In addition, the Disability Forum is a multi-sectoral body and the exercise of their rights by persons with disabilities is also impacted by issues of intersectionality.

Further, addressing the rights of persons with disabilities needs a lifecycle approach, therefore coordination among multiple stakeholder groups and across sectors is critical to ensure implementation of the UNCRPD. There will be an up and down stream of information from national level to regional level, community level and village level, that will feed into the agendas of disability meetings held at all levels.

Advocacy activities in the form of television interviews, radio interviews, social media posts, commemoration of disability days will continue to be promoted. This activity will not only be done by the Forum Members but will also involve stakeholders with expertise in the different subject areas. Advocacy material will continue to be developed and information shared via radio, print media, social media, and television.

The project resulted in an increase in capacity for OPD, service providers and government institutions collectively to collect and analyze data to inform strategic policy intervention across all outcomes. Additionally, the project has made strides to undertake national consultation to ensure continued follow up and sustainability of the proposed outcomes. However, will require more support to ensure full ownership for GRN, OPDs and service providers collectively to enhance collaboration.

**13.** **Detailed expenditure in relation to sections 5 and 6 above.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **OUTCOME 1** |  |  |  |
|  | **Costs allocated (USD)** | **Budget spent by activity categories (USD)** | **Budget remained (USD)** |
| Staff and Personnel Costs | - | - | - |
| Supplies, commodities, and materials | 12,723 | 12,723 | 0.00 |
| Equipment, vehicles, furniture depreciation | - | - | 0.00 |
| Contractual Services | 68,000 | 68,000 | 0.00 |
| Travel | 12,000 | 12,000 | 0.00 |
| Transfers and grants | - | - | 0.00 |
| General Operating Expenses | 200 | 200 | 0.00 |
| Total Programme Costs | 92,923 | 92,923 | 0.00 |
| Indirect Support Costs\*\* | 6,505 | 6,505 | 0.00 |
| **TOTAL** | **99,428** | **99,428** | **0.00** |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **OUTCOME 2** |  |  |  |
| **Description** | **Costs allocated (USD)** | **Budget spent by activity categories (USD)** | **Budget remained (USD)** |
| Contractual Services - Individual | 28,917.00 | 22,368.00 | 6,549.00 |
| Travel | 99.00 | 99.00 | - |
| Contractual Services-Companies | 20,607.00 | 12,037.00 | 8,570.00 |
| Communication & Audio Visual Equip | 2,449.00 | 2,440.00 | 9.00 |
| Supplies | 2,503.00 | 2,503.00 | - |
| Audio Visual & Print Prod Costs | 9,075.00 | 5,214.00 | 3,861.00 |
| Facilities & Administration | 6,585.00 | 6,942.00 | (357.00) |
| Training, Workshops and Confer | 16,754.00 | 16,407.00 | 347.00 |
| Foreign Exchange Currency Loss | 392.00 | 458.00 | (66.00) |
| **TOTAL** | **87,381.00** | **68,468.00** | **18,913.00** |

*\*Remaining balance on expenditure to be finalized by 25th April 2022.*

*\*Outstanding Liquidation report to be submitted by 1st week April to close of expenditure.*

*\*Costs related to the expenditure for the development of Shadow report to be repurposed.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **OUTCOME 3** |  |  |  |
|  | **Costs allocated (USD)** | **Budget spent by activity categories (USD)** | **Budget remained (USD)** |
| Staff and Personnel Costs | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Supplies, commodities, and materials | 37,591 | 24,687.68 | 12,903.32 |
| Equipment, vehicles, furniture depreciation | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Contractual Services | 105,400 | 48,896.87 | 56,503.13 |
| Travel | 23,000 | 6,014.58 | 16,985.42 |
| Transfers and grants | - | 73,827.08 | (73,827.08) |
| General Operating Expenses | 200 | 11,142.52 | (10942.52) |
| **Total Programme Costs** | **166,191** | **164,568.73** | **1,622.27** |
| Indirect Support Costs\*\* | **11,633** | **11,519.81** | **113.19** |
| **TOTAL Pass-Through Amount Approved** | **177,824** | **176,088.54** | **1735.46** |

# 14. Life stories and testimonies

Please provide one or more life stories or direct testimonies to illustrate the results described in sections 2-6. To the extent that is possible, reporting teams are encouraged to share photos, video and other materials to accompany the stories described in this section. Also include testimonies from other stakeholders involved in the project and their perception of the value added of the UNPRPD intervention- representatives of government, civil society including organization of persons with disabilities (DPOs) and private sector as relevant.

| **Name** | **Sex** | **Designation and Organization** | **Is this a testimony from a person with a disability? If so, what kind of disability do they have?[[2]](#footnote-3)** | **Testimony** | **Photo Shared (Y/N)[[3]](#footnote-4)** | **Consent for Use of Photo obtained (Y/N)** | **Photo Caption** | **Photo Credit** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Matheus Hashoongo | M | National Chairperson | Visual | See attached  (Picture 1) | Y | Y | Matheus Hashoongo National Chairperson NFPDN | Yes |
| Orben Muluti | M | Namibian Organization of Youth with Disabilities (NOYD) – Chairperson | Albinism | See attached  (Picture 2) | Y | Y | Orben Muluti National Coordinator for Namibian Organisation for Youth with Disabilities | Yes |
| Hileni Amakali-Mudhika | F | Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology | N | See attached  (Picture 3) | Y | Y | Ms Hileni Mudhika sharing information and raising awareness on the get vaccinated ‘Kick COVID-19 out of Namibia. | Yes |

# 15. Photos depicting Project related impact and outcomes[[4]](#footnote-5)

*Please share photos depicting project related impact and outcomes in high resolution image files with appropriate consents of subjects having been taken as well as with the associated credits and along with permission for use in UNPRPD publications and communications materials including website. For photos of children due protocols should be followed for ensuring safety and obtaining consent. Kindly list below the following for photos shared.*

| **Photo No.** | **Photo description for use in alternative text for images to enable persons with visual impairments using screen readers to understand and perceive the image.** | **Consent for Use of Photo obtained (Y/N)** | **Photo Caption** | **Photo Credit** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Torah is playing with shaving cream as a sensory Activity (Picture 4) | Yes | Tora in her classroom enjoying her play | Side by Side Early Intervention Centre |
| 2 | Peter Nsama also known as Sheiddy was born with a bone disease (Picture 5) | Yes | Peter loves reading | Side by Side Early Intervention Centre |
| 3 | Mr. Israel Tjizake, Executive Demographic and Social Statistics and Census Manager at NSA: Making a presentation at NSA census stakeholder consultative workshop with People with a disability on the inclusion of WG questions in the Namibia Census questionnaire. A member is using sign language to translate what Mr. Tjizake is presenting (Picture 6) | Yes | Mr. Israel Tjizake presenting on the inclusion of WG questions in the Namibia Census questionnaire | Namibia Statistics Agency |
| 4 | Ilekela Haimbodi, his mom Patricia Ndashaala and Huipie Van Wyk (Picture 7) | Yes | Ilekela Haimbodi and his mom Patricia Ndashaala attending a disability training workshop in Windhoek. | Side by Side Early Intervention Centre |
| 5 | Orben Muluti, addressing a delegation at the National Youth Council of Namibia head office in my capacity as a representative for youth with disabilities on the National Youth Council Board of Directors. (Picture 8) | Yes | Orben Muluti, addressing a delegation at the National Youth Council of Namibia Board of Directors. | National Youth Council of Namibia |
| 6 | Orben Muluti, compiling a project report for the Hashtag Inclusive Young Voices Project #IYV at the NFPDN head office. (Picture 2) | Yes | Orben Muluti committed to support the work of youth with disabilities | Frans Simon, NOYD member and office volunteer |
| 9 |  |  |  |  |

# 16. Risk Reporting

Please describe any risks to the project’s implementation experienced during the project’s implementation and how these were managed. If other risks were identified during the project implementation period, please add them to the table.

| ***Type of risk\****  ***(Contextual***  ***programmatic, institutional)*** | ***Risk*** | ***Occurrence***  ***(Y/N)*** | ***Impact on result*** | ***Mitigation strategies*** | ***Risk treatment owners*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Institutional* | Limited government support due to financial constraints and human resources limitations. | ***Y*** | Sustainability will be compromised and, and programmes and services focusing on addressing the rights of persons with disabilities will continue to be fragmented and uncoordinated. | Strengthen partnerships and coordination to share human capacity and resources amongst Government agencies, DPOs, CSOs, and development partners. | National Disability Forum, OPDs and Office of the President: Disability Affairs |
| *Programmatic and Institutional* | Limited human and financial resources and ownership by NDC and NFPDN | ***Y*** | OPDs, NGOs and CSOs will continue to implement poor quality and uncoordinated programmes, both at national and regional level. | Ongoing advocacy and communication with the National Disability Council (NDC) and NFPDN to focus on monitoring programmes at community, regional and national level and hold government accountable for not implementing the UNCRPD and national legislation | NDC and NFPD; National Disability Forum and Office of the President: Disability Affairs, |
| Programmatic | Lack of consultation with persons with disabilities and OPDs in planning, advocacy | **Y** | Project activities will not be sustained if OPDs, NGOs, CSOs, government and the private sector are not capacitated as per their needs. | OPDs are fully involved to take Ownership and leadership of project implementation at national and regional level and share information also through the established WhatsApp platform. | National Disability Forum, and Office of the President: Disability Affairs |

\* Please specify here the type of risk and refer to the following definitions:

Contextual: risk of state failure, return to conflict, development failure, humanitarian crisis; factors over which external actors have limited control.

Programmatic: risk of failure to achieve the aims and objectives; risk of causing harm through engagements.

Institutional: risk to the donor agency, security, fiduciary failure, reputational loss, domestic political damage etc.

**ANNEX 1.**

**The UNPRPD MPTF approved in June 2020 it’s New Strategic and Operational Framework 2020-2025. As the Fund has now the obligation to report against the new results framework, we are requesting projects that were approved before June 2020 to reflect on which Fund’s outcome/outputs/indicators their project is contributing.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **REPORTING AGAINST UNPRPD MPTF RESULTS FRAMEWORK** |  |  |
| **Outcome 1: National Stakeholders are equipped with the knowledge and practical tools for disability inclusive policies and systems** |  |  |
| **Outcome indicators** | **Yes/No** | **Brief Description** |
| 1.1 # of stakeholders in UNPRPD supported countries[[5]](#footnote-6) with increased knowledge and capacities to design/reform and deliver inclusive policies and systems (disaggregation by stakeholder Gov/ UN/Organizations of Persons with Disabilities/other) | **Yes** | At the project Inception, the Steering Committee was sensitized about the Sector Policy on Inclusive Education and on how to assess national lays to ensure disability inclusion in policies. |
| 1.2 # of stakeholders in UNPRPD supported countries with strengthened evidence-based knowledge and capacities to assess and respond to gaps in relation to preconditions to CRPD implementation and inclusive SDGS achievement | **Yes** | The Steering Committee and National Disability Forum members have received training also from UNDESA on the CRPD. |
| 1.3 # and per cent of UNPRPD supported countries that have developed and/or strengthened national guidelines, protocols, and/or standards to design and implement policies and systems | **No** |  |
| 1.4 # of stakeholders in UNPRPD supported countries used UNPRPD’s situational analysis to inform their future actions around disability inclusion. (Disaggregation by stakeholder Gov/ UN/Organizations of Persons with Disabilities) | **No** |  |
| 1.5 # and per cent of UNPRPD supported countries that undertook multi stakeholder capacity building initiatives on disability inclusive policies and systems | **Yes** | Capacity building interventions were conducted with the support of UNDESA. |
| **Output 1.1 - Capacity of the national stakeholders is enhanced to develop and implement gender responsive and disability inclusive policies and systems for the CRPD and SDGs implementation** | **Yes/No** | **Brief Description** |
| **Output Indicators** |  |  |
| 1.1.1. # of trainings developed and delivered to support national CRPD /inclusive SDG implementation disaggregated by geography (country, regional and global), topic (thematic area, specifics modules on women with disabilities and underrepresented groups needs and rights, and specific modules on instruments for planning and implementation of UN development activities both in development and humanitarian settings). | **No** |  |
| 1.1.2. # of participants (disaggregated Gov (type of ministry)/ UN/Organizations of Persons with Disabilities/other) (disaggregated by sex/type of disability/rural urban) participating in capacity building activities funded or provided by UNPRPD programmes | **Yes** | National Disability Forum Members at national level: 46 members: 20 Male and 26 Female  The Forum is still to be replicated at Regional level |
| 1.1.3. # of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (disaggregated by type umbrella- disability specific- women-other) that benefitted from capacity building activities (type of activities) funded by UNPRPD programmes to strengthen the capacity of organizations of persons with disabilities. | **Yes** | 1. Namibian Association of Differently Abled Women (NADAWO) 2. Law Reform and Development Commission (LRDC) 3. University of Namibia (UNAM) 4. Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) 5. Down Syndrome Association of Namibia (DSAN) 6. National Institute for Educational Development 7. Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture 8. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) 9. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) 10. Ministry of Health and Social Services 11. National Disability Council (NDC) 12. Office of the President, Disability Affairs 13. Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) 14. Association for Children with Language, Speech and Hearing Impairments of Namibia (CLaSH) 15. United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) |
| 1.1.4. # of OPDsthat have been trained to participate in planning and monitoring of national development plans related to UN/government /other | **No** |  |
| 1.1.5. # of capacity building activities (disaggregated by type of capacity building) funded by UNPRPD programmes, directed at women and girls with disabilities on their rights and requirements and/or directed at underrepresented groups of persons with disabilities on their rights and requirements. (Number of participants, disaggregated by age, disability and geographical location. | **No** |  |
| **Output 1.2- Knowledge products are developed and piloted, particularly to address gaps on the preconditions to implement CRPD and disability inclusive SDGs** | **Yes/No** | **Brief Description** |
| **Output Indicators** |  |  |
| 1.2.1. #of knowledge products (disaggregated by product: tools, guidelines, protocols, reports) developed, piloted and disseminated to the relevant stakeholders to inform inclusive practices | **YES** | Communications Strategy  Theory of Change Report |
| 1.2.2 # of knowledge products developed that address gaps related to inclusion of women and girls with disabilities and underrepresented groups of persons with disabilities | **No** |  |
| 1.2.3. # of actors involved in developing and testing of knowledge products (disaggregated by product tools, guidelines, protocols, reports) disaggregated by actor (GOV/ OPDs (disaggregated by type of representation)/ NGOs/Other) | **Yes** | National Disability Council of Namibia (data collection on disability mainstreaming and developing reports.) |
| **Output 1.3 - Evidence generation, learning and exchange mechanisms are developed and functional, based on country level experiences, to increase understanding and inform innovative practices.** | **Yes/No** | **Brief Description** |
| **Output Indicators** |  |  |
| 1.3.1. # of learning and evidence generated to inform inclusive policies and systems disaggregated by type e.g. situational analysis, thematic reports, peer reviewed evidence evaluations and assessments, learning reports, case studies etc. | **Yes** | 1 assessment conducted on the Early Identification assessment to inform training priorities |
| 1.3.2. # actors involved in learning and evidence generated to inform inclusive policies and systems disaggregated by actor (GOV/Organizations of Persons with Disabilities, NGOs, etc) | **Yes** | 1. National Federation of People with Disabilities in Namibia (NFPDN) 2. Namibian Association of Differently Abled Women (NADAWO) 3. Namibian Organisation of Youth with Disabilities (NOYD) 4. Law Reform and Development Commission (LRDC) 5. University of Namibia (UNAM) 6. Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) 7. Down Syndrome Association of Namibia (DSAN) 8. National Institute for Educational Development 9. Namibian National Association of the Deaf (NNAD) 10. Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture 11. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) 12. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) 13. Ministry of Health and Social Services 14. National Disability Council (NDC) 15. Office of the President, Disability Affairs 16. Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) 17. Association for Children with Language, Speech and Hearing Impairments of Namibia (CLaSH) 18. United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) |
| 1.3.3. # of established mechanisms/ instances promoting learning and exchange across countries (disaggregation by region/ group of countries/ theme and participants (disaggregation by sex, disability, representation of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities, UN ,GOV/other) | **No** |  |
| 1.3.4. # of reports, case studies and/or other sources of evidence addressing the situation of women with disabilities and underrepresented groups of persons with disabilities disaggregated by disability specific or mainstream and women or underrepresented) | **Yes** | Early Identification Theory of Change Report |
| **Outcome 2: Gaps in achievement of essential building blocks or preconditions to CPRD Implementation in development and humanitarian (gender equality, data accessibility, support services, etc.) are addressed** | **Yes/No** | **Brief Description** |
| **Outcome indicators** |  |  |
| * 1. # and per cent of UNPRPD supported countries with inclusive and non-discriminatory laws, national policy/plan for persons with disabilities. | **Yes** | 1. Sector Policy on Inclusive Education 2. Child Care and Protection Act 20-15, (Act No 3 of 2015) 3. Basic Education Act 2020 (Act No 3 of 2020) 4. National Disability Act and Policy 5. National Gender Responsive Budgeting and Planning Curriculum |
| * 1. # and per cent of UNPRPD supported countries with inclusive service delivery systems and processes across the sectors. | **No** |  |
| * 1. # and per cent of UNPRPD supported countries with enhanced or newly established mechanisms supporting formal participation of organizations of persons with disabilities to support CRPD implementation. | **Yes** | The National Disability Forum |
| * 1. # and per cent of UNPRPD supported countries with enhanced and or newly established multi-stakeholder national and/or sub-national coordination and monitoring mechanisms established to monitor CRPD and include multi-sectoral representation and representation of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities | **Yes** | The National Disability Forum is a new mechanism to ensure the meaningful involvement of persons with disabilities in planning, monitoring and evaluation national regional and community interventions to ensure inclusion of persons with disabilities. |
| * 1. # and per cent of UNPRPD supported countries that have mechanisms in place to support quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on disability in line with international standards to inform laws, policies and programmes | **Yes** | 1. Namibia Statistics Agency – National Population and Housing Census data 2. Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture- Education Management and Information System |
| **Output 2.1 - Legislative and policy frameworks are newly developed, reviewed, or reformed to promote equality and non-discrimination, based on CRPD standards, and are translated into plans as relevant.** | **Yes/No** | **Brief Description** |
| **Output Indicators** |  |  |
| 2.1.1. # of newly produced, reviewed, or reformed laws and policies disaggregated by type (disability specific /mainstream) disaggregate by review reformed and developed | **No** |  |
| 2.1.2. # of developed and or adopted national action plan/strategy to ensure that persons with disabilities, have access to quality and affordable services,(disaggregation by service) | **No** |  |
| 2.1.3. # of national strategies and plans with measures in place to ensure disability sensitive budgeting and financial management | **No** |  |
| 2.1.4. # laws and policies (mainstream and targeted) changes addressing rights and inclusion of most marginalized groups (disaggregation women and underrepresented by different groups) | **Yes** | 1. National Disability Act and Policy but it needs to be reviewed and updated 2. Sector Policy on Inclusive Education |
| 2.1.5. # of laws and policies and plans on VAWG and or SRHR that adequately respond to the rights of women and girls with disabilities (disaggregation by plan-laws-policies and VAWG-SRHR) | **No** |  |
| 2.1.6. # of developed/strengthened multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms supporting legal, policy and plans changes (disaggregation by stakeholder Gov/ UN/Organizations of Persons with Disabilities/other). | **No** |  |
| 2.1.7. # of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities taking part in consultation processes related to legislative and policy changes, disaggregated by kind of organization of persons with disability, constituency represented among persons with disabilities and geographical location. | **Yes** | 1. Namibian Association of Differently Abled Women (NADAWO) 2. National Federation of People with Disabilities in Namibia (NFPDN) 3. Down Syndrome Association of Namibia (DSAN) 4. Namibian National Association of the Deaf (NNAD) 5. Namibian Organisation of Youth with Disabilities (NOYD) 6. National Disability Council (NDC) 7. Office of the President, Disability Affairs 8. Association for Children with Language, Speech and Hearing Impairments of Namibia (CLaSH) 9. Namibian Association of Persons with Physical Disabilities (NAPPD) 10. Namibian Association of Wheelchair Users (NAWCU) |
| **Output 2.2 –Service delivery systems implementation and processes across the sectors are reviewed/reformed/developed to ensure disability inclusion** | **Yes/No** | **Brief Description** |
| **Output Indicators** |  |  |
| 2.2.1. # of reviewed, newly developed or strengthened service delivery systems and processes disaggregated by precondition (add as footnote) type of change (reviewed developed or strengthened) and sector. | **No** |  |
| 2.2.2. # of reviewed, newly developed or strengthened national implementation systems and processes addressing the rights for women with disabilities in particular around Sexual and Gender Based Violence and SRH services. | **No** |  |
| 2.2.3. # of reviewed, newly developed or strengthened national implementation systems and processes addressing the rights the most marginalized groups of persons with disabilities (disaggregation by group (women, underrepresented, etc) | **No** |  |
| 2.2.4. # of supported multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms supporting targeted services delivery systems and processes changes (disaggregation by stakeholder Gov/ UN/Organizations of Persons with Disabilities/other). | **Yes** | The National Disability Forum is a new mechanism to ensure the meaningful involvement of persons with disabilities in planning, monitoring and evaluation national regional and community interventions to ensure inclusion of persons with disabilities. |
| 2.2.5. #and of OPDs taking part in consultation processes, disaggregated by kind of organization of persons with disability, constituency represented among persons with disabilities (including Women and underrepresented groups) and geographical representation e.g. national/local. | **Yes** | 1. Namibian Association of Differently Abled Women (NADAWO) 2. National Federation of People with Disabilities in Namibia (NFPDN) 3. Down Syndrome Association of Namibia (DSAN) 4. Namibian National Association of the Deaf (NNAD) 5. Namibian Organisation of Youth with Disabilities (NOYD) 6. National Disability Council (NDC) 7. Office of the President, Disability Affairs 8. Association for Children with Language, Speech and Hearing Impairments of Namibia (CLaSH) 9. Namibian Association of Persons with Physical Disabilities (NAPPD) 10. Namibian Association of Wheelchair Users (NAWCU) |
| **Output 2.3 National data collection systems, accountability and monitoring mechanisms, and inter-ministerial coordination systems are reviewed/reformed/developed to ensure disability inclusion** | **Yes/No** | **Brief Description** |
| **Output Indicators** |  |  |
| 2.3.1. # of strengthen /developed national and/or sub-national coordination and monitoring mechanisms for CRPD implementation in line with article 33 | **No** |  |
| 2.3.2. # of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities involved in government monitoring and accountability mainstream mechanisms (disaggregation by type of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities and type of government mechanism) | **Yes** | National Disability Council of Namibia |
| 2.3.3. # of national mechanisms, institutions, services, programmes, collecting disaggregated data on persons with disabilities (disaggregated by mechanism institution service) according to international standards | **Yes** | All government ministries, parastatals and private sector are required to mainstream disability across their sectors and collected disability data on an annual basis. |
| 2.3.4. # of national coordination, accountability and monitoring mechanisms related to GBV and SRH mainstreaming disability. | **No** |  |
| **Outcome 3: National development and humanitarian plans and monitoring processes include disability mainstreaming** | **Yes/No** | **Brief Description** |
| **Outcome 3 Indicators** |  |  |
| * 1. per cent # of UNPRPD supported countries with instruments for planning, implementation and monitoring of UN development and humanitarian activities inclusive of disability (disaggregation by process planning-implementation and monitoring) | **Yes** | National Disability Council has been developed to monitor disability mainstreaming in Namibia as per the CRPD. |
| * 1. per cent # of UNPRPD supported countries with adopted national SDGs plans and budgets that are inclusive to persons with disabilities including women with disabilities and underrepresented groups | **No** |  |
| * 1. per cent # of UNPRPD supported countries with formal participation of persons including women and underrepresented groups with disabilities in mechanisms for planning implementing and monitoring the SDGs and/or UN development and humanitarian Instruments (disaggregation UN instruments and SDGs national plans) | **No** |  |
| * 1. per cent # of UNPRPD supported countries with inclusive national implementation and monitoring of COVID 19 response and recovery plans | **Yes** | COVID 19 response and recovery plans are in place. |
| **Output 3.1 - Disability inclusion is strengthened in instruments for planning and implementation of UN development activities at the country level including in humanitarian settings** | **Yes/No** | **Brief Description** |
| **Output Indicators** |  |  |
| 3.1.1. # of Common Country Analysis (CCA) including disaggregated data and analysis of the situation of persons with disabilities. Disaggregated by type of analysis e.g. thematic focus versus cross cutting comprehensive inclusive analysis | **No** |  |
| 3.1.2. #UNSDCF where disability inclusion has been mainstreamed and/or targeted | **No** |  |
| 3.1.3. # of UNSDCF with at least 3 indicators related to disability | **No** |  |
| 3.1.4. # of UNSDCF related financial tools with explicit allocations for disability inclusion | **No** |  |
| 3.1.5. # of joint programmes funded through MPTFs funds where the rights of persons with disabilities have been addressed (disaggregation by disability group) through collaboration with UNPRPD programmes | **No** |  |
| **Output 3.2 - 'Disability Inclusion in National Development and Humanitarian Planning, Implementation and Monitoring mechanisms is strengthened.** | **Yes/No** | **Brief Description** |
| **Output Indicators** |  |  |
| 3.2.1. # of national and subnational SDGs implementation plans integrating targeted and mainstream actions towards persons with disabilities. | **No** |  |
| 3.2.2 # of adopted/ implemented COVID 19 inclusive response and recovery plans and frameworks containing systematic mainstreaming of persons with disabilities including the most marginalized. | **No** |  |
| 3.2.3. per cent and # Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs) and Humanitarian Needs Overviews (HNOs) addressing persons with disability needs and rights; | **No** |  |
| 3.2.4. # of SDGs implementation data collection, monitoring and accountability processes assessing progress against specific disability-inclusion targets | **No** |  |
| **Output 3.3 - Systematic engagement of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities is strengthened/enhanced in the national development coordination mechanisms and accountability frameworks (government/UN/Independent) around SDGs** | **Yes/No** | **Brief Description** |
| **Output Indicators** |  |  |
| 3.3.1. # of UN led national and/or regional coordination mechanisms with established consultation processes undertaken to ensure the active involvement of persons with disabilities, including through their representative organizations, in the design, implementation and monitoring of instruments for planning and implementation of UN development activities at the country level | **No** |  |
| 3.3.2. # of governmental coordination mechanisms with established consultation processes undertaken to ensure the active involvement of persons with disabilities, including through their representative organizations, in the planning, implementation and monitoring of SDGs | **No** |  |
| 3.3.3. # of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities formally participating in UN supported development processes and national SDGs coordination, planning and implementation processes. (disaggregation by type of OPD and process) | **Yes** | 1. Namibian Association of Differently Abled Women (NADAWO)  2. National Federation of People with Disabilities in Namibia (NFPDN)  3. Down Syndrome Association of Namibia (DSAN)  4. Namibian National Association of the Deaf (NNAD)  5. Namibian Organisation of Youth with Disabilities (NOYD)  6. National Disability Council (NDC)  7. Office of the President, Disability Affairs  8. Association for Children with Language, Speech and Hearing Impairments of Namibia (CLaSH)  9. Namibian Association of Persons with Physical Disabilities (NAPPD)  10. Namibian Association of Wheelchair Users (NAWCU) |
| 3.3.4. # of identified persons with disabilities including through their representative organizations participating in the State’s formulation/implementation of COVID-19 policy responses affecting them | **No** |  |

**ANNEX 2.**

**THEORY OF CHANGE**

| **IMPACT** | **OUTCOMES** | **OUTPUT** | **ACTIVITIES** | **RISKS/ASSUMPTIONS** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The rights of persons with disabilities are realised through improved data, strengthened coordination and access to inclusive quality services. | The data collection systems are strengthened to inform planning, budget allocation and service delivery to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities. | The initial State Report on the CRPD, and the shadow report, are produced and submitted to the UN. Subsequent reports will be submitted every four years. | Provide technical support to the Office of the President: Disability Affairs to finalise the State Report on the CRPD and to submit it. | Ministry of Justice and the Law Reform Development Commission not speeding up the process of providing inputs on the Draft Report. |
|  |  | Training of NSA, Statistics units in ministries and DPOs on disability statistics and data collection tools. | Conduct specific training workshops for the different ministries on data collection tools | Namibia Statistics Agency has sufficient capacity to train in data collection and use |
|  |  | The national census data incorporates the Washington Group questions on disability. | Incorporate the Washington Group questions in the data collection tools | Lack of appreciation of the Washington Group questions by ministries |
|  |  | Guidelines developed for inclusion of disability statistics in ministerial administrative data collection systems (e.g. EMIS, HIS, Disability Grants) | Conduct training workshop to mainstream disability and disability inclusive data in the relevant ministry programmes at national level | Lack of consultation with persons with disabilities and organizations of persons with disabilities in planning, advocacy and training programmes. |
|  |  | Training provided to organizations of persons with disabilities on how to analyse and use data for planning and budgeting purposes. | Conduct training and advocacy interventions with DPOs to enhance capacity to use data for planning and budgeting purposes. Activities will also include training on contingency planning to ensure timely and coordinated disaster response. | Lack of collaboration between government Ministries, DPOs, NGOs and CSOs and NSA in the implementation of the project and sustain project activities |
|  | Strengthened coordination mechanism including participation of DPOs | Establishment of the National Disability Forum under the coordination of the Department of Disability Affairs. | Provide technical assistance to the Department of Disability Affairs to establish the National Disability Forum | Inability National Disability Forum to strengthen multi-sectoral coordination |
|  |  | Training provided to The National Disability Forum and the Inter-Ministerial Disability Committee with aim to improve coordination and strengthen the capacity of DPOs, NGOs, CSOs and the private sector to implement programmes at national, regional and community level. | Promote advocacy and information sharing through media and the DPOs and persons with disabilities | Lack of support from media to raise awareness on disability rights through media channels. |
|  |  | Multi-sectoral coordination framework on disability developed and implemented | Provide technical assistance to the Department of Disability Affairs to coordinate the development of the multi-sectoral coordination framework on disability developed and implemented | Lack of ownership by the Department of Disability Affairs |
| The rights of persons with disabilities are realised through improved better us of data and access to integrated quality services. | Children with disabilities identified very early in life and referred for assessment and early interventions and access inclusive ECD programmes | Guidelines developed on the early identification, assessment and referral of children with disabilities. | Develop guidelines on the identification, assessment and referral of children with disabilities. | Limited capacity of parents and service providers to identify children early to access services and limited resources to provide the necessary services to children with disabilities. |
| The rights of persons with disabilities are realised through improved better us of data and access to integrated quality services. |  | Training provided to health care workers, educarers, social workers, NGOs, CSOs and DPOs on the early identification, assessment and referral of children with disabilities to services. | Conduct training workshops on the on the early identification, assessment and referral of children with disabilities to services. | Lack of interest by service providers to benefit from the training |
|  |  | Children with disabilities identified early at birth in health facilities, in communities and in ECD centres and referred for assessment and intervention. | Provide technical support to service providers to be able to identify children with disabilities and refer them for services. | Lack of interest from service providers to support children with disabilities. |
| The rights of persons with disabilities are realised through improved better us of data and access to integrated quality services. |  | Children with disabilities identified and receiving necessary services before entering formal education. | Provide technical support to service providers to be aware of where to refer children with disabilities for early intervention. | Lack of interest from service providers to support children with disabilities |
|  |  | More children with disabilities under 5 accessing ECD programmes and benefit from equal opportunities. | Support advocacy campaigns for parents to ensure access to services including ECD for their children with disabilities | Parents of children with disabilities will ensure that their children access to services. |

**ANNEX 3**

**HUMAN INTEREST STORIES**

**Huipie Van Wyk**

**Side by Side Early Intervention Centre**

**Giving back hope to a child with a disability**

I sat in the Social Worker’s office this morning. I kept staring at the grey wall, hoping that if I stare long enough, the grey will give me hope. Maybe just maybe it’s not grey, maybe it’s pink, like a shade of pink that bounces of the walls as a grey. Maybe just maybe if I wait long enough the grey will turn to pink, then, maybe just maybe hope will dance on the grey walls. But, as I left, the walls were still grey, this time a darker grey. It is just because the clouds have taken their place in the sky, hiding the ray of the sun, so I know why it is darker, but it still does not change the fact that it is a darker grey…. It still is not pink.

A mother of 4-year-old died. She left the earth after dedicating her life to one of her sons who was diagnosed with a disability after he was hit by a car. He sat opposite me in the room. His wheelchair is a bit too small for him, at least he has one, many children in the same situation as he does not have any. We have watched him develop over the past 2 years. His mom was one of the most courageous women I have come to know. A warrior of a human being. I saw her a week before her death, her smile was gone, but she was still fighting, fighting for the rights of her children.

He slowly started blending into the wall, blending into the color of the grey that my eyes have played with. He understands everything. He has his ways of showing what he thinks, needs, or wants. But today he was quiet. Every now and then he could pick his head up a bit and locked eye with me. I had to fight the urge of breaking down in tears. He had his mask on, so I could only count on his eyes to tell me if he is okay. His head would get tired, we lose eye contact for a minute or so, where I turn my attention back to the grey wall, then he picks up his head again in search of my face.

He is a young child, yet only a boy who very much needs his mom. I remembered the last photo I took with him and his mom at the beginning of November. I asked him. “Do you remember the photo I took of us?” He lifts his eyebrows to show me he remembers. A faint ‘hm’ came from his lips. “Have I shown you the photo yet?” He shakes his head “no”. “Do you want to see it?” ‘hm’, he says. Suddenly his eyes are bright, in anticipation of me bringing my phone closer. I select the photo on my phone and show it to him.

While writing this I cannot stop the tears. I struggle to write or even put into words what had happened in that moment. I showed him the photo and his whole body came alive. “Look how beautiful your mom is” …. He makes moaning sounds and keep picking up his hand to touch my phone. As if he wants to go back to that moment where she was still by his side. My heart breaks and I cannot breathe. His eyes are smiling, so I know behind that mask is one beautiful smile. Yet, I am fighting back my own break down. A call comes in and I excuse myself. I walk into the hallway, rush the call, so that I can let lose these tears that no longer can be held back. What will become of him, where will he go?

For a moment today, my bravery has changed places with fear and hopelessness. But it was only for a moment today, because I am human. And the grey wall will show its true colors again, when the sun is allowed to bring its shine......I have hope that the little by will one day make it in life. I will continue to fight for his human rights and dignity, not only for his but for all the children in his situation, including my own daughter. . .

UNICEF Namibia Country Office played a crucial role in providing both technical and financial support to Side by Side Early Intervention to provide training to parents and disability service providers, which included extensive advocacy on radio and television on the important roles of parents and communities to reduce stigma and discrimination.

**Israel Tjizake**

**NSA experience on implementing THE Washington Group Questions on Disability into the 2021 Population and Housing Census Questionnaires for Namibia**

Although, as a statistician and demographer, I always know that Namibia collected and published disability statistics, and I have also been part of the 2011 census team who were consulting institutions representing persons with disabilities on what questions to include in the census questionnaire. I was confident that the way these questions were phrased was the correct way.

But one day the UNPRPD secretariat approached my office on the inclusion of disability questions, which I confidently responded that the census already made provisions to collect disability statistics as in 2011. But they were adamant that the way we phrased the questions was not the recommended way and they introduced me to the Washington group of questions. At first these questions seemed too many and I was worried that it may lead to data response fatigue, and they may not want to participate in our data collection process. I agreed to investigate their request and consulted the Washington Group on Disability Statistics website, where there is an abundant resource on this topic. After my visit to the WG website I was convinced that the correct way of asking these questions is to use the international recognized and recommended questions.

We started the consultations in-house at NSA and consensus was reached to use the WG questions in the 2021 Census. To ensure the NSA is fully capacitated in this area we needed to strengthen the capacity of our staff to understand the WG questions, their terminology, and their rationale. With the help of the UNPRPD secretariat, we reached out to the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, who were more than willing to support us, and our staff was capacitated.

NSA then held numerous consultative meetings with OPDs, the office of the Vice president, the UN as well as other development partners to find out ways and mechanisms on how data can be collected during the 2021 census and the inclusion of the WG of questions. A National workshop was held with the OPDs, the office of the Vice president, the UN as well as stakeholders to agree on the final 6 questions to be included. NSA and WG needed to make presentations to inform and capacitate OPDs and individuals why they need to adopt the WG of questions. The workshop ultimately adopted the six WG questions.

Hence for the next round of census NSA will collect data on disability using the six core WG questions. The UNPRPD supported NSA in finding the best solutions in terms of using the WG questions. NSA became a key member of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics and the National disability steering committee which assisted the NSA in adopting the six core WG questions in the census.

I appreciate the technical and financial support provided by the UNPRPD secretariat.

**Matheus Hashoongo**

**Benefits of implementing a Joint Disability Project**

In 2021 at the NFPDN Congress [funded by UNDP] I was elected to be the Chairperson of the National Federation of People with Disabilities in Namibia.

The UNPRPD project made a great impact in Namibia through trainings, workshops and Meetings provided to the service providers, parents, Government Ministries and partners on matters pertaining to persons with disabilities and disability related matters.

Working with UN Agencies such as UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA really assisted NFPDN to establish the current leadership in a democratic manner, through the NFPDN Congress that was held from 31 August-02 September 2021.NFPDN contacted and developed the Shadow report which is independent, and it was financially and technically supported by the Project.

The establishment of the National Disability Forum is most important, as it is the second decision making body of the UNPRPD Project, bringing together all interested in disability related matters in one space to find solutions to challenges faced by persons with disabilities. As the umbrella body of OPDs we are embracing the recruitment of two of our members for the first time, by NSA because of the UNPRPD Project in the 2021 National population and housing pilot census. In addition to these, UN agencies through this project have been recognizing the awareness and commemoration of National and International Days on disability, such as the international day for persons with disability commemorated on 3 December annually that was hosted by the UNPRPD Project in 2020 and 2021.

Awareness raising on matters pertaining to persons with disabilities is an everyday thing, therefore such Projects cannot come to an end.

**Orben Muluti**

**Namibian Organization of Youth with Disabilities (NOYD) – Chairperson**

**My Experience as a Member of the UNPRPD Steering Committee**

I have been an advocate/activist for disability rights officially since 2014 and one of the most challenging issue while advocating was a reliable platform… reliable in the sense that it attracts various personalities and important disability stakeholders and direct policy contributors. This platform for me became the UNPRPD project.

One of the Three main project outcomes of the Project is ’’Strengthened coordination and integrated mechanisms including the participation of OPDs’’, I know this because I became the designated person from an OPD to do presentations at UNPRPD Steering Committee engagements with Executive Directors of the UNPRPD line ministries. This was one of the many ways this project has contributed to capacitating OPD leaders and better equipping us to be more affective leaders for our organizations and stronger advocates in the plight towards disability mainstreaming.

Another important UNPRPD highlight for me was the quarterly National Disability Forums. This was a much-needed platform and in 2021 we made large strides in some sectors for instance, discussions around employment were always highly engaging and as a result the Employment Equity Commission of Namibia is in advanced stages with developing a document that will properly hold employers accountable when they do not comply with the laws that allow for fair and inclusive recruitment practices. Other issues around education, accessibility and self-representation were also highly engaging and I’m confident good outcomes will yield from all these discussions.

It was also through the National Disability Forum where members lobbied the Namibia Statistics Agency for the inclusion of persons with disabilities as enumerators in the National Population and Housing Census. I was highly honored to be selected as an enumerator for the Pilot Census of 2021, the very first in Namibia that was completely digitized and included the Washington Group Disability Questions. The project played a major contributing role in all this.

I would like to thank and appreciate all UN Agencies, Government ministries and agencies, public sector, OPDs and individuals and institutions that contributed to making the UNPRPD project a reality and a success. A project such is this one is a necessity if we are to realize a Namibia and a world at large where persons with disabilities are viewed as ordinary members of society and where mainstreaming of disability issues is prioritized.

**Hileni Amakali-Mudhika**

**Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology (MICT)**

**How I played my part in the UNPRPD Project Implementation**

Since I was appointed as the focal person on disabilities by the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MICT) I was engaged in different activities such as national and international commemoration days. I am also a member of the National Disability Forum, Steering Committee and a chairperson of the communication Committee under UNPRPD project.

MICT managed to produce six videos on disability sensitization and awareness raising. These videos can be found on YouTube at MICT Namibia, and they are titled: Hush Tag #Know me. The videos encourage persons with disabilities, especially the youth to believe in themselves, and emphasize that disability is not inability.

During the year under review, MICT facilitated the Chairperson of the Organisations of Youth with disabilities Mr. Orben Muluti to create awareness about inclusivity and accessibility of persons with disabilities on the National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) Radio. I also arranged an interview with One Africa TV, Namibia Media House, Omulunga Radio, and Channel 7 Radio and Eagle FM Namibia for Mr. Tjiueza Tjombumbi – Head of Research and Development at National Disability Council of Namibia (NDCN), as well as Ms. Loide Nampala, a committee member, to speak about disability in Namibia on International Day Of Persons With Disabilities. They both highlighted the importance of the day and what it means to Namibians in general. Mr. Joseph Ndinomupya gave a brief on the International Albinism Day.

Due to the unavailability of venues for persons with disabilities, I managed to convince the National Disability Council of Namibia to utilize the Government Information Centre to commemorate, belatedly the Namibian National Disability Day, which is always commemorated on 10th June annually.

By engaging in all these activities, I realized that media plays an especially important role in creating awareness about disability, laws and principles that Namibia has ratified or enacted and is obligated to uphold with regards to persons with disabilities. As such it became critical that the media practitioners were trained on matters pertaining to persons with disabilities and disability related matters and were also made aware of the legal instruments that exist in Namibia.

Thus, in conjunction with the Editors Forum of Namibia (EFN), we organized a-day and half workshop to capacitate journalists and broadcasters whose media houses are members of the EFN, and other key players including community media and final year media students, on reporting on disability. The workshop was facilitated virtually by Ms. Jackline Lidwibi of Internews based in Nairobi, Kenya. It was deliberately scheduled to coincide with the International Day for the Universal Access to Information (IDUAI). The workshop was hosted by the Office of the President, Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare and Disability Affairs in collaboration with the UN Project on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD), the latter was also the funding agency.

**Challenges:**

Transport – This was a big challenge as most of the people with disabilities do not drive. We had to use the MICT vehicle to transport those scheduled to have interviews with the different media houses on the International Disability Day, otherwise they would not have made it at all. The UNPRPD and the dedicated ministries must help find a lasting solution to this problem.

**Recommendations:**

Overall, this workshop was a huge success. Since then, we have seen an increase in the coverage of persons with disabilities in the media and the right terminology is being used too. More resources need to be allocated for this project to continue running, train and sensitize more media practitioners on the correct way of reporting on disability. There is a need for a follow-up workshop hopefully an in-person one with the facilitator. Ideally, the follow-up workshop should be a two-day in person workshop to cover all the materials as per Internews teaching content and Manuals.

I also submitted a proposal and estimated budget for shooting a documentary on persons with disabilities which MICT would produce. A request was made by the MICT focal person for UNFPA to fund this documentary. It is important that this materializes.

1. **Prior to the submission of this report, please check that the document is accessible to persons using screen readers.** In a window system it is possible to do this by going to the File Menu, clicking Check for Issues and then Check Accessibility. If errors, warnings, and tips show up in the report of the accessibility checker, please follow the instructions in the checker to make the necessary corrections. On a Mac, click on review and select check accessibility. When the document is accessible the checker will display a report stating *“No accessibility issues found. People with disabilities should not have difficulty reading this document.”* Please see [Windows Accessibility Checker](https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Use-the-Accessibility-Checker-on-your-Windows-desktop-to-find-accessibility-issues-a16f6de0-2f39-4a2b-8bd8-5ad801426c7f) ; [Apple Mac Accessibility Checker](https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Use-the-Accessibility-Checker-on-your-Mac-to-find-and-resolve-accessibility-issues-3b84295e-d55b-49f1-b443-523ec45a5232) for more information.

   . [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Efforts should be made to capture the voices of persons with different types of disabilities including a balance between men and women with disabilities. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. If yes, please share the photo in a high resolution image file given they have shared consent to their photograph being used in UNPRPD publications and communications materials including website. For photos of children due protocols should be followed for ensuring safety and obtaining consent. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Please see Annex 5 UNPRPD Quality Assurance Framework photography notes. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. Throughout all the Logframe countries will always have to be disaggregated by *(disaggregation lower- and middle-income countries, fragile and humanitarian contexts, least-developed countries and countries within the bottom 50 of the Human Development Index* [↑](#footnote-ref-6)