



CONCEPT NOTE

THE KENYAN JOURNEY TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES POST COVID-19

This side event is geared towards showcasing Kenya's innovative interventions and programming towards building sustainable economic resilience of Persons with Disabilities in the post Covid-19 world.

ORGANISERS: Sightsavers, Light for the World, Association of the Physically Disabled in Kenya (APDK), United Disabled Persons of Kenya (UDPK), National Industrial Training Authority (NITA).

DATE : 15TH June, 2022

TIME : 75 Minutes (8.30 am - 9.45 am (EST))

PLATFOR : VIRTUAL/IN PERSON

LINK : TBD

AUDIENCE : Member State Representatives, Organisations of Persons with Disabilities, UN Staff and affiliates and International Development Organisations.

MODERATOR : Dr. Samuel Kabue, MEMBER, CRPD COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

PANELLISTS

1. Moses Kamau, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
2. Harun CEO, NCPWD
3. Eric Ngondi, BOARD MEMBER, UNITED DISABLED PERSONS OF KENYA (UDPK)
4. Stephen Njenga, COUNTRY DIRECTOR, LIGHT FOR THE WORLD
5. Moses Chege, COUNTRY DIRECTOR, SIGHTSAVERS INTERNATIONAL
6. Beneficiary



RUNNING ORDER : 75 minutes

- Introduction - 5 minutes
- Panel discussions- 40 minutes
- Q&A Session - 20 minutes
- Wrap up-10 minutes

FOCUS QUESTIONS

1. Government interventions towards cushioning Persons with Disabilities in the entrepreneurial space during the Covid-19
2. Economic empowerment of Persons with Disabilities- the role of the Council
3. The Impact of Covid-19 on Persons with Disabilities in terms of employment-The role of OPDs
4. The role of development organisations in building inclusive economic recovery strategies post covid/ Employable
5. Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in the Labour Market-The Kenyan experience
6. From a beneficiary's perspective; my experience

CONTEXT

The World Health Organisation estimates a global disability prevalence rate of 15%. The prevalence rate provided in the 2009 Kenyan census was much lower than this global figure, at 3.5%. Despite the use of UN-recommended disability questions and efforts to ensure accurate application of methodology, the 2019 prevalence rate was even lower at 2.2%. Conversations on the data disparities are ongoing at the country level with key stakeholders.

In Kenya the economic status of persons with disabilities is much lower compared to those without disabilities with the World Bank data showing that 80 percent of them acquire disability at age 18-64 which is the average working age. They are eventually likely to be economically dependent hence living in poverty. This has been worsened by the effects of Covid-19 which has changed the dynamics of accessing livelihood globally.

Persons with Disabilities bear adverse socioeconomic outcomes due to discriminatory prejudice and stigma. Very few Persons with Disabilities have access to formal employment and Government Procurement Opportunities despite legislation requiring at least a five per cent quota for PWDs in the public and private sector and a thirty percent reservation for women, youth and PWDs in procurement opportunities.

On this backdrop significant milestones towards achieving social, political, and economic inclusion of PWD have been put in place to address the cyclic economic imbalances by the Government and other stakeholders.

As part of job placement, the National Council for Persons with Disabilities developed a career portal dubbed the NCPWD career portal through which persons with disabilities were employed in various organisations/institutions.



The Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) programme is an Affirmative Action aimed at empowering disadvantaged groups by giving them more opportunities to do business with the government. The Council provides LPO financing for entrepreneurs with Disabilities at minimal interest rates to cover administrative costs.

Through Inclusion Works programme, interventions promoted access to employment for job seekers with disabilities through upskilling them within the space of soft skills, vocational and industrial skills. Further, the EmployAble program aimed at equipping youths with disabilities with Employable and life skills training, occupational mentorship and linkage to decent work was carried out in five universities.

Working with OPDs capacity in engaging private and public sector on employment of job seekers with disability, The inclusion work programme has influenced policy at National and county level for inclusion of persons with disability in employment opportunities and in promoting article 27 of CRPD among stakeholders/actors.

The Inb usiness program, a disability Inclusive development business intervention, was able to reach micro entrepreneurs with disabilities who were trained in business development and linked to the market.

Continually there is a need to increase the scope of interventions around capacity building on innovation and entrepreneurship, access to financing and inclusive decent work opportunities to make them economically independent and self-reliant.

