

International Conference
“(Dis)ability, Participation and Community Involvement – Tracing the Roots of CBR”

kickoff conference of the JUMP-CBResearch project
Joint Undertaking to Multiply Powers – research and teaching in CBR and related fields

Date: December 2nd-3rd 2013
Venue: Pwani University, Kilifi, Kenya

Community orientation as well as community involvement are important approaches to enhance the participation opportunities and the quality of life of persons with disabilities all over the world. On the basis of the WHO concept of community-based rehabilitation, Pwani University, Kilifi, Kenya and Technische Universität München, Munich, Germany aim to expand scientific knowledge and research capacity in the field of (dis)ability, participation and community by exchanging and discussing Northern European and East-African perspectives and ideas within the joint CBResearch project.

Within the framework of the “CBResearch” partnership, Pwani University and Technische Universität München take a closer look at the basic aspects of Community-Based Rehabilitation from an academic perspective. In the project, which is funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), teaching and research capacity in the field of (dis)ability, participation and community development will be built up by exchanging ideas and developing teaching and learning materials for students (blended learning approach).

During the kickoff conference, which is co-organized by the Max Planck Fellow Group “Inclusion and Disability” (MPI for Social Law and Social Policy), researchers from Germany and Kenya as well as other European countries will exchange their perspectives on (dis)ability, participation and community:

1. What does “(dis)ability” mean? What is the current understanding from a Kenyan/ German/ international perspective? How did this understanding develop over the years? Are there any differences between research, policy and practice? What is the perception of persons with disabilities themselves?
Which socio-cultural aspects have an influence on the “(dis)ability” phenomenon? Which influence do the UNCRPD and the ICF have? How does this relate to the CBR/ community care concepts?
2. What does “community” mean? Which (academic) perspectives on “community” do exist and are relevant in the context of our project?
3. What is “participation”? What does “participation” mean in the context of “(dis)ability” and development?
4. What are the practical lessons that can be learned from CBR projects?
5. What are emerging issues in the context of dis/ability, community and participation?

Researchers, practitioners and other interested groups are welcome to attend the conference. The participation fee for 2 days is KSh 3000 (accommodation not included). For information on the registration procedure and further details, please contact:

Conference organizing team

Pwani University, Kenya	Technische Universität München, Germany
Prof. Dr. Halimu Shauri Associate Professor and Chairman of the Department of Social Sciences Email: hshauri@yahoo.com Phone: +254 721 516671	Ms Kathrin Schmidt Research Assistant at the Chair of Diversity Sociology, Faculty of Sport and Health Sciences Email: kathrin.schmidt@tum.de Phone: +49 (0)89-289-24465

DRAFT CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Monday, 2 December	
08:00 – 08:45	Registration
08:45 – 09:15	Prof. Dr. Mohamed Rajab (PU), Prof. Dr. Elisabeth Wacker (TUM): Welcoming remarks
09:15 – 09:30	Dr. Robert Maneno: What is the project “CBResearch” about?
09:30 – 10:15	Prof. Dr. Letlhokwa George Mpedi (University of Johannesburg, South Africa): When ‘copy and paste’ does not work – an international and comparative perspective on the extension of social protection to persons with disabilities.
10:15 – 10:45	Tea break
Topical area 1: (dis)ability	
10:45 – 11:00	Kathrin Schmidt (Technische Universität München, Germany): Introductory remarks: (Dis)ability in an internationally comparative perspective
11:00 – 11:45	Prof. Dr. Geoffrey Karugu (Kenyatta University, Kenya): (Dis)ability – the Kenyan perspective
11:45 – 12:30	Prof. Dr. Elisabeth Wacker (Technische Universität München, Germany): (Dis)ability: Yesterday-Today-Tomorrow. The German perspective
12:30 – 13:00	Questions, statements and discussion
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch break
Topical area 2: community resources and community involvement	
9:00 – 9:45	Prof. Dr. Halimu Suleiman Shauri (Pwani University, Kenya): Community and social space – an academic perspective
9:45 – 10:45	Prof. Dr. Paul Achola (Maseno University, Kenya): Community, community resources and (dis)ability
10:45-11:05	Questions, statements and discussion
11:05 – 11:30	Tea break
Tuesday, 3 December 2013	
08:00 – 09:00	registration
09:00 – 09:15	N.N.: Welcoming remarks – day 2
Topical area 3: participation	
09:15 – 10:00	Dr. Edward Joash Kochung (Maseno University, Kenya): Participation and disability – an academic perspective
10:00 – 10:30	Dr. Joel M. Chomba (Kenyatta University, Kenya): Participation in the course of life – a personal perspective
10:30 – 11:00	Tanja-Maria Ebert (TU Dortmund University, Germany): Participation in education – challenges and opportunities
11:00 – 11:30	Tea break
Topical area 4: CBR – learning from practice	
11:30 – 11:50	Joseph Gona (Kenya Medical Research Institute, Kenya): Learning from practice: lessons learned from CBR projects in Kenya
11:50 – 12:10	Sarah Reker (Max-Planck-Institute of Social Law and Social Policy, Germany): The socio-spatial approach – a new way of using community resources in Germany?
12:10 – 12:30	Questions, statements and discussion including personal lessons from practice

12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break
Topical area 5: emerging issues related to (dis)ability, participation and community	
13:30 – 14:00	Prof. Dr. Zigler (Pwani University, Kenya): Introduction to the field of emerging issues from an international perspective
14:00 – 15:00	Circuit presentation on different emerging issues (poster session) Tea break included
15:00 – 15:30	Stefanie Frings (Technische Universität München, Germany): Inclusion and sports as an emerging issue
15:30 – 15:45	Prof. Dr. Gabriel Katana (Pwani University, Kenya): Concluding remarks on emerging issues
15:45 – 16:00	Prof. Dr. Tsanuo (Pwani University, Kenya): Closing remarks
16:00	community event centred on "United Nations' International Day of Persons with Disabilities"
17:30	end

The conference will be followed by a workshop to develop a first draft for the CBResearch modules

4 December 2013	<u>Morning session:</u> Introductory session: What is the aim of CBResearch? Which modules should be developed? Which is the target group? What is the aim of the modules? What is the general structure/ method to deliver the contents?
	<u>Afternoon session:</u> group work to brainstorm on modules 1-4 (contents and draft structure) Module 1: dis/ability, participation and community Module 2: education and dis/ability Module 3: livelihood and dis/ability Module 4: empowerment and dis/ability
5 December 2013	<u>Morning session:</u> sharing and discussing the work groups' results
	<u>Afternoon session:</u> final versions of the drafts; further discussion & planning especially for module 1, which will be concretised during the following week.

Background

According to the WHO estimates, 10% of the world population lives with a disability. Living conditions for many persons with disabilities in countries of the Global South, compared to countries of the Global North such as Germany, are much more challenging and directly correlate with poverty levels. This is one of the results in the first World Report on Disability published in 2011 by the WHO (World Health Organization; International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (2011): World report on disability. Geneva: World Health Organisation). However, experience with community-oriented approaches is vast in these countries and provides valuable information and ideas for countries such as Germany to learn from and expand their scope of research and intervention programmes through collaboration. In this connection, bottom-up processes of empowerment and capacity-building strategies applying a social space approach (Sozialraumorientierung) are still in their infancy in Germany and more strategies as well as monitoring tools are urgently needed.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) came into force in May 2008. Governmental and non-governmental organisations worldwide are now called upon to take measures to “promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities” (UNCRPD, Article 1). Measures on the international level should include “cooperation in research and access to scientific and technical knowledge” as an important step towards the inclusion of persons with disabilities (Article 32).

One strategy for inclusive development that is applied in many countries and regions of the world today is Community-based Rehabilitation (CBR) – a strategy which was initially developed and promoted by the World Health Organisation in 1978. It was meant to “improve access to rehabilitation services for people with disabilities in low-income and middle-income countries, by making optimum use of local resources. Over the past 30 years through collaboration with other UN organizations, nongovernmental organizations and disabled peoples organizations, CBR has evolved into a multisectoral strategy to address the broader needs of people with disabilities, ensuring their participation and inclusion in society and enhancing their quality of life.” (WHO (2010): Community-based Rehabilitation. CBR guidelines. Geneva: World Health Organisation)

CBResearch

Within the framework of the joint project “Joint Undertaking to Multiply Powers – research and teaching in CBR and related fields (JUMP CBResearch)”, Pwani University and Technische Universität München want to take a first step towards

- building capacity in teaching and research in the field of (dis)ability, participation and community involvement and enhancing the cooperation and exchange with other higher education and research institutions
- expanding local human resources and scientific knowledge to meet the needs of persons with disabilities, their families as well as the institutions involved in improving the living conditions of this group
- providing access to this knowledge via an online platform
- exchanging “Northern” and “Southern” ideas about (dis)ability, participation and the role of community
- strengthening the cooperation in research and teaching between German and Kenyan/ East African research and higher education institutions by building a network focused on (dis)ability, participation and community

The CBResearch project focuses on the development of 4 modules in the area of (dis)ability, participation and the role of community in rehabilitation. The project will be carried out by Pwani University (PU) and Technische Universität München (TUM) and will involve other Eastern African higher education and research institutions in the course of the project.