

# Applied Research on Disability in Africa

## Mapping – Maghreb and West Africa

This mapping was carried out by Wassila Benkirane and Abdellah Zouhairi, in partnership with the  
CDIPRH, FIRAH and the Resource Center Applied Research and Disability

Translated from French by AIT Traduction





The association CDIPRH aims to promote research and training of all kinds on disability and its environment, and to take all action in favor of inclusive development, with a view to the social involvement of individuals with disabilities.

To accomplish its social purpose, CDIRPH undertakes to:

- Conduct all operations directly or indirectly related to its purpose.
- Create and manage any service or institution that strives to accomplish its purpose.
- Provide its support and expertise, on a paid or voluntary basis, to any activity that is similar to its purpose.
- Establish partnerships with other national and international organizations.



The mission of the Foundation of Applied Research on Disability (FIRAH, <http://www.firah.org/>) follows two main directions, which are complementary and merge:

- 1/ The call for projects: selection and funding of applied disability research projects,
- 2/ The Resource Center: sharing knowledge in applied disability research. The Resource Center Applied Research and Disability aims at creating connections and bonds between researchers and field stakeholders<sup>1</sup>. It develops and disseminates research in order to promote an inclusive social transformation and to facilitate the full involvement of persons with disabilities.



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#### <sup>1</sup> Field stakeholders

Persons with disabilities, their families, and their representative organisations. Any Human Rights organisation working with persons with disabilities. Service providers and other organisations working with Persons with disabilities. Service providers and other organisations working in mainstream that are required to meet the needs of persons with disabilities such as architects, teachers, companies, industries etc. Researchers and research institutes. Local, national and international decision makers.

This literature review concerns the achievements of a project which started in 2014 and will last three years. The aim of this project is the dissemination and promotion of applied research results and disability to researchers<sup>2</sup> and field stakeholders of the African continent (particularly to Disabled People Organizations), in order to increase knowledge on the situation of people with disabilities and the recommendations made to improve their social participation.<sup>3</sup>

The actions implemented during the three years of this project will enable us to conduct new research but also to gather major research for inclusion in the Resource Center, in order to promote exchanges between researchers and field stakeholders for mutual enrichment of their experiences and improve expertise and knowledge in the area of disability.

**Do not hesitate to submit documents which will allows us to complement this work. To send us new identified research, you can contact us at the following address:**  
[centre.ressources@firah.org](mailto:centre.ressources@firah.org)

Two other mappings of existing research conducted in close collaboration with universities will strengthen this second work: a general mapping and a mapping on applied research in East Africa had already been published, you can consult the report on the Resource Center website<sup>4</sup>.

Next, from 2015 and 2016, a whole range of activities (study tours, creation of practical materials, and support to interventions in seminars or conferences, training sessions...) to supplement the Resource Centre of Applied Research and Disability contributions with direct interactions.

Close attention will be focused on the fact that all identified research and activities conducted will be available in open source, in an easily accessible format.

The present document was conducted as part of the Resource Center of Applied Research and Disability in partnership with FIRAH (International Foundation of Applied Disability Research) and CDIPRH (Association for an inclusive development and the promotion of research on disability). The fulfilment of this work was entrusted to Wassila Benkirane and Abdellah Zouhairi (Hassan II University) with coordination by CDIPRH (Mohammed El

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**<sup>2</sup> Research institutions and Researchers**

An entity, such as a university or a research institute, or an department dedicated to research within a institution, or developed by a group of health institutions and affiliated with a university or a research institute, regardless of its legal status (public or private body) or the way it is funded, whose primary purpose is to carry out basic research or applied research or experimental development and to broadcast their findings by way of teaching, publication or technology transfer.

**<sup>3</sup> Social Participation**

Social participation relates to the entire activities that a person must have to undertake to ensure a living, according to his /her lifestyle choices. It is measured against the fulfilment of activities of daily and domestic life as well as that of all social roles.

<sup>4</sup><http://www.firah.org/centre-ressources/en/revues-de-litterature.html>

Khadiri). The full report was designed by FIRAH (Cécile Vallée / Resource Center Applied Research and Disability).

The goal of this literary review is to report on existing knowledge about applied research on Maghreb and West Africa, providing readers with access to a brief synthesis of knowledge written from selected documents, an initial list of documents submitted in an annotated bibliography and reading notes for those we consider a priority according to the selection criteria.

This work, which spans several thematic areas, does not intent to be comprehensive but to identify the results and knowledge generated by research that could be useful for field stakeholders in order to improve the quality of life and social participation for people with disabilities.

What FIRAH means by the very general terms of applied research is:

- First, it is proper research based on precision and methodologies which allow the implementation of a scientific approach involving teams of one or more researchers or lecturer researchers whose research is one of the statutory missions.
- Applied research differs from basic research. Its ultimate purpose is to increase independence and social participation of people with disabilities. It is not only aimed at producing theoretical knowledge but also tackling practical issues related to the needs and concerns of people with disabilities and their families. The collaboration between these people, professionals and researchers is a fundamental element to the achievement of this type of research.
- This type of research is designed to produce directly applicable results. In addition to usual publishing (scientific articles, research reports.) applied research is also designed to produce other materials called “means of application<sup>5</sup>” which can take various forms: development of good practices, methodological guides, training tools etc, and are destined to different field stakeholders (people with disabilities, professionals, policies makers).

Each title in the annotated bibliography contains a link with free or paying access to the work in question, and each reading note contains a link to the Resource Center database.

This document can be freely disseminated providing the source, author and relevant organisations involved are acknowledged.

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<sup>5</sup> **Means of application**

Shaping of the findings and knowledge gained from applied research into products, services and contents to meet the expectations and needs of people with disabilities. These application supports are adjusted to be used by field stakeholders.

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## Research method

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Targeting research with the recommended references, and networks such as IDDC (International Disability and Development Consortium) and IDA (International Disability Alliance) helped us in the keyword research. However, the bibliographic references found did not all match the set criteria. We thus took advantage of the bibliographic references in the annexes of the document to apply the Evaluation, Selection, and Processing Model to analyze the bibliography links in all the documents collected.

This research method enabled us to first evaluate the bibliographic references in the annexes of the targeted references—and then to sort them by country of research, to just keep the information that matched the applied research in the 12 selected countries (Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, the Ivory Coast, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Tunisia, and Togo). After these two steps, we kept the documents meeting the following criteria: compliance with the CRDPH approach, involvement of researchers and actors on the ground, implementation tools, and scientific soundness. After this analysis, we selected 11 documents and critically commented them.

## Comments on the written production

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### **The lack of documents in the form of articles**

During the mapping, we observed that there were few documents in the form of scientific articles. The subject of this mapping—which revolves around applied research on disability in African countries—pushed us to first identify the documents in the form of scientific articles. The preferred, and actually the only research space, was scientific reviews. The research via these reviews produced barely any precise results concerning applied research on disability in the African countries specified for this mapping. We used the berrypicking technique to research these reviews. The methodological note of this mapping presents this technique. However, this technique did not identify any relevant articles that met the criteria that were set.

To respond to this absence, we noted that there were documents we could call "gray literature" which were available—literature that was very diverse in terms of format and content. We also observed that there is good visibility of and an effort to publish reports, action research, consultations, and good practice guides from some organizations working on the subject of disability in Africa—such as Handicap International.

The role and the importance of the language of this production turned out to be decisive during this mapping. For applied research on disability in Africa, we can indeed confirm that there were two worlds of knowledge, the French-speaking world and the English-speaking one. These two fields seem to operate separately, and they barely interact with each other. Except for a few rare examples, which are not relevant to this mapping, the French-speaking documents do not cover the English-speaking countries. The opposite is true too.

Most of the international scientific journals specialized in disability that we looked at are in English. The use of the term "Africa" as the word we searched for in these reviews automatically sent us to articles on English-speaking countries, which were not part of this mapping. As we did not want to use the resources deployed for this mapping for this, which is meant for French-speaking countries, we excluded the articles that did not concern these countries. Amongst the most predominant English-speaking African countries in applied research on disability, South Africa almost has a monopoly on this research, and in any case, produces most of it.

### **The predominance of articles related to English-speaking Africa**

The high level of the South African academic sphere might be why it had so many results on applied research on disability in Africa. South African universities are also ranked the highest

(according to various worldwide university rankings), and they're also the highest in terms of research production. The only scientific review specialized in disability in Africa (African Journal of Disability) is also published by two South African research centers, and by another one in Ghana. Our search in the African Journal of Disability led us to confirm that there was no research on the countries specified for this mapping. It thus seems that language is a clear dividing line for applied research on disability in Africa. However, we are aware that this difference is only a cover for other differences, in terms of history, politics, culture, and economics, between French-speaking and English-speaking countries.

The wealth of research in English in countries that were not targeted in this mapping could be a kind of virtuous circle for knowledge on disability. Indeed, as these countries have a higher profile (and are easier to understand) internationally, the disability research community tends to do choose their "field" and conduct their research in these countries. This same research also allows these countries to make more progress in this area, and to thus leverage the knowledge produced and co-produced by researchers, especially international ones.

## Synthesis

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We produced this brief summary based on 11 documents from different countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Togo, the Ivory Coast, Libya, Mali, Algeria, Morocco, and Senegal). We considered these documents to be the most relevant in terms of the Resource Center criteria (and summary sheets of these countries were made). In addition to showing the exclusion related to one type of deficiency, the mapping of applied research in these West African countries also shows the exclusion related to the environment, which lacks the school, health, and sports infrastructure required to promote their rights. We will mainly deal with the issue of exclusion and its multidimensional aspect in West Africa, as well as the institutional efforts to set up development plans for people with disabilities in these regions.

### **The exclusion of people with disabilities and its multidimensional aspect in West Africa**

Within the African context where there is often multidimensional poverty, these studies show how disability itself can become a negative factor, in addition to the transversal instability in all socio-economic sectors. To prove this observation, some of these studies used comparisons between people with and without disabilities, with the same socio-economic characteristics. With this approach, we can have a better understanding of the cost of the disability for the disabled individual, but also for this person's household. We have entered the age of communication and intensification of questions related to information and communication. Access of disabled individuals to ICTs (information and communications technologies) remains limited, especially in the African context, where technology resources are sometimes absent, especially in the rural world. If people with disabilities have easier access to ICT, these technologies can play a major role in providing better information and a better quality of life for this population. This population prefers to use the television, radio, and mobile phones as information and communication devices. However, internet access remains linked not only to the equipment and material resources of these individuals, but also to the level of education required to use this tool. For many of the countries examined, in addition to these economic restrictions, the studies confirmed that there was social discrimination against people with disabilities. We can observe this discrimination in both the family and public spheres—in the community, at school, and in the workplace. We can also see this discrimination in schools, as there is a low school enrollment rate among people with disability. There is a thus need for an advocacy guide to push public policy to make inclusive education more accessible for children. Inclusive education should also be planned in development programs, to precisely specify educational needs.

Although laws and legal texts have changed, people seem to continue to think negatively about and negatively portray individuals with disability. Based on this observation, the

authors stress the importance of supporting all institutional action with other initiatives whose objective is to build a culture that respects differences, dignity, and equality in society—with the goal of ensuring a better quality of life for people with disability.

### **Efforts of institutions to promote the rights of people with disabilities**

The analysis of these documents shows that although several French-speaking African countries have made legal and institutional progress, much effort remains to be made to improve the situation of people with disabilities. This analysis proves that we need to implement complementary approaches—in the social, economic, and political spheres—in order to achieve the objectives outlined by national and international initiatives, including the International Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities. Sometimes there are organizational problems related to a lack of coordination, harmonization, or communication amongst the various stakeholders involved in disability. Some organizations have problems related to rivalry for leadership, ineffective resource management, or other problems that do not allow for a truly democratic approach in decision making, and in the opinions expressed by the stakeholders involved. Other organizations unconsciously adopt discriminatory behavior. Some executives and local authorities do not want to be judged and thus consider that disabled people are just like anyone else—with the same rights and responsibilities as citizens. However, they tend to forget people with disabilities when they make major decisions on socio-economic development. This is what has happened in Burkina Faso (Agbovi, 2009).

However, many organizations do take an interest in strategic approaches such as inclusive development and capacity building. The issue of funds and resources, which was critical for the success of programs for people with disabilities, gives rise to the issue of good material and immaterial governance of these resources. States are showing and proving that they do wish to improve how they handle the issue of disability. However, restrictions relating to the bureaucratic structures, and social resistance related to the perceptions and portrayal of disability restrict the scope of action and the effectiveness of the efforts of States.

The objectives of the studies that were presented are in the line with this issue. They aimed to see how difficulties continue to hold back the quality of life of people with disabilities, despite the legal and political progress on the subject in several of these countries. The objective is also to provide political decision makers with significant data from the field and from the daily and actual experience of people with disabilities. The multi-stakeholder approach has come in line with this observation that reflects reality, by giving a voice to those who are the first to be affected by this issue. These studies also sometimes brought up the advantages and restrictions of the subject of disabilities. But ultimately, priority has been given to specific good practices in the organizations involved in this area. Regarding the methodologies used in these studies, we gave preference to methods that have been proven

in the scientific sphere. With the methodologies used, the results could be validated to a certain degree. The methodologies ranged from quantitative methods via questionnaires, to the qualitative method via interviews and Focus Groups, or via systematic document analysis. Although these studies did not go through reading committees or scientific journals, they are truly important scientific contributions to a field of research that has next to no content. One positive point about these studies is that they have at least provided starting points for reflections for other more advanced and in-depth studies—which could be published in specialized scientific journals, for example.

We also noted that the main recommendations included subsidizing Disabled People Organizations (DPOs) for the execution of their inclusive action plan, and preparing for an early diagnosis of disability in order to make its coverage more effective.

## Reading notes

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The eleven (11) research papers presented below are identified from the main bibliography; each of them being summarized. These researches were identified as most relevant to the Resource Center. The criteria are as follows:

- The connection between research results and the practical implementation of the principles of the UN Convention,
- The collaboration between researchers and field stakeholders,
- The identification of applied or applicable results to improve the quality of life of people with disabilities.
- The use of a rigorous research process.

- ❖ Agbovi K. **Représentation et perception du handicap par les cadres de l'administration publique et les autorités locales au Burkina Faso :** Etude réalisée dans le cadre du projet régional DECISIPH, HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL en Afrique de l'Ouest. 2009. 66 pages

**The summary sheet and document(s) are available in the Resource Center documentary database.**

### **Keywords**

Social perception / Raising Awareness. Services and care centers

### **Author's abstract**

Handicap International launched the present study on how senior public administration officials and local authorities portray and perceive disability. The goal was to have reliable data that could assist in decision making and in planning initiatives to find a long-term solution to attitudes that marginalize and exclude people with disabilities.

### **Commentary**

For this study, a qualitative and participatory methodological approach was suggested. The field survey was conducted in 2009 in Burkina Faso. It targeted senior public administration officials and local authorities. According to Agbovi, senior officials and local authorities sometimes unconsciously adopt discriminatory behavior in portraying disabilities. This is proven by the fact that as senior officials do not want to be judged, they consider that disabled people have the same civil rights and civic responsibilities, but they tend to forget them when they make major decisions in the socio-economic development of Burkina Faso. Some of the main socio-economic rights this report mentions are school enrollment, employment, and marriage. The report specifies their connection with the International Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities. This report is a response to the criteria related to the Convention—Article 9 (p. 50), Article 23 (p. 49), and Article 29 (p.54) in particular. The involvement of political decision makers in the field survey helped to give more visibility for the implementation of a policy benefiting disabled people. Moreover, the wealth of recommendations in this report can be used to put together an advocacy guide to benefit people with disabilities. Although this report was not published in a journal with a reading committee, it is useful for stakeholders on the field, especially for Disabled People Organizations (DPOs).

❖ Bakker L. **Perceptions of Child's Disability in the Moroccan Context: Religious Perspectives**. Master Thesis. Leiden University. 2010. 74p

This document is not available online.

### **Keywords**

Child and teenager

### **Author's abstract**

The opinions of the Moroccan parents resembled much more the thoughts of the Ash'arites than those of the Mu'tazilites. The parents had a clear anti-theodicy approach and believed they were not entitled to ask God for accountability. Still they formulated their own answers on the question why sufferings had befallen them. They perceived everything that passes in this world as proceeding out of the hand of God. God does what He wants and human beings should accept His will with patience and acceptance. One element of voluntarism was not present among the parents, namely that God is not necessarily bound to reward the good and to punish the bad. Rather they believed in a retributive God, who was going to reward them in the hereafter if they persevered in the test presented to them in this life.

### **Commentary**

Religious beliefs often relate to the idea that health problems are due to the will of God. This is a widespread belief in Morocco, because the 2004 Moroccan national survey showed that 49.5% of people interviewed said that disability is caused by the will of God. This shows the strong connection between religion and disability.

The researcher Lydia Bakker conducted a qualitative survey (December 2009 - January 2010), in various neighborhoods in Rabat. In this study, she spoke with eleven parents who had a disabled child. She also met with nine organizations for people with disabilities near Rabat. This research thesis was written in the Netherlands, and is an example of a rarely accessible academic document. We noted the religious explanations that nourish the spirit of the people interviewed in Morocco. Disability is perceived to be a form of divine punishment for a sin or as something they will be rewarded for in the future. These two interpretations come from Islamic tradition, and they often nurture the minds of people. The collaboration between the parents of disabled people and non-profit organizations supported the hypothesis that the Islamic vision influences how Moroccan society perceives disability.

The study often cites the International Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities, and the educational section in particular. Education is an important children's right. This is a major study because it integrates the religious dimension in the analysis of the causes of disability. Oftentimes, this religious dimension prevents parents from choosing a medical solution or inclusive education, as they accept their fate and wait for a reward in the

afterlife. Disabled People Organizations (DPOs) and parents of people with disabilities can use awareness guides and videos on religious beliefs to move toward an inclusive approach.

- ❖ Bayat Mojdeh. **Understanding views of disability in the Cote d'Ivoire.** Disability & Society. 2013. 15p

**The summary sheet and document(s) are available in the Resource Center documentary database.**

### **Keywords**

Child and teenager. Social perception

### **Author's abstract**

While there are several international initiatives advocating for rights of individuals with disabilities in their community, many African countries lag behind in taking any actions. This is an ethnographic study conducted in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire in West Africa, and examines the current programs and services for children with disabilities, and views of disability among the public. It utilizes individual and group interviews, field observations, surveys and examination of governmental documents. There are tremendous needs and shortcomings regarding disability programs. This might be due not only to a lack of resources but to the views of disabilities held by society.

### **Commentary**

This ethnographic study was conducted in Abidjan in Côte d'Ivoire, on a group of disability professionals, and a small group of parents of children with mental deficiencies. Although there are several international initiatives for the rights of disabled people in their communities, several African countries, including Côte d'Ivoire, do not implement all the measures.

The purpose of this study is to promote the rights of children with disabilities via two models, the medical model and the social model. The medical model aims to provide medical solutions by analyzing how pathologies evolve. The social model aims to correct negative perceptions of disability.

This is one of the rare articles on disability in West Africa that has been published in a scientific journal such as Disability & Society. The author of the article is Bayat Mojdeh, a researcher at DePaul University in the United States. The models that this study offers play an important role in correcting negative stereotypes of people with disabilities, and include the role of institutions that offer medical and psychological treatment. This publication could be used to draw up an awareness guide for professionals and parents of disabled people.

- ❖ Drame E., Kamphoff K. **Perceptions of disability and access to inclusive education in West Africa: a comparative case study in Dakar, Senegal.** International Journal of special education, Vol 29, No: 3. 2014. 14p

**The summary sheet and document(s) are available in the Resource Center documentary database.**

### **Keywords**

Social perception / Awareness raising, Education

### **Author's Abstract**

Educating students with disabilities in an inclusive general education setting has been shown to increase academic achievement, increase peer acceptance, increase self-esteem, create a richer friendship network, and have positive lifetime benefits (higher salaried jobs, independent living). In addition, inclusion can have benefits for students without disabilities. The West African nation of Senegal has pledged to increase inclusive education for students with disabilities by 2015. Issues that affect inclusive education for all in Senegal are access to schooling, community and societal perceptions of individuals with disabilities, poverty, and teacher training and pedagogy. To increase inclusive education for all in Senegal the country must increase access to schooling through physical accessibility and decentralization, create community awareness campaigns that increase knowledge of disabilities, and develop teacher training that fosters a student-centered pedagogy.

### **Commentary**

This recent article on inclusive education in Senegal was published by researchers from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in the United States. It includes a literature review and a qualitative study conducted during the 2011-2012 academic year, in two specialized centers for disabled children. One center was public, and the other one was private. This study includes a participatory assessment of the quality and integration of the service offer. This assessment was conducted via interviews, observations, and attending staff meetings. The researchers even developed ties with disability rights defenders. This helped to collect additional qualitative data related to the values, beliefs, behaviors, and the language related to people with disabilities in Dakar.

The field observations and interviews showed that financial problems were a major factor preventing disabled children from going to school. Many parents of disabled children must stay at home to take care of their children, which contributes to increasing their poverty. The objective is to convince parents to send their children to school by providing them with the required financial resources.

For people with disabilities, education is in a critical state. Besides the need to make efforts to promote inclusive education, these efforts must be identified, because it is difficult to precisely assess the number of PWD in Senegal. Moreover, there are few centers for disabled people. Researchers also highlight the best conditions for the private center (PRC), which has a reasonable number of children per class, as opposed to the public centers (PUCs), which are overloaded.

As for the FIRAH criteria, the Institutional Review Board for Human Subjects Protection of the University of Wisconsin validated this study. Moreover, the study mentions the International Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities, with particular respect to education. Collaboration with different field actors in specialized centers and disabled people in Senegal helped us to have a better understanding of how disability is perceived and how to define needs in terms of education. This publication highlights the low school enrollment rates among people with disability. There is a thus need for an advocacy guide to push public policy to strengthen inclusive education.

- ❖ Kaplan N. **Blindness Prevention in Mali: Are Improvements in Sight?**  
Disability Studies Quarterly. 2001

**The summary sheet and document(s) are available in the Resource Center documentary database.**

### **Keywords**

Access to health services

### **Author's abstract**

International public health policy for the prevention of disability is premised on the homogenizing stance that there is a universal, static conceptualization and experience of disability. A review of key debates in disability studies literature illustrates the extent to which subject formations, including the notion of the Disabled person, are shaped by social, cultural, political, and historical contexts. Research on blindness prevention in Mali is then presented as a case study of the lack of fit between WHO and local definitions of disability. In addition to engaging with disability studies scholarship, this article is also a response to the call made by medical anthropologists to think critically about the relationship between poverty and health inequalities.

### **Commentary**

This research on blindness prevention in Mali was conducted with IOTA (the African institute of Tropical Ophthalmology), which is part of the blindness prevention program of the World Health Organization (WHO). To ask questions, semi-structured interviews were used with the people involved—health sector administrators, eye surgeons, nurses, teachers, teenagers, adults, and the elderly in two rural villages in Mali. This research was designed to examine the condition of the visually impaired in Malian communities, and to study their perception of the obstacles to eye care. The research focused in particular on gender differences in healthcare behavior, keeping in mind that blindness is twice as common amongst Malian women than men.

The survey results reveal that the Malians interviewed faced several infrastructure problems such as access to water and electricity, malnutrition, and problems related to access to education and health services. These problems related to poverty intensify the disability, and hold back prevention programs.

The author highlights the various WHO programs. The author also cites the WHO prevention guides which have been distributed to various stakeholders working in the healthcare sector all over Mali. The guide indicates the procedures to determine the rate of trachoma, an eye infection that is extremely widespread. The guide also includes lists of questions for

healthcare workers on their practices and their concerns regarding the health of patients' eyes.

The importance of conducting this type of study is that over 90% of the visually impaired are from third-world countries, from Africa in particular. Thus, this leads to a reflection on the current relationship between poverty and unequal access to health care. Mali was selected as a country for research because it lacks infrastructure, which negatively impacts eye health. This is why prevention is required to reduce blindness in Mali.

Regarding the FIRAH criteria, this article has been published in a scientific journal with a reading committee. This article was produced with stakeholders mainly working in the health sector. Although the article does not directly mention the articles of the Convention, it does follow the model of the World Health Organization. The article thus offers an implementation tool, via a WHO guide that includes a blindness prevention model.

- ❖ Piatta F. **Bonnes pratiques pour une gouvernance locale inclusive en Afrique de l'Ouest**. Bénin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Sénégal, Sierra Leone, Togo. Handicap International. 2010. 140 p

**The summary sheet and document(s) are available in the Resource Center documentary database.**

### **Keywords**

National and European legislation and UN Convention. Services and Care centers. Mobilization of associations and self-representation

### **Author's abstract**

The purpose of this "Rights in Actions" report is to share positive experiences of disabled people participating in local governance processes in West Africa (Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo). The report analyzes these examples. It offers a set of practical recommendations on how to multiply and spread these good practices, for key stakeholders (local decision makers, DPO, and development partners).

### **Commentary**

This document presents a project that collected and analyzed data on good practices for local inclusive development via the initiative "Making it Work". The main principle was to use a multi-stakeholder approach, document examples of good practices, and produce and distribute a report on these good practices. The goal is to enable people with disabilities to become involved in public affairs, in line with the International Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (CRPD). The document thus presents experiences of good practices through inclusive activities of associations from Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo. Each of these experiences shows how people with disabilities, and the organizations and associations that represent them, can play a crucial role in establishing or consolidating a law-based approach in line with the Convention (CRPD). This local involvement of people with disabilities can also take place in a context of active citizenship— in which the person with disability positions themselves as an actor in local policy. People with disabilities can also become political, economic, and social leaders within their communities. It would thus be people with disabilities who establish policies and strategies with a law-based approach that is positive for and benefits all inhabitants.

The method that the "Making it Work" initiative produced emphasizes the success of these local experiences. This makes it possible to rectify and correct the discrepancies observed in other experiences, and take them toward more inclusiveness for people with disabilities in their communities.

The project results are related to concrete implementation of the principles of the UN Convention. This work also had a collaborative dimension between the researchers and the stakeholders on the field. This dimension was actually a central part of the project. This research is also applicable, as the idea of the work itself was to apply good practices and reproduce them in other countries and in other disability contexts. However, the research methodology was not validated by a reading committee.

- ❖ Bakhshi P., Gall F., Lopez D., Trani J.-F. **Le handicap dans les politiques publiques marocaines face au creusement des inégalités et à l'appauvrissement des familles avec des ayant droits handicapés.** Handicap International – Programme Maghreb / Collectif pour la promotion des droits des personnes handicapées. 2014. 132p

**The summary sheet and document(s) are available in the Resource Center documentary database.**

### **Keywords**

Access to goods and services. National and European legislation and UN Convention  
Family

### **Author's abstract**

This research was designed as part of the call for tenders "Disability in Moroccan public policies with specific regard to the deepening inequalities and poverty among families with a disabled dependent", launched by the LEAD project (Leadership and Empowerment for Action on Disability), and funded by the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI). The research was conducted from September 2013 to December 2014. This project aims to change public policies on disability in Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia. Its intends to do this by strengthening the expertise and advocacy capacity of organizations for people with disabilities (DPO) and their members, backed up with reliable scientific data. These policies for disabled people exist, but they still suffer from a lack of data to quantify the social, economic, and health situation of disabled people. The goal of this research is to provide concrete and solid information on the situation of households where disabled people live, on their quality of life, and the daily obstacles that they encounter.

### **Commentary**

This study on disability in Morocco took place in a context where the state's willingness to address the issue of disability is dealing with a severe lack of data and field research. Institutional and legal progress has helped to improve the consideration of the rights of people with disabilities. However, it seems that a lot of effort still has to be made to improve the social and economic situation of this population. Moreover, Moroccan social programs revolving around the issue of disability suffer from a lack of coordination. Coordination is lacking also because the needs, experiences, and expectations of the concerned populations have not been expressed. Along these lines, this study makes it possible to describe and to also scientifically analyze this reality.

To conduct this study, the research team that supervised this work began by a systematic literature review of the work on disability in the Maghreb, with a particular interest for literature on the cost of disability and the impact of multidimensional poverty on disability

situations. A quantitative survey was then conducted in a relatively representative region of Morocco, with a random sampling, to better generalize the survey results to all of Morocco. An interesting point in this quantitative survey is that it enabled a comparison between people with disabilities and people who don't have any. With this approach, we can better describe the specificities of people with disabilities in dealing with social issues (stigmatization and attitudes) and economic issues (education, health, and employment). In addition to this quantitative survey which used a questionnaire, there was also a qualitative survey that used face-to-face interviews and focus groups that confirmed what people with disabilities suffer daily. Indeed, the analysis of the discourse of the individuals interviewed shows that they are negatively—and even violently—portrayed, in both private and public circles. These results are coherent with those that the international literature on disability has highlighted. However, in terms of the context, the results confirm that effort still needs to be made to improve the situation of people with disabilities, despite the efforts that the state has made in this direction.

These research results are in line with the materialization of the principles of the UN Convention, especially in terms of local and national governance of policies relating to disability. Involving actors on the field is also a central part of this research process. The process involved both people with disabilities and decision makers on disability issues. The scientific rigor of this research makes it highly applicable to other potential contexts. A reading committee did not validate this research, but this doesn't take anything away from its quality of scientific rigor.

- ❖ N'Kekpo K. **Etude sur l'accès des Personnes Handicapées aux Technologies de l'Information et de la Communication au Togo. Quels sont les obstacles à une pleine utilisation ?** PROADIPH. Handicap International. FTAPH. 2012.

**The summary sheet and document(s) are available in the Resource Center documentary database.**

### **Keywords**

Accessibility. ITC

### **Author's abstract**

As part of the DECISIPH project, Handicap International, the Togolese federation of associations for disabled people (FETAPH), and the Malian association of disabled people (FEMAPH) are implementing the project "West African Regional Portal on the Rights and Inclusion of People with Disabilities". The purpose of this project is to strengthen the capacity of organizations for people with disabilities to collect, produce, and distribute information and data on disability in West Africa, and to make it easier to obtain information on disabled people, to improve their integration in society.

The expected results of the project are:

- ❖ Information on ICT accessibility for disabled people will be available in West Africa.
- ❖ The creation and hosting of a regional portal that can be used to communicate relevant and reliable information on disability in West Africa.
- ❖ The organizations of disabled people in the sub region will be able to access ICT and produce quality information on disability issues in West Africa.

### **Commentary**

In this study, the author uses the context in Togo to deal with the issue of the ICT access for people with disabilities (ICT refers to information and communication technologies). This study is in line with the Convention, with Article 21 establishing the need to take all measures to encourage and facilitate the accessibility of information for disabled people.

The study is based on a questionnaire that used surveys with associations from Togo that work on the issue of disability. It addresses four types of disability: visual, auditory, intellectual, and motor. A qualitative survey of managers of Disabled People Organisations (DPO) and of internet cafés in Togo was then conducted, to identify the main subjects related to people with disabilities using ICT.

The study results show that as expected, urban and rural areas use ICT differently, especially concerning the internet. The connection rate for internet in rural areas remains low compared to urban areas. The author analyzed another difference concerning the kinds of

disability. People with a visual disability tend to use radios and televisions more, with mobiles coming in third place. Computers and the internet are mainly used by those who have a high level of education (at least a 3-year higher education degree). People with an auditory disability use newspapers and televisions the most. However, the author shows that above all, these individuals prefer communication that involves the other person using sign language. It thus must be ensured that TV shows in sign language are broadcast. According to the author, people with an intellectual disability use ICT the least. People with a motor disability use ICT the most. In order of preference, they like using the television, the mobile phone, and the radio. However, these people use internet the least. This is for financial reasons, but also because they don't have the training to use this communication tool.

This research is in line with the principles and recommendations of the UN Convention concerning information access for people with disabilities. The researcher and stakeholders on the field worked together in the phase which surveyed people with disabilities and how they use the media and the internet. The results are truly applicable, as they can be used to establish policies and programs that aim to optimize information and media (and thus internet) access for people with disabilities, based on their type of disability. The research methodology was not validated by a reading committee. The funds and resources were not sufficient for a quantitative methodology that could have better generalized the findings, and that could have increased the chances of reproducing results in countries with a socio-economic context similar to Togo's.

- ❖ Campos Pinto P., Pinto T., Cunha A. **L'inclusion sociale des personnes en situation de handicap dans la wilaya d'Alger**. Handicap International – Programme Maghreb / Fédération Algérienne des Personnes Handicapées. 2014.

**The summary sheet and document(s) are available in the Resource Center documentary database.**

### **Keywords**

Access to goods and services. National and European legislation and UN Convention Social perception / Awareness raising

### **Author's abstract**

[Excerpt of the methodology]

This study aims to obtain a better understanding of the social situation of people with disabilities in the Wilaya of Algiers, by identifying the facilitators of and obstacles to their inclusion. As such, the following objectives were set:

- Conduct a household survey (quantitative study) to produce a general assessment of social inclusion of people with disabilities in the Wilaya of Algiers, with particular respect to their socioeconomic situation, the main difficulties in accessing services, and their social participation profile.
- Conduct in-depth interviews (qualitative study) on the individual experiences of people with disability, particularly on barriers to their inclusion and the implications for human rights, based on these experiences.
- Conduct a study on the architecture, operation, and complementarity of support services for people with disability in the Wilaya of Algiers, to highlight the dynamics of this system and the aspects of it that could be improved.

### **Commentary**

This study addresses the issue of the social inclusion of people with disabilities in the Wilaya of Algiers. It is conducted in an Algerian legal and political context that favors the rights of disabled people and their needs, especially in terms of free access to social services such as education, health, and social security. However, this system of social care for people with disabilities suffers some difficulties that are mostly related to coordination, planning, and the operational processes of these services. One of the objectives of this study is to analyze these processes and to identify the obstacles related to the social inclusion of people with disabilities in the Wilaya of Algiers. The scientific method used in the study started with a discussion on the concepts of inclusion and exclusion in general, and on the social inclusion of people with disabilities, in particular. A mixed method was then used for the survey, which included a questionnaire survey conducted on households, and a qualitative interview survey on people with disabilities. In addition to conducting these two surveys, the authors

analyzed the processes and operation of the services related to the social inclusion of these individuals.

The results of the survey show that although several social services (education, health, and facilities) are free, there are still problems accessing these services. These problems are often due to a lack of accessibility and information, and due to the fact that some professionals do not know how to welcome disabled people. Moreover, the qualitative study showed that people with disabilities continue to suffer a lack of respect, independence, affronts to their dignity, and discrimination. This makes material and institutional gains ineffective in making them feel they are on par with other citizens. Moreover, the operational analysis of services involved in the social inclusion of people with disabilities shows that transversal approaches and policies need to be implemented, to improve the coordination and effectiveness of social inclusion programs.

This study is in line with the enforcement of the articles of the UN Convention. Researchers and stakeholders on the field worked together by involving people with disabilities and their families in the data production. The mixed method that the researchers used also made it possible to gather the points of view of the decision makers involved in the administrative, institutional, and organizational processes related to the issue of disability in Algeria. The research is highly applicable as the scientific and documented process of this work make it applicable to other systems of social, economic, and political coverage of disability. A reading committee did not validate this research, but this doesn't take anything away from its high scientific quality.

- ❖ Etongué Mayer E. J. **Etude sur les droits des personnes handicapées au Cameroun**. L'Union Africaine des Aveugles (UAFA) et l'Association Nationale des Aveugles du Cameroun (ANAC). 2007. 159p

**The summary sheet and document(s) are available in the Resource Center documentary database.**

### **Keywords**

National and European legislation and UN Convention, access to justice

### **Author's abstract**

The data in this study comes from the experience of disabled people. The fieldwork focused on interviews with disabled people. These interviews took place where they live. A hundred (100) interviews were conducted in this way, on three (3) sites. Ninety-six (96) of these interviews were used in the analysis. The data in this study was analyzed based on the following elements: barriers experienced, violence and abuse, discriminatory attitudes, limited accessibility, positive life experiences, access to human rights principles, respecting differences, responses to abuse and discrimination, and systemic causes of discrimination.

### **Commentary**

In this study on the life of people with disabilities in Cameroon, the author shows how these people are affected in two ways—by the social and economic situation of the country, and by their individual disability situation.

The author used an interview survey to highlight the daily experience of these individuals in three main regions of Cameroon. The people with disabilities who were interviewed showed that they suffered from discrimination, prejudice, and inequality. The author even narrates stories of violence and abuse that the community, families, and schools themselves have suffered from. However, besides this negative situation, the author specifies that some experiences of people with disabilities are described in a positive light, especially within the community and in the professional sphere.

At the end of the study, the author presents some recommendations based on the opinions of the interviewed disabled people themselves. The most important recommendation is the need to be aware of the disability issues at all levels in the country— at the state, organizational, school, community, and family levels. The other recommendations include greater respect for people with disabilities, social and economic support, better legislation, political representation, and solidarity among people with disabilities, so that people with disabilities in Cameroon can have a better quality of life.

This research is in line with the enforcement of the principles of the UN Convention, especially in relation to the fight against social, economic, and political discrimination of

people with disabilities. The people with disabilities were involved at the qualitative survey stage. They made it possible to provide data and opinions based on this work. This research can be applied with a view to implementing awareness raising campaigns, and even campaigns to fight against this discrimination. This discrimination affects nearly all the private and public spheres of people with disabilities. The research methodology was not validated by a reading committee. It does have some weaknesses, mainly due to the restrictions and resources available to the researcher during the study.

- ❖ Bakhshi P. Gall F. Trani J.-F. **Le handicap dans les politiques publiques tunisiennes face au creusement des inégalités et à l'appauvrissement des familles avec des ayants droit en situation de handicap**. Handicap International – Programme Maghreb. Organisation Tunisienne de Défense des Droits des personnes Handicapées. 2014.

**The summary sheet and document(s) are available in the Resource Center documentary database.**

### **Keywords**

Access to goods and services. National and European legislation and UN Convention  
Family

### **Author's abstract**

This research was designed as part of the call for tenders "Disability in Tunisian public policies with specific regard to the deepening inequalities and poverty among families with a disabled dependent", launched by the LEAD project (Leadership and Empowerment for Action on Disability), and funded by the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI). The research was conducted from January 2012 to December 2014. This project aims to change public policies on disability in Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia. Its intends to do this by strengthening the expertise and advocacy capacity of Disabled People Organizations (DPO) and their members, backed up with reliable scientific data. These policies for disabled people exist, but they still suffer from a lack of data to quantify the social, economic, and health situation of disabled people. The goal of this research is to provide concrete and solid information on the situation of households where disabled people live, on their quality of life, and the daily obstacles that they encounter.

### **Commentary**

This report took place in a larger program concerning public policies in Tunisia. The main interest of the report is to respond to a severe lack of data and field research. It also allows to understand the social and economic situation of disabled people in Tunisia. This report was realized on the basis of a literature reviews, surveys, and data analysis, and represents an important source of information. Moreover, field stakeholders were involved at all stages of the research project.

## Annotated bibliography

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The bibliography contains the researches that have been identified during the mapping on applied research in East Africa. These references were selected for their relevance to the Resource Center criteria. However, flexibility had to be adopted in the application of the criteria in order to better report on the needs in terms of research.

A link to each research is available by clicking on the title (the majority of them are on free access).

The link leads to the full notice into the Resource Center documentary database for the references presented in reading notes.

- ❖ Agbovi K. [Représentation et perception du handicap par les cadres de l'administration publique et les autorités locales au Burkina Faso](#). Handicap International en Afrique de l'Ouest. 2009. 66p

HI (Handicap International) launched the present study on how senior public administration officials and local authorities portray and perceive disability. The goal was to have reliable data that could assist in decision making and in planning initiatives to find a long-term solution to attitudes that marginalize and exclude people with disabilities.

- ❖ Bakker L. Perceptions of Child's Disability in the Moroccan Context: Religious Perspectives. Master Thesis. Leiden University. 2010. 74p (not available online)

This research thesis presents religious perceptions of disability in Morocco.

- ❖ Bakhshi P. Gall F. Trani J.-F. [Le handicap dans les politiques publiques tunisiennes face au creusement des inégalités et à l'appauvrissement des familles avec des ayants droit en situation de handicap](#). Handicap International – Programme Maghreb. Organisation Tunisienne de Défense des Droits des personnes Handicapées. 2014.

This survey allows us to understand how disability can have significant financial and economic repercussions, not just for the community, but for the households themselves as well. The relationship between disability and poverty is presented in the Tunisian context. This link is shown as a vicious circle in which people with disabilities are penalized by both their disability and by physical, economic, and social limits and restrictions due to their situation.

- ❖ Bakhshi P. Gall F. Trani J.-F. [Le handicap dans les politiques publiques marocaines face au creusement des inégalités et à l'appauvrissement des familles avec des ayants droit handicapés](#). Handicap International – Programme Maghreb / Collectif pour la promotion des droits des personnes handicapées. 2014. 132p

This document presents a wide-ranging survey in Morocco. It aims to describe and analyze the socioeconomic situation of disabled people. Based on a quantitative and qualitative survey, this survey shows the social, economic, and emotional disadvantages that disabled people in Morocco suffer from.

- ❖ Bayat M. [Understanding views of disability in the Cote d'Ivoire](#). Disability & Society. 2013. 15p

The purpose of this study is to promote the rights of children with disabilities via an analysis of two models, the medical model and the social model. The study also highlights the role of education in correcting negative stereotypes of people with disabilities, and includes the role of the institutions.

- ❖ Boggs D., Pryor W. [Une réadaptation de qualité dans le contexte de développement international](#). Handicap International. 2013. 56p

This report presents the accomplishments and challenges in the traditional area of activity of Handicap International—physical and functional rehabilitation. This report reviews the main difficulties observed in each country where HI runs rehabilitation programs. Concerning Africa, the report highlights the role of the African Federation of Orthopaedic Technicians, one of the most advanced and largest organizations in French-speaking Africa on rehabilitation issues.

- ❖ Brus A. [L'accès aux services des personnes handicapées dans 7 pays d'Afrique de l'Ouest](#) (synthèse). Projet DECISIPH / Handicap International, 2010-2011.

This report shows how the experience of seven African countries can contribute to the database on the access of people with disability to services. Although the results of each experience can't be generalized to other countries, they can still provide ideas and considerable data on access to various social, economic, and institutional services.

- ❖ [Cahier d'Expériences DECISIPH : Bénin, Burkina Faso, Libéria, Mali, Niger, Sénégal, Sierra Léone, Togo](#). Handicap International 2013.

This report presents experiences in advocacy for people with disabilities in some countries of French-speaking Africa. In addition to the advocacy actions, the document presents feedback on the experiences of awareness campaigns on the health rights and access for people with disabilities.

- ❖ Campos Pinto P., Pinto T., Cunha A. [L'inclusion sociale des personnes en situation de handicap dans la wilaya d'Alger](#). Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal. Handicap International – Programme Maghreb / Fédération Algérienne des Personnes Handicapées. 2014.

This study was conducted in the Wilaya of Algiers. It shows that people with disabilities generally have a satisfactory life and have integrated well in society. Both government efforts and initiatives of the people themselves have enabled them to improve their everyday quality of life. However, despite this progress, people with disabilities experience obstacles such as accessibility and social stigma. This means that their daily lives still need to be improved. At the same time, there is a need to strengthen current political and institutional gains.

- ❖ [Données relatives à l'appareillage orthopédique et à la réadaptation fonctionnelle 2010-2011](#). Fédération Africaine des Techniciens Orthopédistes. 2013. 40p

This document presents data on rehabilitation treatment in several African countries. It shows both the obstacles to and facilitators of rehabilitation. The document also highlights the lack of reliable data and information on this subject, across the countries examined.

- ❖ Drame E. and Kamphoff K. [Perceptions of disability and access to inclusive education in West Africa: a comparative case study in Dakar, Senegal](#). International Journal of special education, Vol 29, No: 3. 2014. 14p

This article on inclusive education in Senegal offers a better understanding of perceptions of disability and a definition of educational needs in the country. It highlights the low school enrollment rate of disabled people and the importance of inclusive education.

- ❖ Etongué Mayer E. J. [Etude sur les droits des personnes handicapées au Cameroun](#). L'Union Africaine des Aveugles (UAFA) et l'Association Nationale des Aveugles du Cameroun (ANAC). 2007.

In this study, the author shows that despite the legal and institutional arsenal devoted to disability in Cameroon, people with disabilities suffer from discrimination and violence in society. Based on everyday life situations, the author shows how most of these people are stigmatized, excluded, and do not have a satisfactory social or professional life. However, other people with disabilities are able to lead a normal life without being discriminated against or stigmatized.

- ❖ Gansore N. [Inclusive Education in Burkina Faso: Teacher Training](#). 2006

This article highlights problems related to accessibility and tools for children with disabilities in Burkina Faso. The study emphasizes the priority that Handicap International gives to inclusive education in its development programs, especially for children with special needs.

- ❖ Gerbier B. [Comment améliorer l'accès aux soins de réadaptation pour les plus pauvres ? Evaluation de trois Fonds d'Equité mis en œuvre par Handicap International au Rwanda, Mali et Togo](#). Handicap International. 2009. 65p

This report offers a comparative analysis of three experiences of health equity funds in Rwanda, Mali, and Togo. These experiences show how these funds contribute to improving the rehabilitation of people with disabilities in these three countries. They also make it possible to draw up recommendations to improve the operation and effectiveness of the funds in these three countries—and above all, for situations where this experience should be reproduced elsewhere.

- ❖ Handicap International. [Good practices for the economic inclusion of people with disabilities in developing countries: funding mechanisms for self-employment](#). Handicap International. 2006. 63p

This report showcases good practices, strategies, tools, and operational methods to ensure that development projects for people with disabilities are effective. It highlights micro-credit and micro-enterprises as a lever for economic development for the program beneficiaries.

- ❖ HERAUD M. [Les représentations du handicap au Burkina Faso. Processus de marginalisation et d'intégration des personnes en situation de handicap.](#) Ouagadougou. Handicap International. 2005. 96 p.

This study is part of the multi-year strategy of the Handicap International program in Burkina Faso. The objective of the study is to refine the knowledge of disabled people in Burkina Faso, by examining the portrayals related to disability in two regions of the country.

- ❖ Kaplan N. [Blindness Prevention in Mali: Are Improvements in Sight?](#) Disability Studies Quarterly. 2001

This article presents the results of blindness research in Mali. It was conducted with the African Institute of Tropical Ophthalmology (IOTA). The research was conducted as part of the WHO program on blindness prevention. The importance of conducting this type of study is that over 90% of the visually impaired are from third-world countries, from Africa in particular.

- ❖ Lachheb M., Moualla N. [An athletic and disabled body: considering the body experience of Tunisian athletes with physical disabilities.](#) ALTER, volume 3, issue 4. 2009. 15p (paying access)

This article analyzes the bodily experience of physically disabled Tunisian athletes who play sports at a high level. The study was based on a group of interviews. It shows that for athletes, physical impairment is expressed as a deviation from the norm. However, the specific way that the body is used in sports, and taking the body to peak performance, leads the body to confront another one. This leads the athlete to dismiss, and even to forget their disability.

- ❖ Lang R. [The United Nations Convention on the right and dignities for persons with disability: A panacea for ending disability discrimination?](#) ALTER. July–September 2009 (paying access)

This article covers the thirty years of political and intellectual history that led up to the International Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities in 2008. It emphasizes the fact that the convention was necessary but not sufficient to decrease discrimination against disabled people. This is why there must be strong political will to materialize the objectives of this convention.

- ❖ Lare B. [Rapport du diagnostic local inclusif du village de Mission Tové.](#) Handicap International. 2008.

This report presents a study conducted in a village in Togo with vulnerable inhabitants, and makeshift social and economic infrastructure. In this context, this study shows how people with disabilities manage social and community stigma, and are confronted with difficulties related to this structural vulnerability.

- ❖ [Le Guide Rapide à l'intention des Enseignants & Éducateurs de Personnes Vivant avec l'Albinisme](#). Tanzanie. Under The Same Sun. 2011.

This practical guide is meant for teachers and educators who work with children living with albinism. It offers practical and operational advice to improve the physical and emotional adaptation of children living with albinism, especially in school settings.

- ❖ Marie S. et al. [Domaine Services de Réadaptation](#). Rapport annuel. Handicap International. 2009. 43p

This document presents the traditional activity of Handicap International—rehabilitation. Better knowledge and an attempt to target complex strategies revolving around rehabilitation also can provide better information on these strategies, and can also enable exchange on experiences and good practices amongst stakeholders directly or indirectly involved in rehabilitation, across the zones where Handicap International works.

- ❖ Miszkurkaa M., Zunzuneguia M. V., Langloisa E. V., Freemanb E. E., Kouandac S., Haddada S., [Gender differences in mobility disability during young, middle and older age in West African adults](#). Global Public Health: An International Journal for Research, Policy and Practice, Volume 7, Issue 5. 2012. 495-508 pp (paying access)

This study gives statistical results on factors that impact the mobility of people with disabilities.

- ❖ Mizunoya S., Mitra S. [Is there a disability gap in employment rates in developing countries?](#) Fordham University – Department of Economics, Discussion Paper Series. USA. October 2012. 50p.

This article analyzes the differences in employment between people who do and do not have disabilities in 15 developing countries. The results of the World Health Survey (WHS) show that multi-disabled people suffer the most from unemployment.

- ❖ Musoke G., Geiser P. [Handicap et adaptation](#). Le Réseau Africain de RBC (CAN). 2013. 135p

This book presents an assessment of the theoretical and practical gains in community-based rehabilitation in Africa. It is important for the community to establish a rights-based approach to rehabilitation, for and by itself. However, this book shows that using CBR on the field remains reliable, that it needs a higher profile, and needs feedback that can improve it.

- ❖ N'Kekpo N. [Etude sur l'accès des Personnes Handicapées aux Technologies de l'Information et de la Communication au Togo](#). PROADIPH. Handicap International. FTAPH. 2012.

This study shows how people with disabilities in Togo use (or do not use) information communication and technologies (ICT). The technologies that are preferred depend on the

disability, and also depend on the level of education and the resources for accessing them among the population of people with disabilities.

- ❖ Norman W. [Water, sanitation and disability in West Africa](#). The Collaboratory for Strategic Partnerships and Applied Research. Messiah College. 2010. 143p.

This study was conducted as part of two development programs in West Africa, WAWI (West Africa Water Initiative), and MRWP (World Vision's Mali Rural Water). The study targets the rural areas of Mali and Niger in particular, where health problems lead to two disadvantages, especially for women. This is because the main role of women is related to their ability to draw water and do the housekeeping. The main objective of this study is to integrate disabled people into these programs.

- ❖ Pakouyowou M. [Mise en place d'une monographie Togo comportant des recommandations pour le renforcement du plan national de réadaptation](#). Mémoire de Master. Université de Lorraine. 2012. 80p

This document presents masters-level university work. It aims to produce a monograph on rehabilitation in Togo. Although resources for this monograph were limited, it does at least recognize that there is a lack of applied research and studies on the issue of rehabilitation. This is not only in Togo, but in the rest of French-speaking Africa as well. These studies can be used to put together a realistic picture on the issue of rehabilitation, and can be used to strengthen advocacy for disabled people.

- ❖ Piatta F. [Bonnes pratiques pour une gouvernance locale inclusive en Afrique de l'Ouest](#). Bénin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Sénégal, Sierra Leone, Togo. Handicap International. 2010. 140p

This document shows how it was possible to deal with disability with a human rights-based approach, but at a local level. Through a compendium of experiences and good practices in West African countries, one can see how various organizations, associations, and countries implement policies and good practices for local advocacy for including disability across the overall concept of human rights.

- ❖ Rieser R. for UNICEF REAP Project. [Teacher Education for Children with Disabilities: Literature Review World of Inclusion](#). 2013. 163p

This literature review was performed for UNICEF, to examine the education of people with disabilities. The review emphasized inclusive education experiences and teaching methods to reduce the gap in access to education.

- ❖ Simonnot C. [Prise en charge des personnes en situation de handicap en Libye](#). Rapport d'évaluation pour Handicap International. 2011. 91p

This study was conducted for HI (Handicap International). Its purpose was to analyze the situation of people with disabilities in Libya, and existing organizations that care for them. Its

main objective is to offer approaches for a project that can help to reduce disability situations, by strengthening care capacity, especially for functional rehabilitation and prosthetic fitting, and to promote the participation of these people in Libyan society.

- ❖ [Surmonter les obstacles au développement de la réadaptation bonne pratiques pour les plans nationaux](#). Actes du 7<sup>e</sup> congrès FATO 2013.

This booklet is from the African Federation of Orthopaedic Technicians (FATO). It contains several experiences on rehabilitation policies and governance. Its main observation is that oftentimes in many African countries, the key to effective rehabilitation is the coherence of these policies and programs.

- ❖ Swartz L. [Five challenges for disability-related research in sub-Saharan](#). African Journal of Disability; Vol 3, No 2 .2014.

In this article, the author shows the challenges of disability research in Africa and in general. The article thus brings up issues related to the resources and funds for researchers, problems related to defining concepts related to disability, the inclusion of the stakeholders affected by disability, and methodologies used for the research. However, the author shows that although there are difficulties and shortcomings, the research on disability in Africa is vast, dynamic, and promising.

- ❖ Thiam A. [Etude sur les stratégies de prise en charge et d'intégration socio-économique des personnes handicapées au Sénégal](#). Centre de ressources pour la promotion des personnes handicapées (CRPH). 2005. 87p

This study presents the results of a survey of organizations and institutions in Senegal which are primarily focused on disability. This study shows the strengths and weakness of the system for caring for people with disabilities, as well as the opportunities and constraints of these individuals with disabilities. The author presents a set of recommendations to improve this care.

The present document was conducted as part of the Resource Center of Applied Research and Disability in partnership with FIRAH (International Foundation of Applied Disability Research) and CDIPRH (Association for an inclusive development and the promotion of research on disability). The fulfilment of this work was entrusted to Wassila Benkirane and Abdellah Zouhairi (Hassan II University) with coordination by CDIPRH (Mohammed El Khadiri). The full report was designed by FIRAH (Cécile Vallée / Resource Center Applied Research and Disability).

The goal of this literature review is to report on existing knowledge about applied research on Maghreb and West Africa, providing readers with access to a brief synthesis of knowledge written from selected documents, an initial list of documents submitted in an annotated bibliography and reading notes for those we consider a priority according to the selection criteria.

This work, which spans several thematic areas, does not intent to be comprehensive but to identify the results and knowledge generated by research that could be useful for field stakeholders in order to improve the quality of life and social participation for people with disabilities.

This literature review concerns the achievements of a project which started in 2014 and will last three years. The aim of this project is the dissemination and promotion of applied research results and disability to researchers and field stakeholders of the African continent (particularly to Disabled People Organizations), in order to increase knowledge on the situation of people with disabilities and the recommendations made to improve their social participation.