



University of Gondar Community Based Rehabilitation (UoG-CBR) Program 2019 accomplishments

1. Project Information:

- Principal project Director: Dr.Solomon Mekonnen,
- Principal project Coordinator: Ato Solomon Dawud
- Co- project Coordinators: Ato Zemene Assefa, Ato Wondosen Mitiku
- Number of direct Beneficiaries: 1,500
- Name of Woreda/s beneficiaries are living in: East Belesa, West Belesa, Gondar town, Wogera, Debark, Dabat, G/Zuria, Janamora, Takussa, Dembia and Chilga Woredas.

2. Introduction :

According to World Bank and WHO report, a total of 17.6% of Ethiopian population is estimated to be living with some sort of disability. Due to the poverty, Access to rehabilitation services is very limited especially for persons with disability living in rural corners of the country. Therefore Community based rehabilitation strategy is an approach which is suitable for such countries like Ethiopia and University of Gondar established CBR.

3. Objectives :

- To enable government sectors and community level structures to become actively engaged in disability inclusive development at all levels and aspects of society in the zones by the end of 2020.
- To improve living conditions of PWDs in the zones by initiating, strengthening and supporting rehabilitation, self-development and social inclusion practices by the end of 2020.

4. Methodology/approach –

The program uses a Community based rehabilitation strategy with a holistic approach focusing on the following matrix;

5. Project activities performed – Summarize major activities of the project

- Youth with disabilities were supported with 5 months vocational training, and after the training, 24 Youth with disabilities and 13 mothers of children with disabilities got 6000.00 a start up seed money support for each for economic improvement support.



Photo: IGA supported PwD.

- Experience Sharing of 28 School Directors and special needs education teachers conducted for five days in Addis Ababa.



Photos: School directors and special need teachers experience visit at Addis



Photos: CBR team from Austria Venna, University of Gondar and Light for the World technical support of schools.

- A total of 541 children and youth getting continuous home based rehabilitation service by the program field workers and supervisors.



Photos: Home based rehabilitation services of UoG-CBR field workers

- Different assistive devices provided for 182 PwDs like wheelchairs, crutches and canes.



Photos: PwDs assistive device provisions

- 102 CwDs got medical care support services in district level and higher hospital including Addis Abeba referral services.



Photos: PwDs medical service provisions

- In partnership with the zonal sport office 130 YWDs got complete sport t-shirts and 14 sport officers and 7 CBR supervisors have got training of trainers on para Olympics sport.



Photos: Para Olympic Sport and cultural events inclusion support of PwDs.

- In one district field visit have done jointly with key Governmental representatives and DPOs representatives.



Photo: Joint field visit with key stakeholders and DPOs.

- 22 DPOs chair persons those come from different districts among three zones have got experience sharing from Awi zone DPOs federations.



Photos: Experience Sharing among DPO leaders at Awi Zone

- Disability awareness and rehabilitation service training has been provided for government actors like; district women children affairs (46), social affair officers (24), sector disability mainstreaming to 57 focal persons of 12 districts (347 people in woreda level), 29 health extension program coordinators from 26 health centers and 61 health extensions workers.



Photos: Trainings on disability mainstreaming and health issues of PwDs.

- One review workshop for university of Gondar disability related departments, more than 30 students of social work, physiotherapy, sociology and special need have used the program for practice and two disability researches were supported.



Photo: Different faculty members of UoG workshop

- Pediatrics rehabilitation training has been given for all CBR FWs and supervisors. A total of 42 (F 35) CBR field workers and supervisors.



6. Major Outcomes of the project –

- A total of 2654 persons with disabilities have obtained better health care, education support, social participation and economical benefit with the rehabilitation services.
- A total 6637 people have made awareness raising programs in different disability issues.
- Disability related departments have benefited from the program for their students through research and community practices.
- More than 635 government officials and officers have been equipped with the required disability awareness.
- Schools were capacitated to accommodate the needs of CWDs and education officials, supervisors started to take action to enhance inclusion and enrollment.
- An official health extension and community worker training guideline in local language has been developed to enhance health care service provision for CWDs through early screening and rehabilitation.
- Organizations of PWDs became strong and influential in their ability to negotiate with district administration and other NGOs in their localities.
- 22 DPOs chair persons those are come from different districts in the zones have got experience sharing from Awi zone DPOs federations.
- Most district DPOs are being members of district councils.

7. Future direction-

- The program is in the process to include the remaining supervisors in the university budgetary system.
- The approach focuses on local government and capacity building hence a better sustainability outcome.
- Strong and jointly field level monitoring follow up is required.
- More focus on development of guidelines to be used by different government and community actors compiling experiences.
- Higher level advocacy and lesson sharing to scale up program best practices.
- Working on challenges of mental health rehabilitation.

8. References;

- UoG-CBR program annual report documents & reports.