



STRATEGIC PLAN

Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) Africa Network

2021-2025

The Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) Africa Network (CAN) was founded in 2001 in Uganda when stakeholders came together to share ideas and experiences relating to CBR. They identified that establishing an organization could help them to continue to learn from each other and share knowledge across Africa to benefit all stakeholders involved in addressing the needs and rights of persons with disabilities.

At the time of CAN's founding there was hardly any sharing of knowledge and experiences among CBR/CBID implementers within Africa and internationally. This has remained limited over the years, which has continued to undermine the progress of CBR/CBID practice. On one hand many African countries have embraced the approach and yet lack the documented evidence to eloquently defend or share their strategies. On the other hand, there has been a dearth of information about CBR/CBID training in Africa, with many training programmes remaining unknown to those running similar trainings and to those who would want to take courses under such programmes.

Through CAN, CBR workers have an opportunity to voice their experiences and share knowledge on CBR/CBID good practice, to impact better service delivery resulting in improved access to rights and quality of life for persons with disabilities in Africa. Knowledge sharing is now more possible in line with the CBR Guidelines, and achievement of rights for persons with disabilities ties in very well with the CRPD that many African countries have ratified. CAN's main channels of information sharing are its website (<http://www.afri-can.org>), its Facebook page, Twitter handle, a YouTube account and a newsletter produced once or twice a year.

CAN has also successfully held six CBR Conferences in different African countries: Uganda (2001), Malawi (2004), South Africa (2007), Nigeria (2010), Kenya (2015) and Zambia (2018). These offer another unique Opportunity for networking and information sharing. Connected to each CBR Conference CAN has published six CBR Books on different themes of the conferences, and a set of Resolutions are also developed at each conference reflecting the priorities of the sector at that time.

By the time of writing this strategic plan the membership of CAN had grown exponentially and this was close to 3000 members across all the countries of Africa. These are individuals and organizations who have voluntarily filled in the organization's membership registration form.

Over the years CAN has organised fifteen Writing Skills workshops in thirteen African countries to develop skills of its members in documenting CBR/CBID practices. Some of the countries that have benefited from such workshops include Egypt, Ghana, Malawi, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Uganda and Zambia. It has always been hoped that the CBR/CBID implementers trained would share with CAN their stories of success and challenges, which should become learning points for others when published on any of CAN's media channels.

Our aim is to become an established hub of information on disability and inclusive development; and a strong network of CBR/CBID practitioners working with and for persons with disabilities in Africa.

We will achieve this by providing support to stakeholders to document and share experiences and a wide range of information and learning opportunities to ensure that persons with disabilities and CBR/CBID practitioners can be involved in the promotion and development of CBR in Africa.

We will promote best practice in line with the WHO CBR Guidelines at local, national, regional and international levels, and ultimately at policy level, so that the rights of persons with disabilities are achieved. Through openness and transparency, we will build the capacity of CAN and create internal policies and systems that will promote the involvement of persons with disabilities and those working in CBR interventions, and clearly illustrate how our resources have been used.

Over the next five years, CAN will focus on three strategic objectives:

1. Develop a strong CBR information management and sharing capacity
2. Establish a robust network for promoting effective CBR and Disability Inclusive Development in Africa
3. Strengthen CAN's organizational capacity for effective delivery of the strategic plan

Vision, Mission and Core Values

Vision:

Equalisation of opportunities, social integration and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities in Africa.

Mission:

CAN exists to promote CBR networking and access to appropriate information on disability and inclusive development for all people in Africa.

Our Identified Values

- Rights-based approach
- Full participation of persons with disabilities and their families
- Strong and positive partnerships
- Equality, honesty and respect
- Transparency
- Accountability

Strategic Objectives and Key outcomes**Strategic objective 1: To develop a strong CBR information management and sharing capacity****Key outcomes**

- i) Systems established for the comprehensive acquisition and management of information relevant to CBR/CBID from all stakeholder groups and regions
- ii) Relevant information on existing disability and CBR/CBID programmes available in a variety of formats and languages through a range of channels to a broad range of stakeholders.
- iii) Writing skills training and other information sharing capacities of CBR/CBID stakeholders enhanced
- iv) Information about CBR/CBID training modules and courses in Africa gathered and shared.

Strategic Objective 2: To establish a robust network for promoting effective CBR and Disability Inclusive Development in Africa**Key outcomes**

- i) A network of CBR/CBID Associations and programmes established for information sharing and partnership
- ii) Regional forums, conferences and the Global CBR congress organized and attended for information sharing and raising CAN's profile
- iii) The CBR Guidelines, CRPD and SDGs promoted as tools for Disability inclusive development

Strategic Objective 3: To strengthen CAN's organizational capacity for effective delivery of the strategic plan

Key outcomes

- i) CAN governance systems and policies made comprehensive and compliant with international standards
- ii) Sustainability of CAN ensured through implementing strong partnership and resource mobilization strategies
- iii) The Board of Directors operating effectively and efficiently in line with CAN's Constitution and Board Charter
- iv) CAN secretariat operating effectively and efficiently with skilled staff working to clear job descriptions and regular evaluations
- v) The CAN brand and identity promoted through a wide range of channels.

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