Learning, Acting, & Building for Rehabilitation in Health Systems

June 21, 2022
To contribute to global efforts to **strengthen rehabilitation in health systems** and support the development of health systems that are **inclusive of rehabilitation care** including **assistive technology**.

**What are we aiming for?**

**Our goals and objectives**
Where are we working?

Country Programs
What is our implementation approach?

Y1: Gap analysis

- Stakeholder engagement and technical support to in-country sectors and partners including MoH
- Cross-cutting areas of focus including Gender Equality and Social Inclusion, Knowledge Management, MEAL

Y2-3: Formative work

Y2-5: Solutions

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What steps must be taken to assess the status of rehabilitation in affected countries?

ReLAB-HS is supporting countries to carry out, disseminate results of, and act on key assessments:

- STARS
- rATA
- ATA-C
- GROWE
How can cooperation and assistance be strengthened to improve rehabilitation services in mine affected countries, and in particular, in rural and remote areas? How do we improve accessibility and affordability?

ReLAB-HS is

- Engaging with the full spectrum of stakeholders to develop context appropriate solutions
- Integrating rehabilitation and assistive technology services into networks of care at all levels of the health system, starting with communities, including in rural contexts
- Developing telerehabilitation technology that can be integrated in service delivery models
- Analyzing costs and financing options for rehabilitation services to inform local and national decision-making

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What are the challenges in acquiring assistive products in a sustainable manner? How can we ensure availability, accessibility and affordability of assistive technology?

- ReLAB-HS is conducting assistive technology journey mapping and market research to inform creation of locally owned AT hubs within networks of care.
- We will also foster local solutions to these challenges through accelerator grants with catalytic seed funding and technical assistance to local innovators and entrepreneurs in the rehabilitation and assistive technology space.
Rehabilitation is often considered ‘a luxury and non-essential health service’ and a service that is ‘only for persons with disabilities/mine survivors’. How do we address these myths about rehabilitation?

- Anybody may need rehabilitation at some point in their lives, because of conditions present at birth, injury, surgery, disease, illness, or because their functioning has declined with age.

- ReLAB-HS is working with end users and people with rehabilitation needs, including persons with disabilities, along with rehabilitation professionals, to co-develop solutions to strengthen health systems.
Achievements to date

- Successful engagement with key stakeholders, yielding better collaboration and capacity building
- Launched the ReLAB-HS Resource Repository, making available current, evidence-based resources to health care professionals to strengthen services
- Launched annual Massive Open Online Course, equipping health care professionals with comprehensive knowledge of rehabilitation
- Advancing the blueprint for Global Rehabilitation Leadership Institute, expecting to host the first offering in August
Achievements to date

• **Key assessments underway**, including journey mapping and market research for mobility-related assistive technology in Pakistan and Uganda; and STARS in Uganda

• **Developing tele-rehabilitation technology**, using a person-centric approach

• **Produced Rehabilitation in Disaster and Conflict courses** in response to the conflict in Ukraine

• Successfully advocated for inclusion of disability and rehabilitation content in the community health extension worker curriculum in Uganda
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