



## International Conference: Evidence in Global Disability and Health

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## **ABSTRACT**

**Title:**                    **Disability inclusion and exclusion in development and humanitarian response: a state of the evidence.**

**Abstract text (limited to 300 words, should include background, methods, results and conclusions):**

### **Background and methods**

Lack of awareness and rigorous evidence often impedes understanding and action on disability inclusion. A rigorous literature review was carried out to examine the available evidence on disability inclusion in development and humanitarian response. The paper aimed at bringing development and humanitarian professionals up to date on disability inclusion and to build upon work in this area for the 2030 agenda.

### **Results and conclusions**

It found a growing body of evidence that disability and poverty are highly correlated, especially multi-dimensional poverty. Disability is both a cause and consequence of poverty, and poverty and disability reinforce each other, contributing to increased vulnerability and exclusion. Data shows that people with disabilities in low and middle-income countries are poorer than their nondisabled peers in terms of access to education, healthcare, employment, income, justice, social support and civic involvement; and are more likely to experience multiple deprivations. They encounter inaccessible transport, infrastructure and digital technology. Children and adults with disabilities have a higher risk of physical and sexual violence. People with disabilities are often excluded from disaster management and risk reduction processes; and conflicts and disasters have a disproportionate impact on them. Humanitarian response is often inaccessible. The exclusion of people with disabilities appears to have significant economic as well as social costs, caused by losses in productivity and human potential. Intersecting inequalities and personal factors may influence the experience of disability and not all people with disabilities are equally disadvantaged. The evidence makes it clear that these inequalities are a result of barriers, rather than any inherent limitations of people with disabilities. Some research indicates that disability inclusion could lead to increased earnings and labour productivity; increased tax revenues; improved individual and family well-being; and a more inclusive and accessible society for all. Nevertheless, more evidence is still needed.

**Deadline for abstract submission: November 30, 2015**

Please submit your abstract to: [disabilitycentre@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:disabilitycentre@lshtm.ac.uk)

**Restricted to one first author abstract per participant.**

If you have any questions, please write to:

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