



International Conference: Evidence in Global Disability and Health

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ABSTRACT

Title: **Sustaining ability of the physical rehabilitation sector using the participatory sustainability analysis process methodology to assist with systems level planning**

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

The rehabilitation sector is not usually at the top of policy-makers' agendas which often results in limited funding and makes the task of building sustainability challenging at field level. To address this challenge, Handicap International (HI) and the International Centre for Evidence on Disability (ICED) at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) jointly developed the Sustainability Analysis Process (SAP)¹ methodology as a participatory tool to analyse and measure the sustainability of the physical rehabilitation sector.²

Specifically, the SAP aims to combine a scientific approach with a participatory approach through engagement with key sector actors, and define and measure practical sustainability indicators that can be used to monitor progress according to six components of a Sustainability Framework^{3,4}. By the end of 2015, HI will have supported 13 SAP rehabilitation workshops in the following countries: Cambodia, Liberia, Nepal (x3), Sierra Leone, Somaliland (x2), Burundi, Haiti, Laos, Bolivia and Chad.

Through the SAP workshops, country-level sustainability indicators⁵ have been developed and have assisted with rehabilitation sector systems level planning. Three case studies from Burundi, Laos and Nepal will be highlighted to demonstrate SAP's use to assist in the development of national rehabilitation action plans/strategies along the continuum with close synergies to WHO health systems initiatives.

It is anticipated that the country level indicators will continue to assist with sector planning, and cross-country analysis will be shared widely with global rehabilitation sectors and UN cluster systems in emergencies. HI will support ongoing continuity with this participatory workshop methodology given the SAP is and will be ongoing in these complex rehabilitation contexts.

Deadline for abstract submission: November 30, 2015

Please submit your abstract to: disabilitycentre@lshtm.ac.uk

¹ Blanchet, Karl, Boggs, Dorothy (2012) "[The Sustainability Analysis Process: the case of physical rehabilitation](#)" Lyon: Handicap International

² Sustaining Ability : initial study <http://www.sustainingability.org/about-us/sustainability-study/index.html>

³ Sarriot E., et al (2008)

⁴ Six Sustainability Framework components <http://www.sustainingability.org/about-us/about-sustainability/sustainability-framework-sf/index.html>

⁵ Sustaining Ability Website www.sustainingability.org

Restricted to one first author abstract per participant.

If you have any questions, please write to:

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