



International Conference: Evidence in Global Disability and Health

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ABSTRACT

Title: **Social Protection for People with Disabilities: Assessing the level of need and inclusion through a mixed methods approach**

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

Background - The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) contain a specific target on social protection with the aim of expanding coverage among the 'poor and the vulnerable'. People with disabilities are more likely to need and to benefit from social protection, but there is a lack of evidence on challenges they face in accessing programmes and how these might be addressed.

Method - Research was carried out in Tanzania and Peru using a mixed methods approach:

- A policy analysis was undertaken to understand the legal and policy framework for social protection and disability.
- A household survey was used to establish the prevalence of disability in the general population and in key social protection programmes
- A detailed case-control study compared the experiences of people with and without disabilities to understand the specific conditions affecting inclusion and exclusion
- Qualitative interviews were conducted with people with disabilities and with staff of local authorities and social protection programmes

Results - Key findings from the two sites include:

- That significant gaps exist between people with disabilities and the general population in terms of key socio-economic indicators
- Neither country had attempted to design or implement social protection programmes that specifically include people with disabilities. As a result, enrolment rates were not higher among people with disabilities than the general population, despite their greater need.
- The additional barriers and costs incurred by people with disabilities are not addressed by the social protection systems, nor do they facilitate access to mainstream or specialised health and rehabilitation services

Conclusion - Without specific efforts to make social protection systems inclusive, people with disabilities are unlikely to benefit fully from these programmes. In the context of the SDGs, more attention is needed to designing and evaluating inclusive social protection systems for reasons of equity and to contribute to achieving overall poverty reduction goals.

Deadline for abstract submission: November 30, 2015

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

Restricted to one first author abstract per participant.

If you have any questions, please write to:

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