MAINSTREAMING DISABILITY IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION – a case study of Malawi.

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Outline

- Background
- DIDRR link to Social Protection
- Objectives
- Methodology
- Findings
- Recommendations
- Conclusion
Background

- Natural and man-made hazards such as climate variation, epidemics, and economic crises cumulatively affect thousands of people in Malawi.
- Consequences – 1) affects labour markets, 2) food production 3) failure respond to the basic needs of population.
- Hazards → Disaster
Background

- Efforts designed to reduce the risk of hazards (prevention, preparedness, mitigation or resilience) – collectively referred to as Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). (DRR = p+p+m/r) or (DRR = r+r+r+r)
- Persons with disabilities vulnerable to both man-made and natural hazards. (DIDRR)
- The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) – Article 11 & 32vi
Disability link with Social Protection
Link to Social Protection

When done...........

- DIDRR as a developmental issue reduces social and economic losses.

When not done..........

- Erodes ability of national economy to invest in key social sectors.
Why an issue ???

A person with disability

“if development is not disability inclusive, how can we expect DRM and DRR to be inclusive?”

A Director in the Department of Disability Management Affairs

“…..there are so many groups of people who would want to be mentioned in policy. The policy would be congested…..”

A Humanitarian Response Officer

“[…] even if we give [persons with disabilities] wheelchairs, they cannot get around [in the villages] because the environment is not accessible”.
Objective of Study

- To determine common hazards affecting persons with disabilities
- To gauge the level of awareness among persons with disabilities
- To assess assistance provision to persons with disabilities during and after hazards
Methodology
Data Collection

- 4 Districts
- 248 persons with disabilities
- 28 households
- Purposive Sampling
Key Principles

- Inclusion
- Equity
- People Centred
Findings: Common Hazards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Persons with Disabilities</th>
<th>Persons without Disabilities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Floods</td>
<td>Road Accidents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Droughts</td>
<td>Floods</td>
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<td>Droughts</td>
<td>Droughts</td>
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Risk  =  Exposure x Vulnerability
Findings: Preparedness

- 11% Aware
- 89% Not aware
Findings: Awareness

- Awareness: 0% (represented by a small bar)
- Not aware: 100% (represented by a large bar)

The chart shows the percentage of awareness among the population.
Findings: Challenges

- Structural Inequalities
- Lack of knowledge
- Inaccessible information
- Absence of self representation
- Laxity in enforcement
Recommendations

- Awareness and sensitization of disability issues;
- Capacity building of DPOs and mainstream actors;
- Active participation and involvement of persons with disabilities in mainstream interventions;
- Comprehensive accessibility in all mainstream interventions; and
- Twin track approach, combining integration of disability issues in mainstream interventions with specialized services.
ZIKOMO !!!!!

SIYABONGA !!!!!

TATENDA !!!!!

NATOTELA !!!!!