

MOTIVATION FINAL REPORT
DISABILITY KNOWLEDGE AND RESEARCH PROGRAMME 2003-2005
FINAL REPORT
ANNEX B

Final Report Guidelines

The report is to be a maximum of 4 sides of A4 size paper.
Excluding the Output to Purpose Report

Date

27 June 2005

Title Of Project & Project Ref. No.

Developing and Sharing Wheelchair Design Knowledge
in Africa - CNTR 02 4342

Organisation

Motivation

Reporting Period

From
September 2003

To June 2005 (extended to
redeploy underspend and
expand project activities)

Anticipated Completion Date

Completed

1. Goal, Purpose and Outputs of the project:

The goal of the project is to minimise the detrimental effects of disability on the lives of poor people through provision of appropriate wheelchairs and knowledge sharing amongst other organisations working to provide appropriate wheelchairs.

The purpose of the project is to achieve an improved quality of life for wheelchair users, positively contributing to their survival, mobility, access to rights, and potential for sustainable livelihoods.

Outputs:

- New design of hand-tricycle developed and field-trialled amongst beneficiaries.
- Simplified three-wheel wheelchair for a rural environment developed through partner collaboration, incorporated on to the Wheelchair Technologists Training Course (WTTC), and WTTC national trainers trained in its production.
- Feasibility study carried out to investigate 'exporting' the course to another accredited training centre in a low-income country. (El Salvador, Cambodia or Vietnam).
- Comprehensive research trip carried out to Zambia and South Africa and planning completed for a regional modular training programme in special seating for children.
- Third All Africa Wheelchair Congress held in Zambia providing an opportunity to share knowledge and experience between wheelchair and hand-tricycle producers from the region.
- A wheelchair technology guidebook published for information dissemination and knowledge

sharing.

2 Summary of work carried out in this period:

Following the approval of KaR to utilise the underspend from the project on the development of the Pan Africa Wheelchair Builders Association (PAWBA), an inaugural meeting was held in Tanzania in early May which brought together the members of the PAWBA Executive Committee and wheelchair producers from Zambia, Kenya and Tanzania.

The main achievement of the meeting was to develop the constitution of PAWBA. The Association has identified its vision and mission as follows:



Vision: *To socially and economically empower people with physical disabilities through the provision of mobility aids.*

Mission: *Every person with a disability in Africa in need of a wheelchair will be provided with one of an appropriate design and of good quality.*

PAWBA have defined their main goal as: To serve as an international co-ordinating, correlating and advisory body, on matters relating to wheelchairs, tricycles, rehabilitation services and issues related to mobility disabilities. It will work in close collaboration with other such bodies in offering similar and appropriate guidance and advice, to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort and encourage the maximum use of resources.

PAWBA has set as its specific objectives:

- To act as a representative body for wheelchair technology for all wheelchair technical professionals in Africa
- To promote the development of wheelchair production and service provision in Africa
- To uplift the social and economic welfare of its members by ensuring, maintaining and safeguarding their interests and privileges
- To encourage collaboration, networking and information exchange so as to improve rehabilitation services in Africa
- To promote standard component design of wheelchairs, and ensure good quality and standards of wheelchairs in Africa
- To avail information on technology and sourcing of materials and components.
- To facilitate joint fundraising proposals
- To promote and encourage co-operations and exchange experience and clinical techniques with other similar organizations worldwide
- To present the interests of the members at International level through co- operation with other International societies for wheelchairs and rehabilitation services
- To liaise with and advise Governments on rehabilitation services policy regarding Wheelchair users and wheelchair Technology in Africa
- To stimulate learning through seminars, symposia, lectures publications, exhibitions, congresses, training workshops etc.

- To advise members with difficulties in professional matters according to the Association's by-laws
- To recommend to the Governments, of their respective countries the views of the Association on any legislative enactment or proposal related to wheelchair technology and rehabilitation services in Africa
- To encourage, promote and assist in efforts to co-ordinate and guide clinical and technical research activities related to wheelchair issues
- To encourage, promote and assist in wheelchair sports development in Africa
- To promote good quality wheelchairs and special seating for people with physical disabilities
- To encourage establishment of distribution centres for wheelchair components and materials in various regions in Africa
- To undertake such legal action as shall be indicated or conducive to the attainment of the above objectives.

As can be seen, the organisational objectives have been very well developed, and represent the culmination of substantial collaboration and dialogue that has been made possible primarily through the activities of the KaR project. The 3rd All Africa Congress provided an ideal opportunity to promote collaboration, and the development of PAWBA is a direct result of this event.

3 Overall results of findings obtained by the project:

- A new design of hand-tricycle was developed, fully trialled and documented and put into production in Africa
- A simplified three-wheel wheelchair for a rural environment was developed through partner collaboration, incorporated on to the Wheelchair Technologists Training Course (WTTC), and WTTC national trainers were trained in its production
- A feasibility study was carried out to investigate 'exporting' the course to an accredited training centre in El Salvador and a project proposal developed
- A comprehensive research trip was carried out to Zambia and South Africa and planning carried out for a regional modular training programme in special seating for children
- The third All Africa Wheelchair Congress was held in Zambia providing an opportunity to share knowledge and experience between wheelchair and hand-tricycle producers from the region
- The 'Wheelchair Service Guide for Low Income Countries' was completed and distributed
- A concept paper for a future collaborative programme in South Africa incorporating the future development of the special seating programme was completed.

4 Implications of the results or findings for achieving the outputs and purpose of the project:

The results have fully achieved the outputs and purpose of the project. The new products developed have been successfully completed and put into production, improving the survival and mobility of hundreds of disabled people and poised to improve the mobility of many more in future years as the designs are introduced to an increasing number of workshops each year. The 'Wheelchair Service Guide for Low Income Countries' has been completed and distributed, providing people involved in wheelchair provision with improved information to provide better services for disabled people. The WTTC replication trip was very successful and plans have been developed for the course to be replicated in El Salvador. The regional modular training programme in special seating has been planned as part of a broader programme of collaboration in South Africa, increasing the scope of the collaboration foreseen at the project outset. Knowledge sharing between wheelchair producers and other stakeholders has been much broader than anticipated and the creation and development of PAWBA has been an achievement over and above the project objectives which will continue to contribute to the improved quality of life and integration of disabled people across Africa and beyond.

5 Priority activities for follow up in order to pursue the Goal:

The Wheelchair Service Guide for Low Income Countries' has begun to be distributed to African Disabled People's Organisations; Ministries; Wheelchair Producers and International Associations and Non-Government Organisations. The Guide is being distributed with a 'feedback' sheet to inform future editions and further publications to be produced as part of Motivation's continuing objective to disseminate information and improve products and services for disabled people.

PAWBA now has strong foundations to build on, as it develops as a coordinating and supportive body to promote professional wheelchair services across Africa. Motivation is now seeking funding to help PAWBA employ two full time staff to drive their work forward. PAWBA will also be responsible for organising the 4th All Africa Wheelchair Congress, scheduled to be held in Moshi, Tanzania in 2006, and Motivation is working with PAWBA to identify sponsors for the Congress. The Congress provides an ideal forum to disseminate knowledge and be a training forum. The KaR project sponsored approximately one third of the delegates of the last Wheelchair Congress.

The new design of three-wheel wheelchair is fully documented and has already been introduced to the Wheelchair Technologists Training Course (WTTC) in Tanzania, where approximately ten students each year from 4-5 African countries will be taught how to produce and prescribe it for people with disabilities. It is planned that previous graduates of the WTTC will be exposed to the new design through follow up training planned for September 2005 in Nigeria, Namibia, Ethiopia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe and funded through Motivation's Africa programme.

The hand-propelled tricycle has been put into production at DISACARE in Zambia, and Motivation is now seeking funds to support the development of a Tricycle Production Manual and other training tools and skills that will help DISACARE and other institutions to disseminate the design across Africa. As the next stage of design development, Motivation is also planning to develop the trike's potential as an income generation tool, utilising learning from programmes in Uganda, Kenya and Afghanistan which are equipping the trike with telephones, display boards, sewing machines, shoe mending equipment, and shop goods storage areas which enable the user to combine their mobility device with an income generating activity.

6 Summary of Financial Expenditure to date and forecast through to completion:

Category	Total Project Expenditure Nov 03 – June 05 £
Personnel and staff costs	57,633
Overhead costs	18,116
Equipment and major consumable cost	16,947
Other charges	30,752
Total Costs	123,448

7 Name and signature of author of this progress report:

Christine Cornick

OUTPUT TO PURPOSE SUMMARY REPORT				
Title: Developing and Sharing Wheelchair Design Knowledge		Country: Africa		MISCODE: <i>[to be inserted by DFID]</i>
Report No. 7	Date: 27.6.05	Project start date: Aug 03 Project end date: Jun 05	Stage of project: Completed	
Project Framework				
Goal statement: To minimise the detrimental effects of disability on the lives of poor people through provision of appropriate wheelchairs				
Purpose statement: To achieve an improved quality of life for wheelchair users, positively contributing to their survival, mobility, access to rights, and potential for sustainable livelihoods.				
Outputs:	OVI:	Progress:	Recommendation/actions:	Rating:
1. New designs of simplified 3 wheel wheelchair and hand-trike developed	3-wheel wheelchair design documented, prototype avail. end yr 1; hand-trike design documented, prototype avail. mth 9 yr 2	Completed Design field trialled and finalised and documentation completed. Design introduced to WTTC in Tanzania and being taught to new students each year	The design will be disseminated further to former graduates of the WTTC through the Motivation Africa programme	<i>[to be completed by DFID]</i>
2. Project proposal developed for a modular training programme in Special Seating in Zambia and South Africa	Research trip carried out yr 1, involving 3 key partners, including discussions with families and relevant NGO/GO's.	Completed Project proposal has been developed and incorporated into the Africa regional strategy and a larger programme of activities within South Africa	Fundraising for the project proposal developed through the KaR project is underway as part of Motivation's ongoing Africa work	

Outputs:	OVis:	Progress:	Recommendation/actions:	Rating:
3. Knowledge sharing amongst key people involved in wheelchair provision in Africa through participation in Congress	Congress held Aug Yr 1. Approx. 100 participants from WTTC, Motivation, Whirlwind Wheelchairs Int., disability NGOs/GOs and wheelchair manufacturers; formal & informal dissemination of practices	Activity completed and reported in first period report	Completed on schedule Motivation is now working with PAWBA to raise the funds to hold the 4 th All Africa Wheelchair Congress in Tanzania in 2006 as a knowledge sharing and training forum	
4. Feasibility study of replicating WTTC in another region completed.	Feasibility trip carried out in yr 2 to 1 location; report detailing feasibility and recommendations completed.	Trip completed on schedule in October 04 Project proposal has been completed	Motivation's partner organisation is seeking funding to progress the activities	
5. Wheelchair Technology Guidebook produced	Guidebook complete end Yr 2.	Wheelchair Guidebook has been completed and distribution has been implemented	To be distributed further on an ongoing basis as a tool to disseminate knowledge to improve wheelchair provision	

Outputs:	OVIs:	Progress:	Recommendation/actions:	Rating:
O-UnEx		<p>The International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO) have accredited the Wheelchair Technologists Training Course (WTTC), giving recognition to the profession of Wheelchair Technologist and setting an international standard for wheelchair provision. This has, and will continue to increase the impact of all of the activities carried out as part of the KaR programme as the graduates trained in production of the new designs developed through the programme will have much greater international status and recognition</p> <p>The development of PAWBA has also been an unexpected positive output which is already strengthening the network of wheelchair services and the quality and quantity of wheelchairs and trikes available across the region</p>	<p>The recognition should encourage many more governments to acknowledge the need for professional services and to send people to train at TATCOT, resulting in improved services for wheelchair users across the region</p> <p>PAWBA needs further support to establish an office and employ staff who can build on the solid foundations created to support the network of wheelchair services and their capacity to serve the needs of their disabled communities</p>	

Purpose:	OVI s	Progress:	Recommendations/action
<p>The purpose of the project is to achieve an improved quality of life for wheelchair users, positively contributing to their survival, mobility, access to rights, and potential for sustainable livelihoods.</p>	<p>Wheelchair users demonstrating improved quality of life: accessing community resources; increasing earning potential for individual or family; increased visibility of wheelchair users in community; increased mobility skills.</p>	<p>A series of home visits were carried out during the final quarter of the project which have demonstrated the improved survival, mobility, access to rights and potential for sustainable livelihood of the disabled people who have received mobility equipment introduced through this intervention.</p>	<p>Evaluation of the impact of the project will be carried out on an ongoing basis as part of Motivation's Africa programme</p> <p>Motivation is working to develop further tools to qualify and quantify the impact of improved mobility equipment on disabled people's quality of life. As these are developed they will be used in Africa as part of our ongoing programme development.</p>