

**Assessment Report on the Level of
ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE
& INCLUSIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION
for Persons with Disabilities in Ondo State.**

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

DINABI	Disability Not A Barrier Initiative
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
KII	Key Informant Interview
MDAs	Ministries, Department and Agencies
DRF	Disability Rights Fund
NEIN	National Eye Institute of Nigeria
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
JONAPWD	Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities
PWDs	Persons with Disabilities
NPC	National Population Commission
UNICEF	United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund
WHO	World Health Organization
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals





Acknowledgement

Our sincere gratitude goes to the Ondo State Government for its support and contributions throughout this process. The commitment of various ministries, agencies, and stakeholders has been invaluable in ensuring that the research was comprehensive and aligned with ongoing efforts to improve accessible health and inclusive social protection for PWDs. We recognize the government's role in providing an enabling environment for this study and appreciate its dedication to strengthening policies that promote equal access to essential services.

We are profoundly grateful to persons with disabilities in Ondo State under JONAPWD who actively participated in this assessment. Your willingness to share personal experiences, insights, and concerns has enriched the depth of this study. The challenges and recommendations you highlighted will serve as a critical guide for policymakers, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders working toward a more inclusive society.

We also acknowledge the efforts of our Research Consultant who led the research process with aplomb, Mr Martin-Mary Falana, researchers, field officers, data analysts, and supporting organizations who contributed their expertise, time, and resources to ensure the successful execution of this assessment. Their commitment to data collection, analysis,

and interpretation has resulted in robust findings that will serve as an advocacy tool for improving the lives of PWDs in Ondo State.

Also, we appreciate the contributions of civil society organizations, advocacy groups, and development partners who have continuously championed the rights of PWDs. Your collaborative efforts and unwavering support have played a significant role in ensuring that the voices of PWDs are heard and addressed. We hope that the findings of this assessment will serve as a catalyst for meaningful change, fostering a more inclusive and equitable society for all.

Finally, our appreciation goes to our funder, Disability Rights Fund (DRF) who provided all the required resources to implement this project in order to strengthen the capacities of PWDs, state actors, policies and also provide a veritable tool towards strategic advocacy for a better living for Persons with Disabilities. The invaluable insights and guidance provided by DRF West African Program Officer, Theophilus Odaudu is deeply appreciated.



Foreword

Disability Not A Barrier Initiative, in its unwavering commitment to promoting inclusion, equity and justice for persons with disabilities, recognizes the importance of qualitative, affordable and accessible healthcare services as well as inclusive social protection, particularly for persons with disabilities. This report, "Assessment on the Level of Access to Quality Healthcare and Inclusive Social Protection for Persons with Disabilities in Ondo State," is a crucial step towards achieving this goal.

Persons with disabilities in Ondo State, often face significant barriers in accessing essential healthcare services and social protection programs initiated by the government. These barriers can range from physical accessibility challenges to discriminatory practices and policies, hindering their full participation in society and undermining their fundamental human rights. Article 25 of the UNCRPD enjoined states Parties to recognize that persons with disabilities have the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health without discrimination on the basis of disability. In the same vein article 28 of the UNCRPD states that State Parties recognize the right of persons with disabilities to an adequate standard of living for themselves and their families, including adequate food, clothing and housing, and to the continuous improvement of living conditions.

This survey seeks to provide a comprehensive understanding of the current situation, shedding light on the specific challenges faced by persons with disabilities in Ondo State. The findings of this report will be instrumental in informing policy dialogue, guiding interventions, and promoting the development of targeted programs aimed at improving access to healthcare and social protection for this vulnerable population.

DINABI Nigeria believes that this report will serve as a valuable resource for government agencies, civil society organizations, development partners, and other stakeholders working to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. We are confident that the data and analysis presented herein will contribute to meaningful change and ultimately lead to a more inclusive and equitable society for all in Ondo State.

Olajide Funso Benjamin

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1.0 Executive Summary

This report presents a desk review of the status of access to healthcare services and the inclusiveness of social protection services for persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State, Nigeria. It examines the healthcare needs of various forms of disability, including persons with albinism, physical disabilities, visual impairments, hearing impairments, people with leprosy, and intellectual disabilities etc. Additionally, the report evaluates the status of the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act of 2018, assessing its challenges in implementation and proposing recommendations for improving access to essential services for PWDs.

In Ondo State, persons with disabilities face significant barriers to accessing healthcare services, which are compounded by inadequate infrastructure, a lack of specialized care, and limited awareness/knowledge among healthcare providers. Individuals with albinism face unique challenges, such as heightened susceptibility to skin cancer and vision problems, while persons with physical, visual, and hearing impairments struggle with access to medical facilities that lack necessary accommodations. Those with intellectual disabilities also encounter challenges in accessing appropriate healthcare services, particularly in the areas of mental health and developmental support.

This report equally presented the efforts of the Ondo State Government through her numerous programmes that directly and indirectly have an impact on persons with disability in Ondo State. These include systematic interventions such as the designated special schools established in Owo for persons with physical disabilities and visually impaired at Ikare Akoko, Ago-Ireti for persons with leprosy, Ile Oluji-Okelgbo for the schools of the intellectual impairment and Akure for PWDs with hearing impairment. It covered the educational support that is tuition free and the educational materials accompanying them.

The report recommends domestication and strengthening the implementation of the National Disability Act through increased funding, enhancing public awareness, policy review/formulation and ensuring better accessibility to healthcare facilities. It calls for the expansion of social protection programs to better include PWDs in welfare services. Ondo State can make significant progress in ensuring equitable access to healthcare and social protection for persons with disabilities, thus fostering a more inclusive society.

1.0 Executive Summary

This assignment was conducted through a comprehensive desk review, baseline survey, and stakeholder engagement process to assess the access of persons with disabilities to health and social protection services in Ondo State . The findings from this project have identified gaps in service delivery, evaluated the implementation of disability-related policies, and provided actionable recommendations to DINABI, government, PWDs and general public for improving access to essential services for persons with disabilities.

[Senate adopts Bill Prohibiting Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities – PLAC Legist](#)
[ONDO-STATE-SOCIAL-PROTECTION-LAW.pdf](#)





2.0 Background

Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Nigeria, including those residing in Ondo State, face significant barriers to accessing healthcare services and social protection. These barriers stem from inadequate infrastructure, lack of specialized services, limited awareness, and social stigma. As a result, persons with various disabilities often encounter difficulties in receiving appropriate care, which impedes their overall well-being and social integration as against Articles 25 and 28 of the UNCPRD.

According to a data by the World Health Organization (WHO), one out of 2 persons with disabilities cannot afford healthcare while people with disabilities are 4 times more likely to be denied healthcare and 2 times more likely to find healthcare providers' skills and facilities inadequate. In the same vein, a report from Institute of Development Studies showed that 9 out of 10 Nigerians with disabilities live in abject poverty as against SDG Goal 1.

Access to healthcare and social protection services is a fundamental human right. However, people with disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State face numerous challenges in accessing these essential services. This report presents findings from key informant interviews (KIIs), focus group discussions (FGDs), and observational assessments conducted to evaluate the barriers, experiences, and recommendations for improving healthcare and social protection

services for PWDs in Ondo State.

According to the 2006 National Population Census, approximately 3.3% of Nigeria's population lives with some form of disability, which is about 5.2 million people. The World Health Organization (WHO) however gave a better picture which estimates that around 15% of the global population lives with a disability, which, if applied to Nigeria's population of over 200 million, would suggest that roughly over 30 million Nigerians have a disability. While there is no recent data specific to Ondo State, it can be estimated that approximately 600,000 people in the state live with some form of disability, based on the national percentage.

Disabilities can take various forms, including but not limited to physical disabilities, visual impairments, hearing impairments, intellectual disabilities, and albinism etc. In Ondo State, government policies made strides in acknowledging the rights and healthcare needs of PWDs using the charity model, but implementation has been slow, and challenges remain in meeting the specific needs of different disability groups while acknowledging the varying challenges with the different clusters of disability in the State.



3.0 Objective of the Study

The study aimed at assessing the accessibility of healthcare services for PWDs in Ondo State and evaluate the effectiveness of social protection programs targeting them. It sought to identify key barriers while providing recommendations for policymakers, NGOs, and stakeholders. Ensuring equal access to healthcare and social protection support is crucial in promoting the well-being of PWDs and fostering their integration into society.

Reports | National Bureau of Statistics, DEMOGRAPHIC_BULLETIN_2022_FINAL.pdf

4.0 Methodology

The study employed a mixed-methods approach, including key informant interviews (KIIs) with healthcare providers, policymakers, and disability rights advocates. Focus group discussions (FGDs) were organized with PWDs, caregivers, and community leaders to gain firsthand insights into their experiences. Observational assessments were also conducted to evaluate the physical accessibility of healthcare facilities and social service centers, allowing for a comprehensive understanding of the structural and systemic challenges faced by PWDs.

4.1 Sample Size

To determine a sample size of 76 respondents for assessing PWDs' access to healthcare and social protection services in Ondo State, we use Cochran's formula to estimate the initial sample size for an infinite population and then apply the finite population correction. Cochran's formula at a 95% confidence level ($Z = 1.96$), a 50% estimated proportion ($p =$

$$n = \frac{(1.96)^2 \times 0.5 \times (1 - 0.5)}{(0.05)^2} = 384$$

For a finite population (N), the adjusted sample size is:

$$n_{adj} = \frac{n}{1 + \frac{n-1}{N}}$$

Using a population of 100, we get:

$$n_{adj} = \frac{384}{1 + \frac{384-1}{100}} = \frac{384}{4.83} \approx 80$$

After accounting for an 80% response rate, the final sample size is:

$$n_{final} = \frac{80}{0.8} = 100$$

Adjusted Sample Size=115+10% (non-response buffer) =126.5≈128
But in the field, actual valid responses collected = 118.

In total, 118 respondents participated in the Assessment, where 76 participated in the Quantitative survey among persons with disability in Ondo State. Out of the 76, 46 were males while 30 were females. The KII was conducted with 10 Gatekeepers who are directors in MDAs of Government and 2 PWDs leaders. The Focus Group Discussions were carried out among 30 PWDs across the 3 senatorial districts.

The 30 representatives cut across the clusters of Disability in Ondo State. Persons with leprosy missed out on the FGD due to circumstances beyond our control but captured in the desk review as well as in the validation meeting where they made valuable contributions and recommendations.



4.2 Limitations

This assessment of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) access to healthcare and social protection services in Ondo State faced several limitations. First, the sample size and representation may not fully capture the experiences of all PWDs in the state. Certain disabilities may have been underrepresented, leading to gaps in understanding the unique challenges faced by different groups. Self-reported data may introduce bias, as responses are influenced by personal experiences, recall ability, and willingness to disclose sensitive information. Some respondents may have provided socially desirable answers rather than their actual experiences, affecting the accuracy of the findings. Additionally, the Ondo State Social Protection Law 2016 was obsolete.

Another limitation is the availability and reliability of existing data on healthcare and social protection services for PWDs in Ondo State. Logistical constraints, such as difficulty in reaching remote areas and language barriers for respondents with communication disabilities, may have limited the inclusivity of the study. The study also faced time and resources constraints, restricting the depth of data collection and analysis.

4.3 Ethical Considerations

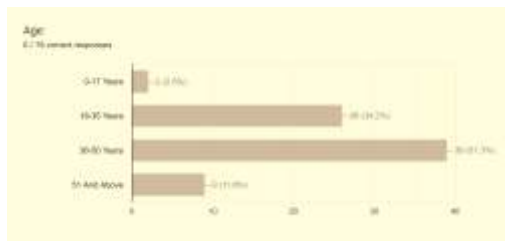
Ethical considerations were paramount in conducting this assessment to ensure that the rights and dignity of respondents were upheld. Informed consent was obtained from all participants, ensuring that they voluntarily participated in the study with full knowledge of its purpose and potential implications. Special care was taken to provide clear explanations to PWDs with communication challenges, and where necessary, sign language interpreters or alternative communication methods were employed. Additionally, participants were assured of their right to withdraw from the study at any point without any consequences.

Confidentiality and anonymity were strictly maintained to protect the privacy of respondents. Personal identifiers were not recorded, and all collected data was securely stored and used solely for research purposes. Moreover, sensitivity was exercised in the framing of questions and interactions with PWDs to avoid reinforcing stigma or causing emotional distress. Efforts were made to ensure that the research did not exploit or further marginalize PWDs but instead aimed to amplify their voices and advocate for their rights to equitable healthcare and social protection services.



4.4 Findings from the Quantitative and Qualitative Surveys

The age distribution of respondents shows that the majority (39 individuals) fall within the 35-50 years category, making up the largest age group. This suggests that middle-aged individuals, who may be more engaged in healthcare and social protection issues, were more represented in the survey. The 18-35 years group follows with 26 respondents, indicating significant participation from younger adults. Meanwhile, only 9 respondents were 51 years and above, which may suggest lower engagement or accessibility challenges among older individuals. The 0-17 years group had the least representation with just 2 respondents, likely due to dependency on guardians for healthcare access. This age distribution highlights the need for targeted policies that address the varying healthcare and social protection needs across different age groups.

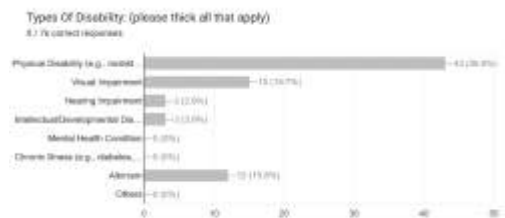


4.5 Disability Clusters

The survey included respondents with various types of disabilities, with the majority (43 individuals) having physical

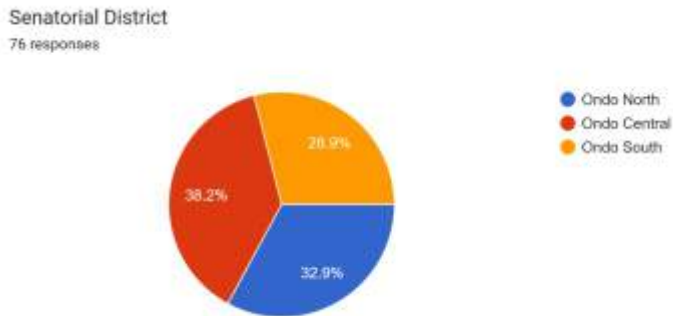
disabilities, highlighting mobility challenges as a key concern. Visual impairment was the second most represented category, with 15 respondents, emphasizing the need for accessible communication and assistive technology. Albinism, often associated with vision impairment and social discrimination, accounted for 12 participants, indicating a significant presence in the disability community. Meanwhile, hearing impairment and intellectual/developmental disabilities were the least represented, with only 3 respondents each, which may reflect either lower participation or challenges in reaching these groups.

4.6 Participation by Senatorial Districts



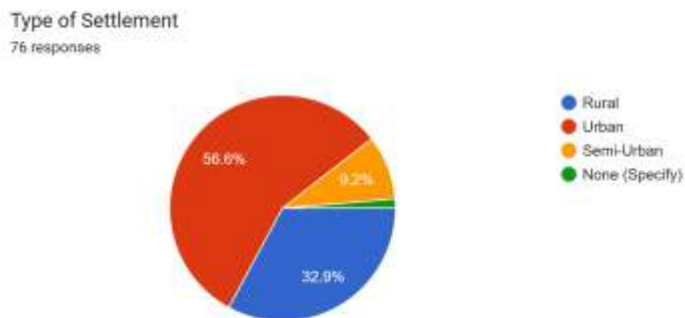
The distribution of survey participants across Ondo State's three senatorial districts shows that Ondo Central had the highest representation at 38.2%, suggesting relatively better engagement or accessibility in this region. Ondo North followed with 32.9%, indicating a significant level of participation.

Meanwhile, Ondo South accounted for 28.9%, reflecting the lowest representation among the three districts. This variation in participation may be influenced by factors such as population distribution, accessibility of survey tools, or awareness levels about the research



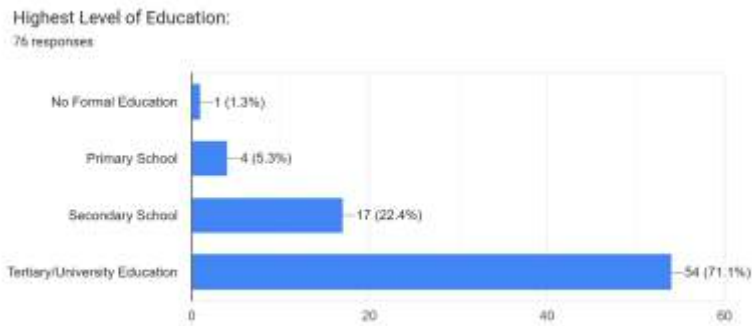
4.7 Types of Settlement of Respondents

The majority of respondents, 56.6%, reside in urban areas, indicating that most persons with disabilities (PWDs) who participated in the survey have better access to infrastructure, healthcare, and social protection services typically available in cities. 32.9% of respondents are from rural areas, highlighting a significant representation from communities where access to healthcare and social services may be more challenging due to infrastructural and logistical barriers. A smaller percentage, 9.2%, live in semi-urban areas, suggesting a middle ground where services may be somewhat available but not as comprehensive as in urban settings. Some participants did not specify their settlement, which could impact the full understanding of geographical disparities.



4.8 Respondents by Level of Education

The majority of respondents, 54, have attained tertiary or university education, indicating a relatively high level of education among persons with disabilities (PWDs) who participated in the survey. 17 respondents completed secondary school, showing that a significant portion of PWDs have at least basic education. A smaller group, 4, reported only primary school education, while just 1 respondent had no formal education, highlighting the existence of educational disparities among PWDs. These findings suggest that while many PWDs have achieved higher education, efforts are still needed to improve access to education at all levels, particularly for those with limited opportunities due to financial, social, or infrastructural barriers.



5.0 Situational Analysis of Ondo State Government's Response

The Ondo State Government has made considerable strides in addressing the healthcare and social protection needs of persons with disabilities. Various policies and programs have been initiated generally to improve access to essential services. The government has taken steps in ensuring that public hospitals offer priority treatment to PWDs as a matter of charity. Additionally, the introduction of free healthcare services for certain categories of PWDs has been a significant step in reducing financial barriers to medical care although challenges abound.

In terms of social protection, the Ondo State Government has implemented disability-targeted welfare programs, including cash transfer initiatives and vocational training schemes to enhance economic self-reliance among PWDs. These programs, although not without challenges, reflect a growing commitment to fostering an inclusive society.



Furthermore, collaborations with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and international development partners have helped strengthen social support systems for PWDs.

One of the most commendable efforts of the Ondo State Government is its investment in inclusive education. The government has established schools specifically designed to cater for children with disabilities, ensuring that they receive the necessary support to thrive academically. The Ministry of Education has also played a crucial role in making education accessible to all by enforcing a tuition-free policy from primary to university level for students with disabilities. This initiative has significantly increased school enrolment rates among PWDs and has created opportunities for lifelong learning and empowerment.

Despite these commendable efforts, challenges remain. Many disability-inclusive policies require better implementation and monitoring to ensure that they reach all intended beneficiaries. Infrastructure gaps in public buildings, healthcare facilities, and social service centers need urgent attention to enhance accessibility. Increased funding and policy enforcement are essential to sustain and expand existing initiatives, ensuring that PWDs can fully benefit from the services provided.

6. DESK REVIEW

6.1 Healthcare Needs of Persons with Disabilities in Ondo State

Persons with disabilities in Ondo State experience diverse healthcare needs, depending on the nature of their disability. These needs are often unmet due to infrastructural, financial, and systemic barriers. For instance, Albinism is a genetic condition that results in the lack of melanin in the skin, eyes, and hair, leading to sensitivity to sunlight and a higher risk of skin cancer. According to the Albinism Foundation, over 1 in 1,000 Nigerians are affected by albinism. In Ondo State, where sun exposure is intense, persons with albinism face heightened risks of skin damage and cancers. Persons with albinism suffer from vision problems, including low vision or complete blindness, which require special eye care, corrective lenses, and assistive technology.

Physical disabilities can result from congenital conditions, accidents, or illnesses and include impairments that affect mobility. The National Population Commission reports that physical disability is one of the most common types of disability in Nigeria. In Ondo State, individuals with physical disabilities often encounter difficulties in accessing healthcare facilities that are not equipped with wheelchair ramps, handrails, lifts & elevators, .



accessible toilets, or other assistive devices. Many also face a lack of physical therapy services and rehabilitation centres, as well as limited access to prosthetics.

The National Eye Institute of Nigeria (NEIN) reports that about 1.5 million people in Nigeria are visually impaired, with a significant proportion of them suffering from avoidable conditions such as cataracts and glaucoma. In Ondo State, individuals with visual impairments face challenges in accessing healthcare services due to the absence of braille materials, trained personnel, and assistive technologies such as magnifiers or screen readers in most public health institutions. The lack of awareness among healthcare providers about the specific needs of persons with visual impairments further exacerbates the situation.

The National Population Commission's 2006 Census revealed that hearing impairment is one of the most prevalent disabilities in Nigeria. For individuals with hearing impairments in Ondo State, communication remains one of the major barriers in accessing healthcare services. Many healthcare providers in the state are not trained in sign language, which impedes effective communication. Furthermore, the absence of qualified sign language interpreters in public health centres limits their ability to receive and provide crucial health information.

Intellectual disabilities encompass a wide range of cognitive impairments, including learning difficulties and developmental delays. These individuals often require specialized healthcare services, including speech therapy, occupational therapy, and counselling. According to the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, people with intellectual disabilities are at greater risk of mental health problems, but specialized psychological care is often unavailable or underfunded in Ondo State. Caregivers, who play an essential role in supporting individuals with intellectual disabilities, also face challenges due to a lack of training and resources.

6.2 The Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, 2018

The Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, passed in 2018, was a significant step forward in recognizing and addressing the rights of persons with disabilities in the state. The Act in (Part II section 3 & 4; Part V section 21 & 24; Part VI section 30) mandates government and the general public to ensure non-discrimination and accessibility for PWDs across all public sectors, including healthcare, education, and social protection. The Act prohibits discrimination against PWDs, including in healthcare facilities, and mandates that they be treated with dignity and respect. The Act requires public facilities, including healthcare institutions, to be made accessible to PWDs.

This includes the provision of ramps, wheelchair access, and other physical accommodations. The Act guarantees PWDs access to affordable healthcare services, rehabilitation, and social protection programs. The Act also emphasizes the need for public awareness campaigns and capacity-building for healthcare providers to ensure that they understand the specific needs of PWDs.

Ondo State has made efforts to align with the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, 2018 by implementing programs aimed at promoting inclusivity for PWDs. The Smart Residency Card (Kaadi Igbeayo) facilitates access to social services, including healthcare, while free education programs for children with disabilities ensure that they receive necessary support. Additionally, the state's Abiye and Agbebiye healthcare programs provide maternal and child health services that indirectly benefit PWDs, particularly children born with disabilities. However, despite these initiatives, infrastructural challenges, limited healthcare personnel trained in disability care, lack of deliberate disability inclusive mechanisms and financial constraints continue to hinder full compliance with the Act. Strengthening policy implementation, increasing disability-friendly healthcare infrastructure, and enhancing public awareness will further bridge the gap between legal provisions and actual accessibility for PWDs in Ondo State.



6.3 Barriers to Participation in Social protection services or empowerment programs

Decision-making on social protection policies does not adequately involve PWDs, leading to poorly implemented initiatives that fail to address their unique needs. Government agencies responsible for disability inclusion often lack awareness and capacity to enforce disability-friendly policies, resulting in minimal consideration of PWDs during policy planning and execution. Empowerment programs targeting PWDs, such as micro-credit schemes, exist but remain under tokenism, underfunded and inaccessible to many due to digital barriers. The lack of disability-friendly financial services and technological tools further prevents PWDs from leveraging these opportunities for economic self-sufficiency.

Registration for social protection programs remains difficult, limiting the ability of PWDs to benefit from essential services. Many public facilities, including healthcare centres and social welfare offices, lack the necessary infrastructure to accommodate PWDs, further exacerbating their exclusion. These challenges highlight a gap between policy intentions and practical implementation, making it difficult for PWDs to fully integrate into the social protection framework.



While there are minor opportunities to include PWDs in social protection programs, many of these initiatives appear more symbolic than transformative. The slow pace of implementing disability-friendly infrastructure, assistive technologies, and capacity-building programs suggests that inclusion is not a priority. Many PWDs continue to experience exclusion due to physical, financial, and technological barriers, such as the absence of sign language interpreters, braille materials, and accessible digital platforms. Without deliberate policy reforms and increased funding, social protection efforts in Ondo State will remain insufficient in addressing the needs of PWDs in a meaningful and sustainable manner.

Many government offices, healthcare centres where health insurance schemes could be accessed, and transportation systems are not equipped with ramps, elevators, or assistive technologies, making it difficult for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) to access essential services. Additionally, the limited availability of braille materials, sign language interpreters, and screen readers prevents PWDs from fully engaging with social protection programs. Despite the enactment of the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, 2018, enforcement remains weak due to inadequate monitoring mechanisms, leading to slow progress in implementing disability-friendly policies. Many microcredit schemes that aim to support economic empowerment for PWDs lack sufficient funding, and digital services such as online registration platforms and mobile banking remain largely inaccessible.

6.4 Disability Prevalence in Nigeria and Ondo State

According to the 2006 National Population Census, approximately 3.3% of Nigeria's population lives with some form of disability, which is about 5.2 million people. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that around 15% of the global population lives with a disability, which, if applied to Nigeria's population of over 200 million, would suggest that roughly over 30 million Nigerians have a disability. While there is no recent data specific to Ondo State, it can be estimated that approximately 600,000 people in the state live with some form of disability, based on the national percentage.

Disabilities can take various forms, including but not limited to physical disabilities, visual impairments, hearing impairments, intellectual disabilities, albinism and leprosy. In Ondo State, the Ondo State Social Protection Policy made strides in acknowledging the rights and healthcare needs of PWDs, but implementation has been slow, and challenges remain in meeting the specific needs of different disability groups.



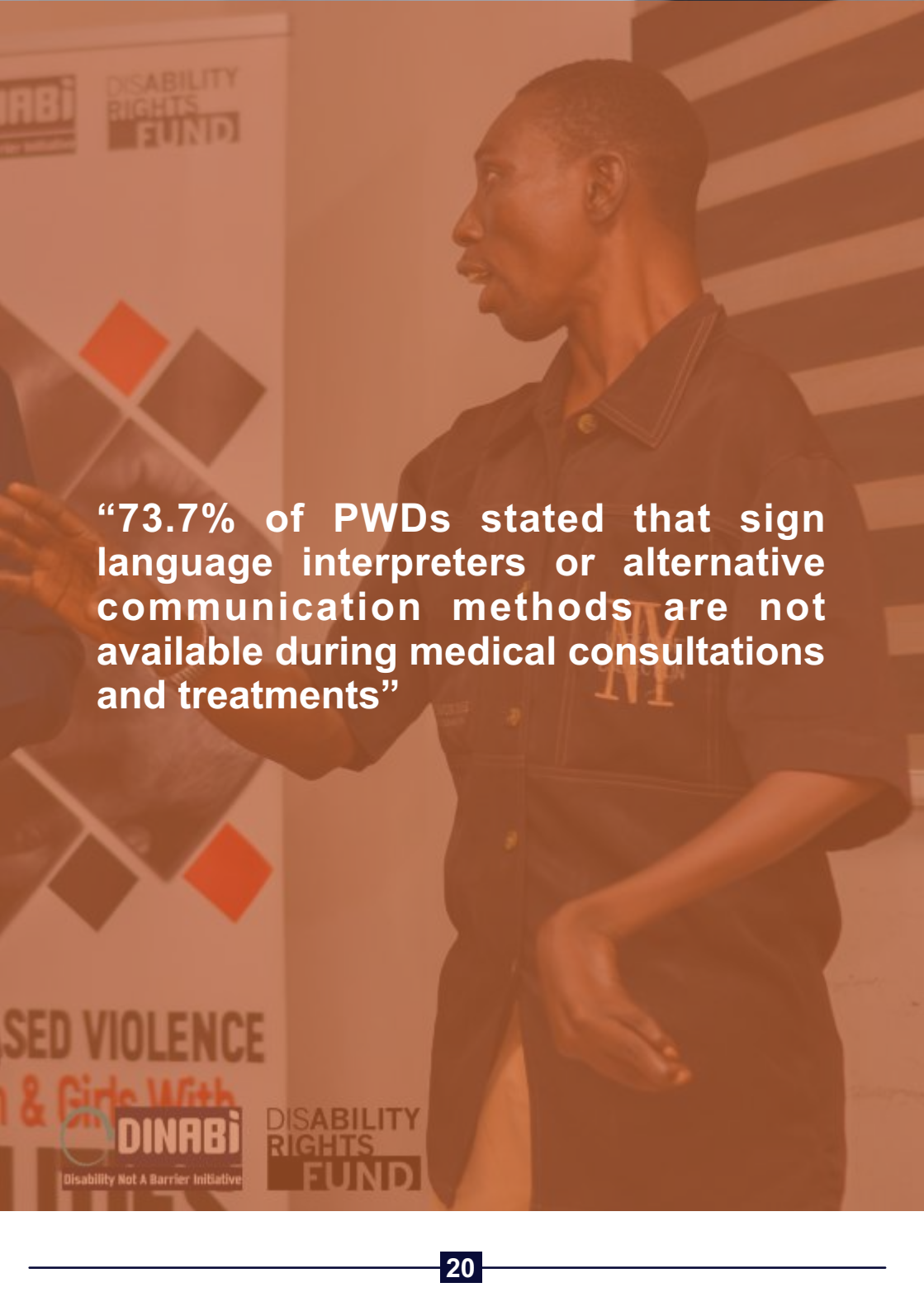
6.4.1 Ondo State Social Protection Law 2016

Ondo State's social protection policy includes key legislative and registration initiatives aimed at improving the welfare of citizens of Ondo state including Persons with Disabilities (PWDs). The Smart Residency Card (Kaadi Igbeayo) serves as an identification system that facilitates access to social services, ensuring that citizens can be properly targeted for government programs. This initiative promotes inclusivity by ensuring that residents, including PWDs, are recognized in the state's social protection framework, thereby improving their ability to access benefits and services.

In the area of education and healthcare, the state provides free services for children attending special schools, covering tuition, uniforms, feeding, transportation, and accommodation. These provisions help remove financial barriers for families with children with disabilities, promoting their access to quality education. Additionally, healthcare initiatives such as Abiye and Agbebiye indirectly support PWDs by enhancing maternal and child health services, which are critical for children born with disabilities who require early medical intervention and specialized care.

The implementation of social protection initiatives in Ondo State faces several challenges, including low awareness among residents, particularly Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), about their rights and available social services, leading to underutilization of essential programs. Weak political will, inconsistent government commitment, and shifting policy priorities have further slowed down the enforcement of social protection laws. Administrative bottlenecks, coupled with insufficient budget allocations and delays in fund disbursement, hinder the smooth execution and sustainability of these initiatives. Essential services such as disability-inclusive healthcare and employment support suffer from resource shortages and poor accessibility, limiting their effectiveness. The absence of strong oversight mechanisms further exacerbates these challenges, making it difficult to track progress and ensure compliance with social protection policies.

To promote economic empowerment, the state has implemented micro-credit programs that support PWDs by providing financial assistance for assistive devices and small business start-ups. Furthermore, the Family Welfare, Counselling, and Reconciliation Centres play a crucial role in safeguarding the rights of vulnerable individuals, including PWDs, by offering protection and access to essential social services.



“73.7% of PWDs stated that sign language interpreters or alternative communication methods are not available during medical consultations and treatments”

7. Findings

People with disabilities in Ondo State experience significant barriers to accessing healthcare services. Many healthcare facilities lack ramps, handrails, elevators, and wheelchair-accessible toilets, making it difficult for those with mobility impairments to receive medical care. Communication barriers are another critical issue, as there is limited availability of sign language interpreters for deaf patients, and visually impaired individuals struggle due to the absence of braille materials and audio-assisted services. Financial constraints further compound these challenges, as many PWDs are unable to afford medical treatment due to high out-of-pocket expenses and the lack of comprehensive health insurance coverage. Additionally, attitudinal barriers persist, with reports of discriminatory behaviour from some healthcare providers, which discourages PWDs from seeking medical help.

Social protection services intended to support PWDs in Ondo State are often ineffective or inaccessible. Coverage remains limited, with many PWDs excluded from cash transfer and welfare schemes designed to alleviate financial hardship. A significant number of PWDs are unaware of available social protection programs due to poor dissemination of information, leaving them unable to benefit from essential support services. Furthermore, inefficient implementation of social protection initiatives—characterized by bureaucratic delays, corruption, and lack of dedicated disability service desks—hinders the delivery of much-needed assistance. Many PWDs express frustration over the difficulties in securing financial aid and social benefits, which are essential for their survival and well-being.



7.1 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)

Four FGDs were conducted with PWDs in Ondo State, with a total of 9 participants each. The FGDs revealed that PWDs face stigma and discrimination in accessing healthcare services, with many reporting being treated poorly by healthcare providers. Some PWDs in Ondo State lack access to assistive devices and transportation, making it difficult to access healthcare services while social protection services are not tailored to meet the needs of PWDs, with many reporting being excluded from programs and services.

Focus group discussions with PWDs, caregivers, and community leaders revealed deeply ingrained frustrations. Many PWDs recounted negative experiences at healthcare facilities, including long wait times, inadequate disability-friendly transport, and a general lack of understanding from medical staff. Caregivers shared concerns about the financial burden of caring for PWDs and the difficulty in accessing medical assistance. Community leaders suggested strengthening advocacy and



inclusive policy-making processes to ensure that the voices of PWDs are heard and their needs addressed. The discussions highlighted the urgency of reforming healthcare and social protection systems to be more inclusive and equitable.

Observational assessments further validated these findings, revealing widespread accessibility issues in both healthcare and social service centers. Many healthcare facilities are not wheelchair-friendly, lacking ramps & handrails and other essential infrastructure modifications. Social welfare offices also pose significant accessibility challenges, with few accommodations for PWDs and an absence of dedicated service points for their needs. These physical barriers make it exceedingly difficult for PWDs to access the services they require, exacerbating their social and economic marginalization.

7.2 Key Informant Interviews (KIs)

Key informant interviews provided valuable perspectives on the state of healthcare and social protection for PWDs. Healthcare providers acknowledged the urgent need for disability-inclusive training and facility improvements. Policymakers highlighted budget constraints and logistical challenges as major obstacles in expanding disability-friendly services. Disability advocates emphasized the importance of policy reforms and the need for community-based interventions to improve service delivery. These insights underscore the necessity of multi-

stakeholder collaboration in addressing the barriers faced by PWDs.

Ten KIs were conducted with healthcare providers, social protection officials, and disability advocates in Ondo State. The KIs revealed that Healthcare providers lack training and skills to provide inclusive services for PWDs. Even though there are some social protection interventions by the government for the persons with disability in the state, awareness and understanding of their availability was poor, leading to assumed report and feedback on exclusion and marginalization. Some of the KI respondents reported that PWDs face significant barriers in accessing healthcare and social protection services, and called for increased awareness and sensitization on disability rights and inclusion.

7.3 Qualitative Findings

The Qualitative Assessment of Access of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) to Healthcare and Social Protection Services in Ondo State through Focus Group Discussions, Key Informant Interviews and inputs during the validation exercise provides an in-depth review of existing programs and initiatives aimed at improving the welfare of PWDs. The report evaluates the effectiveness of key interventions, including educational support, employment opportunities, economic empowerment programs, and healthcare accessibility. It highlights the progress made in promoting inclusivity

while identifying gaps that hinder the full participation of PWDs in social and economic activities.

7.3.1 Health Care Access

a. Enrolment of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Government Health Insurance Scheme

Access to quality healthcare remains a significant challenge for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State. To address this, the state government has made efforts to enrol PWDs in its health insurance scheme, ensuring they receive essential medical services at subsidized rates. The Ondo State Risk Assessment and General Health Insurance Scheme (ORANGHIS) was introduced to provide affordable healthcare, and steps have been taken to integrate PWDs into the program. This initiative is crucial in mitigating the financial burden of healthcare expenses, particularly for individuals with disabilities who often require frequent medical attention and specialized treatments.

Despite this progress, enrolment rates remain low due to various factors, including a lack of awareness, bureaucratic bottlenecks, and limited coverage of disability-specific healthcare services under the scheme. Many PWDs still struggle to afford insurance premiums, even when subsidized, highlighting the need for increased government funding and donor support. To enhance the impact of this program, targeted sensitization campaigns and simplified registration processes should be introduced to ensure that more PWDs can benefit from the initiative. Additionally, expanding the scope of the insurance scheme to cover assistive devices, rehabilitation services, and mental health support will further strengthen healthcare accessibility for



PWDs in Ondo State.

b. Inclusive Financial Support Programs for Medical Cases at the Ministry of Health

The financial burden of healthcare for PWDs extends beyond insurance coverage, necessitating additional support mechanisms to cater to critical and emergency medical needs. In response, the Ondo State Ministry of Health has developed Inclusive Financial Support Programs to assist PWDs in covering medical expenses that may not be fully addressed by conventional health insurance schemes. These programs provide financial aid for specialized treatments, surgeries, rehabilitation, and the procurement of assistive devices such as wheelchairs, hearing aids, and prosthetics.

However, the effectiveness of these financial support programs is often hindered by limited funding, bureaucratic delays, and the exclusion of many PWDs due to stringent eligibility criteria. Many beneficiaries face difficulties accessing these funds due to a lack of proper documentation or awareness of the programs. To improve inclusivity and



reach, the government should streamline the application process, increase budgetary allocations for PWD medical support, and ensure timely disbursement of funds. Additionally, collaboration with private sector stakeholders, NGOs, and donor agencies can help expand the financial support available to PWDs, ensuring they receive the medical attention they need without facing financial hardship.

c. Low Awareness About Existing Healthcare Services and Support

One of the major barriers preventing Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State from accessing healthcare services is the low level of awareness about available programs and support. Many PWDs are not informed about government initiatives, insurance schemes, and financial aid programs designed to assist them in accessing healthcare. This lack of awareness often leads to underutilization of essential services, leaving many individuals without proper medical care.

The situation is worsened by the absence of targeted information dissemination strategies. Most awareness campaigns are not tailored to accommodate the communication needs of PWDs, such as those with hearing or visual impairments. To bridge this gap, the government and relevant stakeholders need to implement inclusive awareness strategies, such as using braille, sign language interpretations, and community engagement programs to educate PWDs on available healthcare services.

d. Lack of Disability-Friendly Infrastructure in Health Facilities

Most healthcare facilities in Ondo State are not designed to accommodate the needs of PWDs. Physical barriers such as lack of ramps, inaccessible toilets, and absence of elevators make it difficult for individuals with mobility impairments to access medical services. Additionally, examination tables and medical equipment are often not adjustable to suit people with different forms of disabilities, leading to discomfort and inadequate care. To improve access, it is essential that government and private healthcare providers prioritize disability-friendly infrastructure in all health facilities. Constructing ramps, widening doorways, and ensuring accessible toilets and waiting areas are crucial steps toward making healthcare facilities inclusive for PWDs.

e. Lack of Synergy Among PWD Clusters to Fight for Their General Interest

PWDs in Ondo State belong to various clusters based on their specific disabilities, such as visual impairment, hearing impairment, and physical disabilities. However, there is a noticeable lack of coordination among these groups in advocating for their collective interests. The absence of a unified voice weakens their ability to demand policy reforms, improved healthcare services, and increased government intervention.



Strengthening collaboration among PWD clusters can enhance their advocacy efforts. Establishing a coalition of PWD groups that work together to engage policymakers and healthcare institutions will create a stronger platform for promoting disability-inclusive healthcare policies and programs.

f. Lack of Disaggregated Data of PWDs in Ondo State

The absence of a comprehensive database on PWDs in Ondo State has resulted in unequal access to healthcare services. Without accurate data, the government and healthcare providers struggle to allocate resources effectively, making it difficult to design programs that address the specific needs of PWDs. This has led to many PWDs being excluded from essential healthcare interventions and support schemes.

To address this issue, the state government should conduct a detailed survey to collect disaggregated data on PWDs, including their healthcare needs, geographical distribution, and socioeconomic status. This data will help in the formulation of targeted policies and ensure equitable access to healthcare services for all PWDs in the state.

g. Lack of Sign Language Interpreters at Healthcare Facilities

Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals face significant challenges when seeking medical care due to the lack of sign

language interpreters in healthcare facilities. Many healthcare providers are unable to communicate effectively with patients who rely on sign language, leading to misdiagnosis, improper treatment, and frustration among PWDs.

To bridge this communication gap, healthcare centres should employ trained sign language interpreters or provide medical staff with basic sign language training. This will ensure that hearing-impaired individuals receive proper medical attention without the barrier of communication challenges.

7.3.2 Social Protection Access

The report examines government-led initiatives such as bursary and scholarship provisions, which seek to bridge the financial gap preventing PWDs from accessing quality education. It also assesses employment opportunities, particularly policies mandating the inclusion of PWDs in government and private-sector jobs, while addressing challenges such as workplace accessibility. Economic empowerment programs, including annual skill acquisition and business support initiatives, are reviewed for their impact on improving financial independence among PWDs.

Furthermore, the report analyzed the Ondo State Risk Assessment and General Health Insurance Scheme (ORANGHIS), evaluating its role in enhancing healthcare



access for PWDs. It also discusses social protection interventions such as the YESSO Program and Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT), which provide financial relief and employment support to PWDs. While these programs have contributed to improving the quality of life for PWDs, the report underscores the need for enhanced implementation strategies, greater inclusivity, and sustained government and stakeholder commitment to achieving a fully accessible and equitable society for all.

a. Provision of Bursary and Scholarship

Access to education remains a significant challenge for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State, largely due to financial constraints and inadequate support systems. Recognizing this, the government and various organizations have introduced bursary and scholarship schemes to enable PWDs to pursue formal education at different levels. These financial aid programs cover tuition fees, learning materials, and sometimes even stipends for transportation and other educational needs. However, despite these efforts, gaps remain in accessibility, as many beneficiaries struggle with bureaucratic hurdles in applying for these scholarships. There is a need for a more inclusive and streamlined process to ensure that all eligible students with disabilities can benefit from these educational opportunities without facing undue challenges.

b. Provision of Employment for PWDs

Economic empowerment for PWDs is crucial in promoting self-reliance and reducing dependence on social welfare programs. The Ondo State government has failed to domesticate the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, 2018 and its implementation of the expected reservation of 5% quotas for PWDs in government jobs as stipulated in Part VI section 28 of the Act. Additionally, vocational training programs have been designed to equip PWDs with skills relevant to the labour market. However, challenges persist in implementation, as some workplaces remain inaccessible due to a lack of disability-friendly infrastructure. More targeted interventions, such as employer awareness campaigns and workplace adaptations, are needed to create a truly inclusive work environment for PWDs.

c. Empowerment Schemes

Empowerment programs play a critical role in supporting PWDs by providing them with resources, skills, and financial assistance to enhance their livelihoods. These initiatives often include the distribution of assistive devices, business grants, vocational training, and mentorship programs. In Ondo State, such empowerment programs were expected to be instrumental in promoting



entrepreneurship among PWDs, enabling them to start small-scale businesses and improve their economic status. However, for sustained impact, there is a need for structured follow-up mechanisms to track beneficiaries' progress and offer continuous support beyond the initial empowerment phase. Expanding these programs to reach more beneficiaries and ensuring equitable distribution of resources will further enhance the effectiveness of these initiatives.

d. Establishment of Health Insurance Scheme (ORANGHIS)

Healthcare access for PWDs remains a significant concern due to financial constraints, mobility challenges, and inadequate disability-friendly healthcare facilities. The Ondo State government introduced the Ondo State Risk Assessment and General Health Insurance Scheme (ORANGHIS) to improve healthcare accessibility for all residents, including PWDs. Under this scheme, registered beneficiaries can access essential healthcare services at reduced costs, thereby easing the financial burden of medical treatment. Despite its potential benefits, awareness of ORANGHIS remains low among PWDs, and many face difficulties in the registration process. Enhancing outreach efforts, simplifying the enrolment procedure, and ensuring healthcare facilities under the scheme are equipped to cater to the specific needs of PWDs will greatly improve healthcare access and utilization.

e. YESSO Program, Conditional Cash Transfer, and Other Forms of Empowerment

The Youth Employment and Social Support Operation (YESSO) program and the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) initiative have been vital in providing financial relief to citizens in Ondo State. These programs offer targeted support through direct cash transfers and employment opportunities, helping to lift beneficiaries out of poverty. Additionally, other empowerment schemes, including skill acquisition programs and microfinance loans, have been implemented to promote financial independence among citizens. While these initiatives have yielded some positive results, more transparency and inclusivity are needed in beneficiary selection processes to ensure that the most vulnerable individuals such as PWDs truly benefit. Expanding the scope of these programs and integrating additional capacity-building components will further enhance their long-term impact.

7.3.3 Legal Framework

The legal framework governing the rights and welfare of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State remains inadequate due to the absence of a comprehensive disability law. While Nigeria enacted the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act in 2018, its domestication and implementation at the state level has been slow and ineffective.



Ondo State has yet to domesticate this law, leaving PWDs without a legal framework to guarantee their rights to accessibility, employment, healthcare, and social inclusion. The lack of state-specific legislation hinders the enforcement of disability-friendly policies and creates barriers to justice for PWDs facing discrimination or exclusion. It is worthy of note that the only disability-related law in Ondo state is the law establishing the Ondo State Agency for the Welfare of Persons with Disabilities in Ondo State.

Additionally, the absence of a structured legal mechanism results in poor implementation of existing welfare provisions, as there are no binding regulations to ensure accountability. Government agencies tasked with disability affairs often lack the mandate or resources to implement necessary interventions effectively. Without a robust legal framework, PWDs continue to experience systematic marginalization, with limited access to essential services and opportunities for economic empowerment. Advocacy for the enactment of a state disability law is crucial to addressing these gaps and ensuring that the rights of PWDs are fully protected and upheld.

The following were the findings and challenges:

a. Appointment of Board Members in Agencies for PWDs and into other positions.

The inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in decision-making processes is crucial for ensuring their needs and concerns are adequately addressed. The appointment of board members with disabilities in agencies responsible for disability affairs in Ondo State will provide an opportunity for firsthand representation and advocacy. This will ensure that policies and programs designed for PWDs are effectively implemented and reflect the actual challenges faced by the community. Also, PWDs in the state have not been considered worthy of other appointive positions that could engendered inclusivity and voice for the underrepresented community of persons with disabilities as well as sense of belonging.

b. Engagement of PWDs in Ondo State Civil Services

Providing employment opportunities for PWDs in Ondo State public services is a vital step toward social inclusion and economic empowerment. Despite their capabilities, many PWDs face discrimination in the labour market due to stereotypes and inaccessible work environments. By creating targeted employment policies, implementing the minimum 5% employment quota as stipulated in the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, 2018 and inclusive workspaces, the state government can improve the representation of PWDs in its workforce, thereby fostering greater financial independence and social integration.

c. Grant/Awarding of Scholarships for PWDs in the State

Education is a key factor in breaking the cycle of poverty for PWDs, yet financial constraints often prevent many from completing their studies. The provision of scholarships specifically tailored for students with disabilities in Ondo State will enable them to access quality education and build careers. These scholarships should cover tuition, learning materials, and assistive devices to ensure that beneficiaries can learn in an inclusive environment without financial burdens.

d. Review of Bursary Award from 10,000 to 20,000 for PWDs

Currently, the bursary award for PWDs in Ondo State stands at ₦10,000, an amount that is inadequate given the rising costs of education and living expenses. A review and increase of the bursary to ₦20,000 will better support students with disabilities, enabling them to afford essential academic materials, transportation, and other necessities. This increment will not only encourage more PWDs to pursue higher education but also demonstrate the government's commitment to fostering inclusive education policies.

e. Inclusion of PWDs in the Entrepreneurship Scheme

Entrepreneurship serves as a viable means for economic empowerment, particularly for PWDs who face employment barriers in the formal job market. The inclusion of PWDs in Ondo State's entrepreneurship schemes will provide them with access to funding, skill acquisition programs, and mentorship opportunities. Special provisions should be made to accommodate their unique needs, such as providing adaptive tools and

accessible training centres.

f. Non-Availability of Disability Law in the State

Despite the growing recognition of disability rights, Ondo State has yet to pass a comprehensive disability law that ensures the protection and inclusion of PWDs. The absence of legal backing limits the effectiveness of policies designed to support PWDs and makes it difficult to enforce necessary changes. The enactment of a disability law will provide a legal framework for accessibility, employment quotas, and social protections for PWDs in the state. It should be noted that the only disability-related law in Ondo state is the law establishing the Agency for the welfare of persons with disabilities.



g. Poor Access to Public Offices

PWDs in Ondo State continue to face significant barriers when attempting to access public offices due to the absence of ramps, elevators, and other disability-friendly infrastructure. Government buildings remain largely inaccessible, preventing PWDs from fully participating in civic and administrative activities. There is

an urgent need for the government to enforce accessibility standards in public spaces to promote inclusivity.

h. Unfriendly Activities of Government Workers Towards PWDs

Many PWDs have reported experiencing discrimination, neglect, and insensitivity from government workers when seeking public services. This creates a discouraging environment and further marginalizes PWDs from benefiting from government programs. Sensitization training should be introduced for public service workers to ensure they adopt inclusive practices when attending to PWDs.

i. Poor Implementation of Approved Welfare Package for PWDs

The state government had previously approved a ₦10,000 monthly allowance for PWDs in Ago-Iretì, a state-owned settlement for persons with leprosy in Ondo State. However, the last recorded payment was made in November 2024, leaving many beneficiaries without critical financial support. The inconsistency in welfare package disbursement highlights a need for stronger accountability mechanisms to ensure that funds allocated for PWDs reach their intended recipients consistently.

j. Poor Implementation of Budgetary Provisions Towards the Welfare of PWDs

Although budgetary allocations are often made for the welfare of PWDs, the funds do not always translate into tangible benefits due to poor implementation and lack of transparency. Many initiatives remain unexecuted or are inadequately funded, leaving PWDs without the support they require. Proper monitoring and evaluation frameworks should be established to

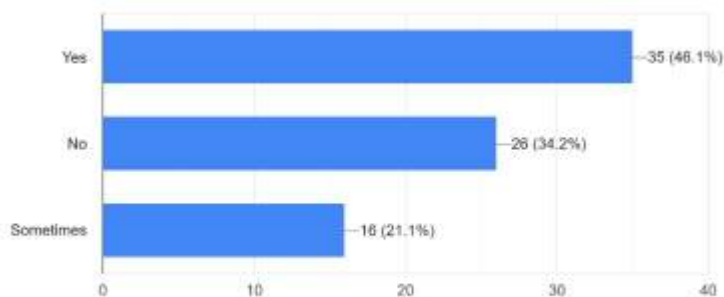
ensure that budgeted funds are utilized effectively for the betterment of PWDs in Ondo State.

Quantitative Survey Analysis

7.3.1 Access to Health Care Facilities

The research findings on access to healthcare facilities for people with disabilities in Ondo State reveal that 46.1% of respondents reported having full access to healthcare services, 34.2% indicated they had no access at all, while 21.1% stated they only sometimes had access. These percentages highlight a significant gap in healthcare accessibility, with over half of the respondents either lacking access or facing inconsistent availability of services. The findings underscore the urgent need for targeted interventions, including infrastructure improvements, disability-inclusive healthcare policies, and increased awareness among healthcare providers to ensure equitable healthcare access for all individuals with disabilities.



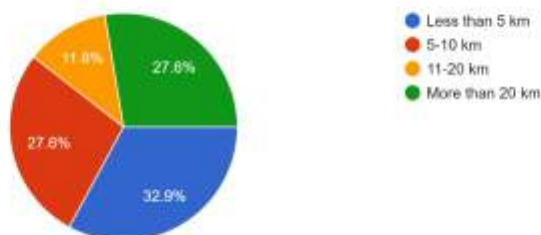


7.3.2 Distance to Facilities

The findings on the proximity of healthcare facilities to respondents' homes indicate significant disparities in access to healthcare services for people with disabilities in Ondo State. While 32.9% of respondents reported living within 5 km of a healthcare facility, a concerning 27.6% indicated that their nearest facility was over 20 km away, posing serious challenges for individuals with mobility impairments or financial constraints. Additionally, 27.6% reported a distance of 5-10 km, and 11.8% stated they had to travel between 11-20 km to access healthcare. These figures highlight a critical accessibility issue, as long travel distances can delay timely medical attention, increase transportation costs, and deter individuals from seeking necessary healthcare services.

If Yes, How Far Is the Nearest Healthcare Facility from Your Home?

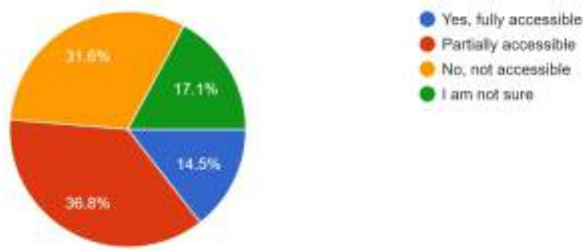
76 responses



7.3.3 Accessibility of the Health Care Facilities

The findings on the accessibility of healthcare facility buildings for persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State reveal significant limitations in infrastructure and inclusivity. Only 14.5% of respondents reported that healthcare facilities are fully accessible, while 36.8% found them partially accessible, indicating that some facilities have made efforts toward inclusivity but still present challenges. Alarming, 31.6% of respondents stated that healthcare buildings are not accessible at all, highlighting major structural barriers such as the absence of ramps, elevators, and disability-friendly restrooms. Additionally, 17.1% were unsure, suggesting a lack of awareness or exposure to healthcare facilities. These results underscore the diverse accessibility concerns among PWDs, as individuals with mobility impairments may struggle with stairs and narrow doorways, while visually impaired persons may face navigation challenges, and those with hearing impairments may lack access to sign language interpreters.

Are Healthcare Facilities in Your Area Disability-Friendly? (e.g., ramps, accessible toilets)
76 responses

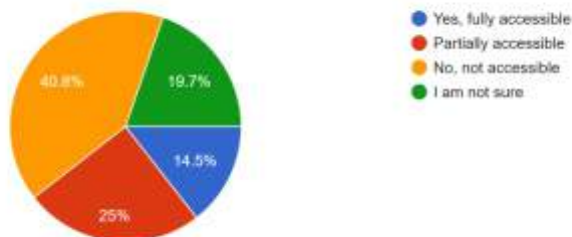


7.3.4 Signages for guidance for PWDs at Health Care Facilities

The findings on the availability of appropriate signage and directions for persons with disabilities (PWDs) in hospitals and clinics in Ondo State highlight significant gaps in inclusive healthcare infrastructure. Only 14.5% of respondents confirmed the presence of adequate signage, while 25% stated that signages were only partially available, suggesting inconsistent implementation across facilities. Alarming, 40.8% reported a complete absence of disability-friendly signs, making navigation difficult for individuals with visual, hearing, and cognitive impairments. Additionally, 19.7% were unsure, which could indicate a lack of awareness or that signage is not prominent enough. This lack of clear directional guidance poses a major barrier to healthcare access, especially for visually impaired individuals who may require braille or audio-assisted instructions, and for those with mobility impairments who need clear indications of wheelchair-accessible routes.

Are there appropriate signage or directions to guide persons with disabilities in hospitals?

76 responses

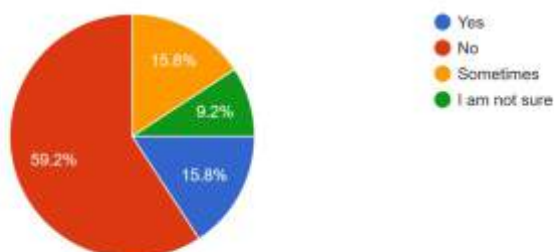


7.3.5 Availability of Specialized Care for persons with disabilities in Ondo State

The findings on the provision of specialized care for persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State reveal a significant gap in inclusive healthcare services. A majority (59.2%) of respondents stated that healthcare providers do not offer specialized care tailored to the needs of PWDs, highlighting a lack of trained personnel, assistive technologies, and disability-friendly medical services. Only 15.8% reported that such specialized care is available, while an equal percentage (15.8%) said it is provided only sometimes, suggesting inconsistencies in service delivery. 9.2% of respondents were unsure, which could indicate a lack of awareness or exposure to disability-inclusive care.

Do Healthcare Providers Offer Specialized Care for Persons with Disabilities?

76 responses



7.3.6 Barriers to Accessing Health care

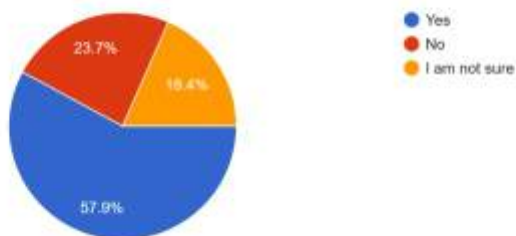
The urgent need for healthcare facilities to prioritize infrastructure upgrades, introduce assistive technologies, and enforce disability-inclusive policies to ensure that all



individuals, regardless of their physical abilities, can access healthcare services without hindrance. The findings indicate that physical and structural barriers remain a significant challenge for persons with disabilities (PWDs) in accessing healthcare services in Ondo State. A majority (57.9%) of respondents reported observing various obstacles, such as the lack of ramps, inaccessible toilets, absence of clear signage, and inadequate disability-friendly medical equipment, which severely hinder mobility and independent navigation within healthcare facilities. Conversely, 23.7% of respondents stated they had not observed such barriers, suggesting that some facilities may have made efforts to improve accessibility. However, 18.6% were unsure, which could imply either a lack of awareness or limited interaction with PWDs in healthcare settings.

Have you observed any barriers (e.g., physical obstacles, lack of signage, or inadequate facilities) that prevent persons with disabilities from fully accessing healthcare services in your area?

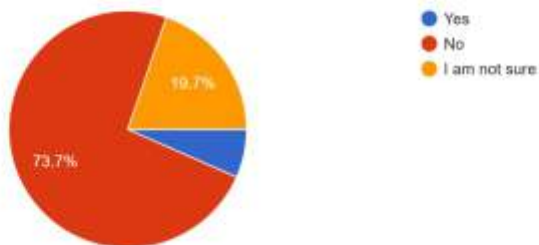
76 responses



7.3.7 PWDs' Access to sign language interpreters or alternative communication methods

The findings reveal a severe lack of communication support for Deaf individuals in healthcare facilities across Ondo State, with an overwhelming 73.7% of respondents stating that sign language interpreters or alternative communication methods are not available during medical consultations and treatments. Only 6.6% reported access to such services, while the rest were unsure, highlighting a widespread gap in inclusive healthcare communication. This lack of accessibility creates significant barriers for Deaf patients, leading to miscommunication, misdiagnoses, and inadequate medical care. The absence of visual aids, written instructions, or trained interpreters further exacerbates health inequalities for the Deaf community.

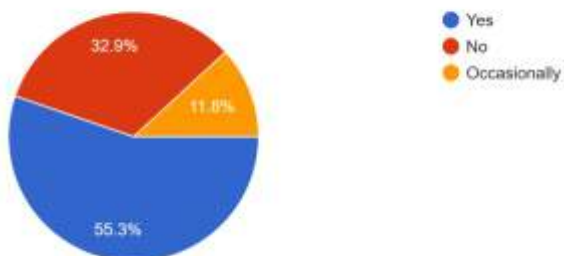
Do healthcare facilities in your area provide access to sign language interpreters or alternative communication methods (e.g., written communication) during medical consultations and treatments?
76 responses



7.3.8 PWDs Challenges Accessing Healthcare Services

The findings reveal that a significant proportion (55.3%) of respondents have faced challenges accessing healthcare services due to their disabilities, while 32.9% reported no challenges, and 11.8% experienced occasional difficulties. The specific challenges highlighted by respondents include physical inaccessibility, such as the absence of ramps, inaccessible restrooms, and hospital buildings with multiple floors without elevators, making movement difficult for individuals with mobility impairments. Many respondents also reported experiencing discrimination, stigmatization, and dehumanization from healthcare providers, which discouraged them from seeking medical care.

Have You Ever Faced Any Challenges Accessing Health Services Due to Your Disability?
76 responses



Communication barriers were another major concern, particularly for Deaf individuals who struggle due to the lack of sign language interpreters, and for blind individuals who are often neglected in medical settings. Financial constraints further exacerbate the situation, as some respondents mentioned that they only receive attention when they have the

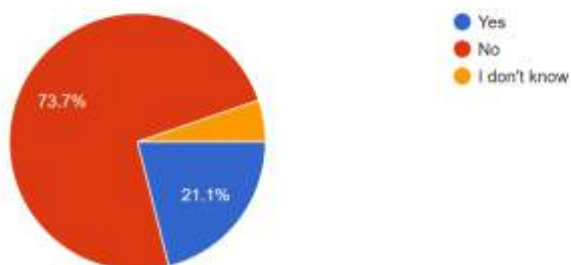
necessary funds for treatment, which disproportionately affects persons with disabilities who may already face economic hardship. Also, some respondents noted long wait times, neglect, and inadequate medical attention due to their disabilities. Others pointed out that hospitals lack specialized treatment for conditions such as albinism-related vision problems and skin issues.

7.3.9 Health Insurance Coverage

The findings indicate that a vast majority (73.7%) of persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State do not have health insurance coverage, highlighting a significant gap in healthcare accessibility for this vulnerable population. Only 21.1% reported having some form of health insurance, while 5.3% were unsure about the existence of such coverage. The lack of a structured and inclusive health insurance policy poses a major challenge, as many PWDs face financial difficulties that prevent them from accessing essential medical care. This gap underscores the need for government intervention to implement disability-inclusive health insurance schemes that provide subsidized or free healthcare coverage for PWDs.

Do you have health insurance coverage?

76 responses



8.0 Social Protection Findings

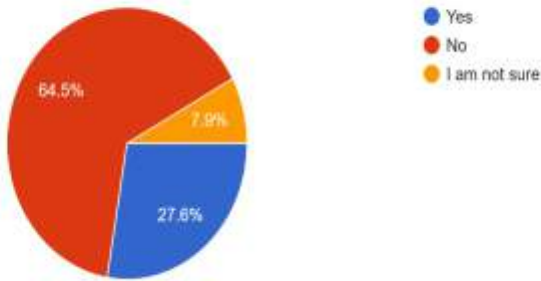
8.1 Knowledge of any social protection programs for PWDs in Ondo State

The findings reveal a significant lack of awareness regarding social protection programs for persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State. A majority (64.5%) of respondents indicated that they were unaware of any such programs, while only 27.6% reported being informed about available support services, and 7.9% were unsure. This lack of awareness suggests that existing social protection initiatives may not be effectively reaching their

target beneficiaries, possibly due to poor dissemination of information, inadequate outreach efforts, or bureaucratic inefficiencies. Without proper knowledge of these programs, many PWDs miss out on crucial financial, healthcare, and welfare support designed to improve their well-being.

Are You Aware of Any Social Protection Programs for Persons With Disabilities in Ondo State?

76 responses



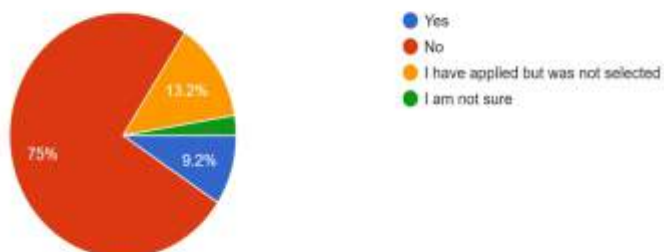
8.2 Beneficiary of Any Social Protection Program

Only a small fraction (9.2%) of persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State have benefited from any form of social protection programs, such as financial support, disability grants, or vocational training. A significant majority (75%) reported never receiving such benefits, while 13.2% applied but were not selected, and others were unsure. This suggests that while social protection programs may exist, their reach and effectiveness are limited, leaving many PWDs without essential support. The exclusion of a large portion of PWDs from these programs may be due to bureaucratic bottlenecks, limited funding, or inadequate awareness and outreach efforts. However, it is noteworthy that one of the respondents referenced what PWDs benefitted during Governor Mimiko’s administration, the government provided free education for the majority, extending up to the university level, which significantly contributed to improving access to education for PWDs. Additionally, persons affected by leprosy, who are also recognized as having disabilities, have received government support, demonstrating an effort to provide inclusive care.



Have You Ever Benefited from Any Social Protection Programs (e.g., financial support, disability grants, vocational training)?

76 responses

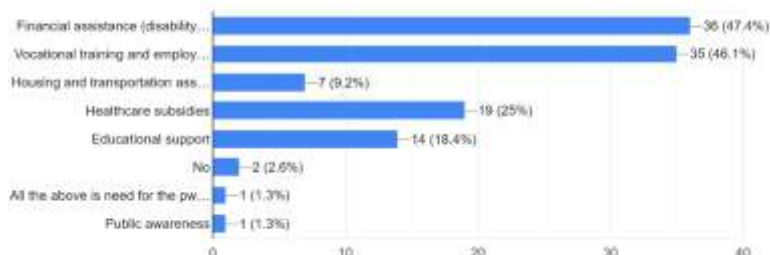


8.3 Types of social protection services desired by PWDs in Ondo State

The findings highlight that financial assistance, such as disability grants, is perceived as the most beneficial form of social protection for persons with disabilities (PWDs), with 47.4% of respondents prioritizing this need. Vocational training and employment support followed closely at 46.1%, indicating a strong desire among PWDs for economic empowerment and sustainable livelihoods. Healthcare subsidies (25%) and educational support (18.4%) were also considered essential, reflecting the ongoing challenges PWDs face in accessing medical care and inclusive education. Housing and transportation assistance, while ranked lower at 9.2%, remains an important aspect of social protection, as accessibility barriers in these areas continue to limit the mobility and independence of PWDs. Notably, 1.3% of respondents expressed the need for a holistic approach that integrates all these support systems, emphasizing that a multi-faceted strategy is necessary to fully address the diverse challenges faced by PWDs.

What Type of Social Protection Programs Do You Think Would Be Most Beneficial for Persons with Disabilities?

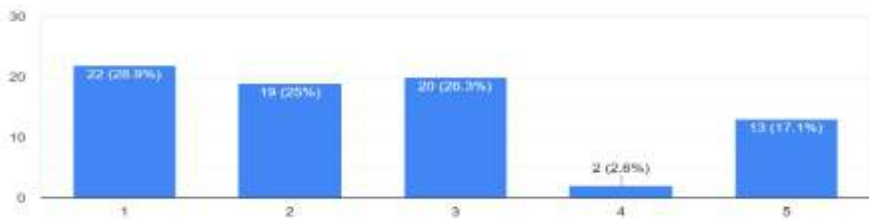
76 responses





8.4 Rating of Current Social Protection Services in Ondo State

The findings indicate that the awareness level of social protection programs for persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State remains relatively low, with an average rating of 2.54 out of 5. A significant proportion of respondents (28.9%) rated awareness at the lowest level (1), while 25% rated it at 2, suggesting that more than half of the respondents perceive awareness as very poor. Additionally, 26.3% provided a neutral rating of 3, while only a small fraction rated awareness positively, with 2.6% giving a score of 4 and 17.1% rating it at the highest level of 5. These results highlight a substantial gap in outreach and information dissemination about social protection programs for PWDs. The low ratings suggest that many PWDs may not be receiving adequate information about available benefits, which could limit their ability to access crucial support services. This underscores the need for enhanced advocacy, targeted awareness campaigns, and the use of accessible communication channels, including sign language, braille materials, and digital platforms, to ensure that PWDs are fully informed about the programs designed to support their well-being.



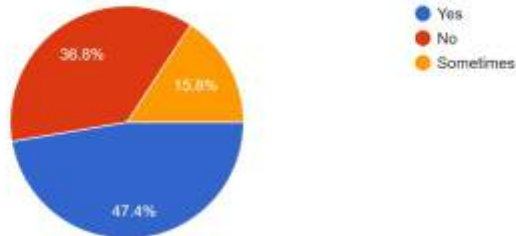
8.5 Barriers in Accessing Social Protection Services in Ondo State

On barriers to accessing social protection services or benefitting from Government’s social protection programs, 47.4% of respondents reported encountering difficulties, while 36.8% stated they had not faced any barriers, and 15.8% said they sometimes experienced challenges. The barriers reported include administrative delays, lack of awareness about available programs, difficulty in meeting eligibility criteria, and discrimination in service delivery. Additionally, inaccessible service centers and inadequate support for specific disabilities further limit access to these essential programs.



Have you faced any barriers in accessing social protection services?

76 responses



The findings reveal a range of barriers preventing persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State from accessing social protection services, with 47.4% reporting difficulties. Among the challenges identified, financial constraints, discrimination, and lack of awareness were frequently mentioned. Many respondents noted the absence of inclusive infrastructure, such as ramps, sign language interpreters, and accessible buildings, making it difficult for PWDs to access services. Others reported bureaucratic delays and political favouritism in the distribution of social benefits. Isolation and exclusion from decision-making processes further limit the effectiveness of social protection programs.

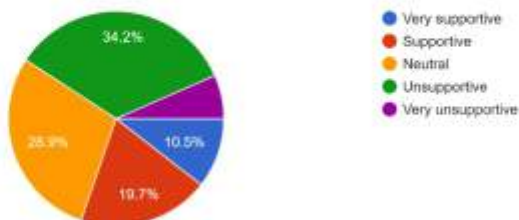
8.6 Attitudes of Healthcare Providers

8.6.1 General attitudes of Healthcare Providers towards PWDs

Healthcare providers in Ondo State exhibit varying attitudes toward persons with disabilities (PWDs), with a significant portion of respondents perceiving their approach as unsupportive. While 10.5% of respondents found healthcare providers to be very supportive and 19.7% considered them supportive, a notable 28.9% remained neutral, indicating uncertainty or mixed experiences. However, a majority of 40.8% (34.2% unsupportive and 6.6% very unsupportive) expressed dissatisfaction, citing neglect, discrimination, and lack of disability-inclusive practices in healthcare settings. This suggests that while some healthcare professionals demonstrate empathy and support, many still lack the necessary training and awareness to provide inclusive and accommodating care to PWDs. Addressing these concerns requires capacity-building initiatives, policy enforcement, and sensitization programs to improve healthcare providers' attitudes and ensure equitable access to quality healthcare for PWDs.

How would you describe the general attitude of healthcare providers toward persons with disabilities in your area?

76 responses

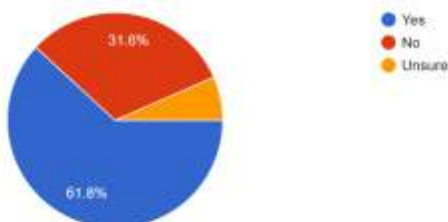


8.6.2 Discrimination by Healthcare Provider

Significant majority of persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State have experienced discrimination or stigmatization from healthcare providers, with 61.8% of respondents reporting such encounters. This highlights a pervasive issue in the healthcare system, where negative attitudes and prejudices against PWDs contribute to unequal treatment and reduced access to quality care. While 31.6% of respondents stated they had not faced discrimination, the remaining percentage was unsure, suggesting that some individuals may not recognize subtle forms of bias or exclusion. Reports from respondents include being ignored, treated with disrespect, or denied services due to their disabilities. Such discriminatory practices discourage PWDs from seeking medical attention, ultimately affecting their health outcomes.

Have you ever experienced discrimination or stigmatization by a healthcare provider because of your disability?

76 responses



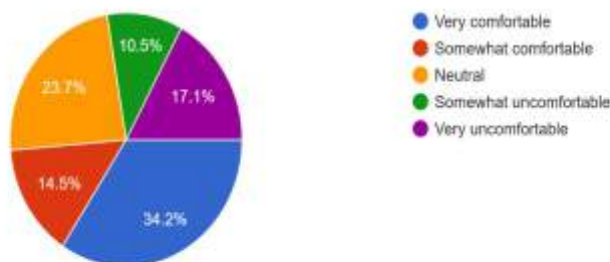
8.6.3 Comfortability discussing Health Concerns with Healthcare personnel

Assessing how comfortable the PWDs feel discussing their health challenge with healthcare providers, findings reveal that while 34.2% of respondents feel very

comfortable discussing their health concerns with healthcare personnel, a considerable proportion experiences some level of discomfort. Specifically, 14.5% feel somewhat comfortable, 23.7% remain neutral, 10.5% feel somewhat uncomfortable, and 17.1% feel very uncomfortable. This indicates that nearly 28% of persons with disabilities (PWDs) struggle with openly communicating their health issues, which may be attributed to factors such as healthcare providers' attitudes, communication barriers, or previous negative experiences. The neutrality expressed by a significant portion of respondents suggests uncertainty or mixed experiences in healthcare interactions.

How comfortable do you feel when discussing your health concerns with healthcare personnel?

76 responses:



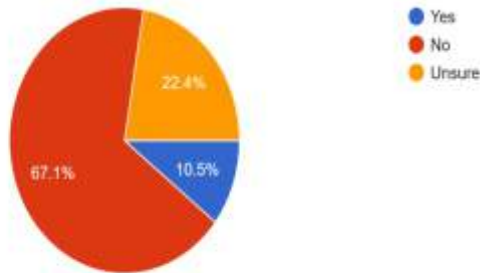
9.0 Budgetary Provision and Funding for PWD Services

9.1 Funding availability for healthcare services specifically for PWDs

A significant majority (67.1%) of respondents believe there are insufficient funds allocated for healthcare services specifically for persons with disabilities (PWDs) in their area. Additionally, 22.4% were unsure about the availability of such funds, suggesting a lack of transparency or awareness regarding budgetary provisions for disability-inclusive healthcare. Only 10.5% of respondents affirmed the presence of adequate funding. This data underscores the financial constraints limiting access to quality healthcare for PWDs, which may contribute to inadequate medical infrastructure, lack of assistive technologies, and insufficient specialized care.

Are there sufficient funds allocated for healthcare services specifically for persons with disabilities in your area?

76 responses

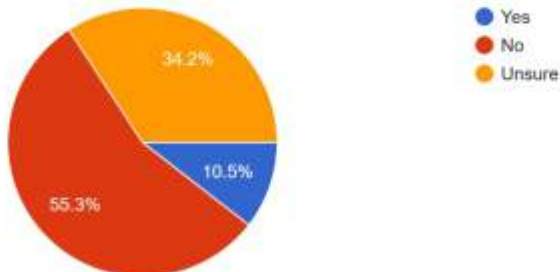


9.2 Effective utilization of Available Resources

Majority of respondents (55.3%) believe that the funding allocated for healthcare services for persons with disabilities (PWDs) is not used efficiently. Additionally, 34.2% were unsure, which may indicate a lack of transparency or awareness regarding how funds are managed and utilized. Only 10.5% of respondents felt that the funds were being used efficiently. This perception of inefficiency could stem from inadequate healthcare infrastructure, poor service delivery, corruption, or mismanagement of resources. The findings highlight the need for greater accountability, better oversight mechanisms, and increased community engagement in monitoring the allocation and expenditure of healthcare funds to ensure that PWDs receive the quality care they require.

Do you believe that the funding available for PWD health services is used efficiently?

76 responses



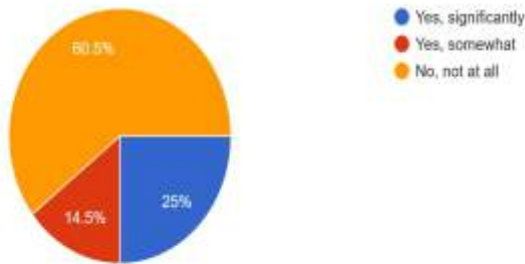
10. Cultural Barriers

10.1 Implication of Cultural norms and beliefs

It was noted that cultural norms and beliefs have varying impacts on access to healthcare for persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State. While 25% of respondents stated that cultural beliefs significantly affect their access to healthcare, 14.5% believed they had a moderate influence. However, a majority (60.5%) reported that cultural norms do not affect their ability to access healthcare services. This suggests that while cultural barriers exist for some, they may not be a universal challenge across the state. The influence of cultural perceptions could be linked to stigma, traditional beliefs about disability, or societal attitudes that may discourage PWDs from seeking medical care.

Do you feel that cultural norms and beliefs in your community affect your access to healthcare?

76 responses

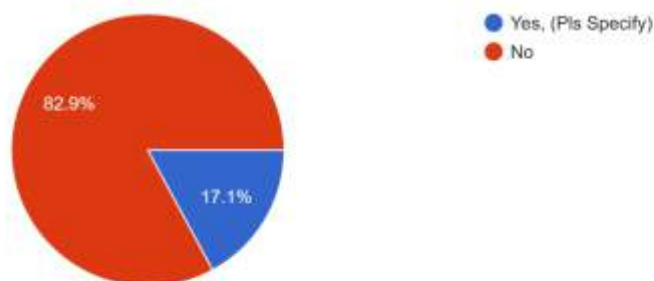


10.2 Specific cultural practices hindering access to Health Care Services

Cultural practices are not a significant barrier to seeking medical attention for most persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State, as 82.9% of respondents reported that no such practices prevent them from accessing healthcare. However, 17.1% acknowledged that cultural factors do pose challenges, which may include traditional beliefs, stigmatization, or family and community attitudes discouraging medical intervention. While this percentage is relatively low, it still highlights the need for continued advocacy and education to address cultural misconceptions about disability and healthcare, ensuring that all PWDs feel empowered to seek medical services without fear of discrimination or social exclusion.

Are there any specific cultural practices that prevent you from seeking or receiving medical attention?

76 responses

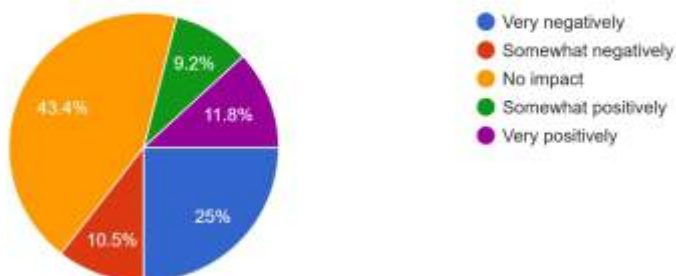


10.3 Impact of Societal perceptions of PWDs access to healthcare

Looking at the impact of societal perceptions of people with disabilities in their access to health care, the findings indicate that societal perceptions of disability have a mixed impact on healthcare access for persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State. While 43.4% of respondents reported that societal views have no impact on their healthcare access, a significant portion (35.5%) experienced negative effects—25% described the impact as very negative, and 10.5% as somewhat negative. This suggests that stigma, discrimination, and societal attitudes may still pose barriers to equitable healthcare for some PWDs. On the other hand, 21% reported positive experiences, with 11.8% stating that societal perceptions have a very positive impact and 9.2% indicating a somewhat positive influence.

How do societal perceptions of disability impact your healthcare access?

76 responses





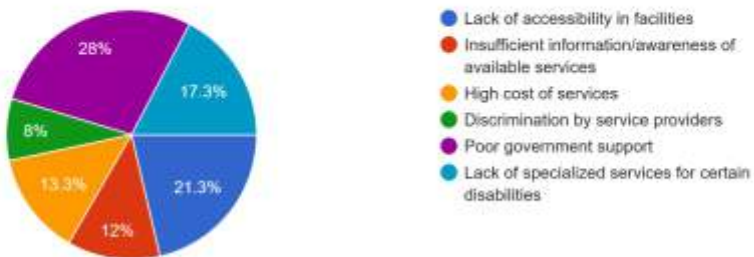
11. Perceived Gaps and Recommendations

11.1 Perceived Barriers Preventing PWDs from Accessing Health and Social Protection Services in Ondo State

There are multiple barriers preventing persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State from accessing health and social protection services. Poor government support emerged as the most significant challenge, cited by 28% of respondents, highlighting gaps in policy implementation and resource allocation. Lack of accessibility in facilities was reported by 21.3%, reflecting physical and structural obstacles that hinder PWDs from using healthcare and social services effectively. Additionally, 17.3% pointed to the lack of specialized services for certain disabilities, emphasizing the need for tailored medical and social support. High service costs (13.3%) and insufficient information or awareness of available services (12%) also contribute to exclusion, limiting the ability of PWDs to seek and utilize essential care. Discrimination by service providers (8%) further exacerbates these challenges, reinforcing the need for inclusive policies, disability-sensitive training for healthcare professionals, and increased advocacy for equitable access to health and social protection services.

In Your Opinion, What Are the Main Barriers Preventing Persons with Disabilities from Accessing Health and Social Protection Services in Ondo State? (Select all that apply)

75 responses



12.0 Recommendations

To enhance access to healthcare services for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State, there is a need for increased awareness beyond the state capital, ensuring that all PWDs are informed about available healthcare programs. Public-private partnerships should be established to provide free or subsidized healthcare, and PWDs must be included in international healthcare initiatives. Training healthcare providers on disability inclusion and recruiting sign language interpreters in major health facilities will improve service delivery. Additionally, the renovation and construction of healthcare centres must incorporate accessibility aids to ensure inclusivity.

For improved access to social protection services, government agencies must effectively follow up on fund releases and strengthen collaboration among stakeholders. PWDs should be actively involved in the planning and implementation of social protection programs, while capacity-building initiatives must be developed to empower them with essential skills. Engaging donor agencies and development partners will enhance program sustainability, and the provision of sign language interpreters at public offices and events will ensure communication accessibility.

Regarding legal frameworks, the Ondo State government must domesticate the Discrimination Against Persons with Disability (Prohibition) Act, 2018, and review the law establishing the State Agency for PWDs to enhance its effectiveness. Policies should be revised to integrate disability inclusion, and awareness campaigns must be launched to educate the public on disability rights. A dedicated disability budgetary line should be introduced in the state budget, and

PWDs must be included in decision-making processes to ensure policies and programs reflect their needs and aspirations.



12.1 Health Services

12.1.1 Improve Accessibility in Healthcare Facilities

- Ensure that all healthcare facilities have wheelchair ramps, handrails, accessible toilets, elevators, signages and assistive technologies for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).
- Recruitment of Sign Language Interpreters into specific health facilities in the state to ensure ease of access and communication for the deaf clusters.
- Provide braille health materials, pictorial guides, and digital accessibility features in hospitals and clinics.
- Introduce disability-inclusive medical equipment such as adjustable hospital beds, low-height counters, and diagnostic tools designed for PWDs.
- Adequate awareness about health care services beyond the state capital
- Public-private partnership to provide free healthcare services for PWDs
- Inclusion of PWDs in international healthcare services for PWDs

12.1.2 Capacity Building for Healthcare Workers

- Conduct regular disability awareness training for medical professionals to enhance their understanding of PWDs' healthcare needs.
- Training of healthcare providers on disability inclusion and health perspective
- Integrate basic sign language training into the curriculum for doctors, nurses, and first responders.

- Develop inclusive communication tools, including braille and audio health information, pictorial health guides, and screen-reader-compatible websites.

12.1.3 Enhance Disability-Specific Health Programs

- Expand rehabilitation and therapy services, including physical therapy, speech therapy, and mental health counselling for PWDs.
- Establish mobile healthcare units to reach PWDs in rural and underserved areas.
- Implement specialized health programs for different disability groups, such as dermatological care for persons with albinism and sensory support for individuals with visual or hearing impairments.
- Renovation/construction of healthcare facilities to incorporate accessibility aids/facilities.
- Recruitment of Specialized Medical Personnel for certain special cases such as Albinism/Skin Cancer focused Dermatologist.
- Establishment of a Skin cancer testing and treatment Centre in Ondo state.

12.2 Social Protection Services

12.2.1 Increase Financial and Economic Empowerment Programs

- The Agency as well as the concerned MDAs should effectively follow up on fund releases for budgeted disability related programs.
- Expand microcredit and grant schemes to support PWD entrepreneurs, ensuring easy access to capital for businesses.
- Provide vocational training aligned with current job market demands, including digital skills, technical trades, and remote work opportunities for PWDs.
- Enforce inclusive workplace policies that mandate reasonable accommodations and equal employment opportunities for PWDs.
- Reduce the qualifications/requirements for microcredit/grant schemes opportunities.
- Minimize bureaucratic bottlenecks towards accessing the grants for PWDs by providing their specific quota and liaising with the agency for PWDs.

12.2.2 Enhance Inclusion in Social Protection Programs

- Implement strict monitoring mechanisms to ensure that PWDs benefit equitably from cash transfers, food assistance, shelter programs, and disability stipends.
- Ensure the inclusion of PWDs in the decision-making processes, committees or boards around social protection programs.
- Establish community-based support systems to promote family and caregiver assistance programs and prevent PWD marginalization.

●Develop targeted support programs for women and children with disabilities, addressing gender-specific barriers and educational access.

- Enhance collaboration and coordination among relevant stakeholders
- Foster active participation and involvement of PWDs in the design, planning and Implementation of social protection programs in the state

12.2.3 Improve Awareness and Accessibility

- Conduct state-wide awareness campaigns using radio, television, social media, and community outreach to educate PWDs and caregivers about available services.
- Develop digitally accessible platforms where PWDs can apply for financial aid, vocational training, and welfare programs without facing bureaucratic hurdles.
- Deploy sign language interpreters and disability desk officers at government agencies and service centers to facilitate PWD access to services.
- Provision of sign language interpreters at various public facilities/functions
- Organize capacity building workshops for PWDs on related issues.
- Design and produce healthcare and social protection related documents, materials in braille format.
- Engaging development partners, donor agencies and organizations for effective collaboration



12.2.4 Disability-Inclusive Health Insurance

- Ensure that PWDs are prioritized in Ondo State health insurance schemes, with subsidies for essential medications, assistive devices, and regular check-ups.
- Integrate disability-friendly services into Ondo State's free healthcare programs, ensuring that PWDs receive affordable and accessible medical care.
- Establish a PWD-specific health insurance policy, covering prosthetics, mobility aids, and home-based care for those with severe disabilities.

12.3 Disability Act Implementation – Legal Framework

12.3.1 Strengthen Policy Implementation and Enforcement

- Fully domesticate and enforce the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, 2018 in Ondo State, ensuring strict compliance in public and private institutions.
- Review and implementation of the law establishing the Ondo State Agency for the Welfare of Persons with Disabilities.
- Review of government policies to incorporate persons with disabilities
- Establish enforcement mechanisms to monitor and penalize violations of disability rights in workplaces, schools, and public institutions.
- Set up a state disability rights agency tasked with ensuring policy implementation, tracking violations, and resolving complaints.

- Creation of disability related budgetary line to cater for the welfare of PWDs in the annual state budget

12.3.2 Enhance Representation in Decision-Making

- Establish an Ondo State Disability Advisory Committee, comprising PWD representatives, advocacy groups, government officials, and the private sector.
- Ensure PWDs are actively included in policy formulation, budgeting, and service implementation for healthcare, social protection, and employment programs.
- Appoint PWD representatives in government committees overseeing infrastructure development, education, and employment policies.
- Increased awareness creation on disability rights in Ondo State
- Inclusion of PWDs in decision-making processes in the state.

12.3.3 Infrastructure and Public Accessibility Reforms

- Enforce building codes that mandate PWD-friendly public buildings, transportation systems, and workplaces.
- Introduce tax incentives and government grants for private businesses and public institutions that implement disability-friendly infrastructure.
- Develop specialized emergency response units trained to assist PWDs during disasters, accidents, and health emergencies.



13.0 Conclusion

People with disabilities in Ondo State continue to face significant barriers in accessing healthcare and social protection services. Addressing these challenges requires a multi-sectoral approach involving government agencies, NGOs, and the private sector. By implementing inclusive policies and infrastructure improvements, Ondo State can enhance the well-being and dignity of PWDs, ensuring that they have equal opportunities to lead healthy and fulfilling lives. The findings of this study highlight the urgent need for action and serve as a call for stakeholders to prioritize the needs of PWDs in policy formulation and service provision.

It is imperative that the state government and healthcare stakeholders prioritize the inclusion of PWDs in all aspects of healthcare planning to achieve a more equitable healthcare system for all and Ondo State would set a positive precedent that could lead to broader implementation across the state, ultimately ensuring that all persons with disabilities have access to the healthcare and social protection services they deserve.





Assessment Questionnaire

QUANTITATIVE SURVEY

This survey aims to assess the current status of access to health and social protection services for persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Ondo State. The objective is to gather information that can help shape better policies and improve the quality of life for PWDs in the region.

Consent to Participate in the Survey

Before you begin, we would like to inform you about the purpose of this survey and request your consent to participate.

Purpose of the Survey:

This survey is being conducted to gather information about the access to health and social protection services for persons with disabilities in Ondo State. The aim is to identify gaps, challenges, and opportunities to improve services and support for persons with disabilities in the region.

Voluntary Participation:

Your participation in this survey is entirely voluntary. You are free to decide whether to participate or not. If you choose to participate, you may withdraw at any time without any consequence.

Confidentiality and Privacy:

All information you provide will be kept confidential and used solely for the purpose of this survey. Your responses will be anonymized, and personal identifiers will not be linked to your answers. The data collected will only be used in aggregate form to help improve policies and programs for persons with disabilities.

Potential Risks and Benefits:

There are no known risks associated with participating in this survey. The information you provide will help raise awareness about the challenges faced by persons with disabilities and may contribute to better support and services in Ondo State.

By signing below, you acknowledge that you have read and understood the purpose of the survey, and you agree to participate voluntarily.

Go to the next section if you consent to these terms.

Thank you.

RESPONDENT'S DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Name:

Sex:

Male

Female

Other:

Email:

Age:

51 And Above

36-50 Years

18-35 Years

0-17 Years

Types Of Disability: (please tick all that apply)

1. Physical Disability (e.g., mobility impairments, amputation).

2. Visual Impairment.

3. Hearing Impairment.

4. Intellectual/Developmental Disability.

5. Mental Health Condition.

6. Chronic Illness (e.g., diabetes, arthritis).

7. Albinism.

8. Others.

Senatorial District

Ondo South Ondo Central Ondo North

Type of Settlement

Urban, Rural, Semi-Urban

Highest Level of Education:

No Formal Education

Primary School

Secondary School

Tertiary/University Education

Access To Health Services

Do You Have Access to Healthcare Facilities?

Yes

No

Sometimes

If Yes, How Far Is the Nearest Healthcare Facility from Your Home?

Less than 5 km

5-10 km

11-20 km

More than 20 km

Are Healthcare Facilities in Your Area Disability-Friendly? (e.g., ramps, accessible toilets)

Yes, fully accessible

Partially accessible

No, not accessible

I am not sure

Are there appropriate signage or directions to guide persons with disabilities in hospitals?

Yes, fully accessible

Partially accessible

No, not accessible

I am not sure

Do Healthcare Providers Offer Specialized Care for Persons with Disabilities?

Yes

No

Sometimes

I am not sure

Have you observed any barriers (e.g., physical obstacles, lack of signage, or inadequate facilities) that prevent persons with disabilities from fully accessing healthcare services in your area?

Yes

No

I am not sure

Do healthcare facilities in your area provide access to sign language interpreters or alternative communication methods (e.g., written communication, visual aids) for Deaf individuals during medical consultations and treatments?

Yes

No
I am not sure

Have You Ever Faced Any Challenges
Accessing Health Services Due to Your
Disability?

Yes
No
Occasionally

If yes, please describe the challenges:

Do you have health insurance coverage?

Yes
No
I don't know

Access to Social Protection

Are You Aware of Any Social Protection
Programs for Persons With Disabilities in
Ondo State?

Yes
No
I am not sure

Have You Ever Benefited from Any Social
Protection Programs (e.g., financial
support, disability grants, vocational
training)?

Yes
No
I have applied but was not selected
I am not sure

What Type of Social Protection Programs
Do You Think Would Be Most Beneficial for
Persons with Disabilities?

Financial assistance (disability grants).
Vocational training and employment
support.
Housing and transportation assistance.
Healthcare subsidies.
Educational support.
Other:

From 1-5 How Would You Rate the Current
Level of Awareness About Social
Protection Programs for Persons with
Disabilities?

Have you faced any barriers in accessing
social protection services?

Yes
No
Sometimes
If Yes, Please Specify the Barriers:
Your answer

Attitudes of Health Care Providers

How would you describe the general
attitude of healthcare providers toward
persons with disabilities in your area?

Very supportive.
Supportive.
Neutral.
Unsupportive.
Very unsupportive.

Have you ever experienced discrimination
or stigmatization by a healthcare provider
because of your disability?

Yes
No
Unsure

How comfortable do you feel when
discussing your health concerns with
healthcare personnel?

Very comfortable.
Somewhat comfortable.
Neutral.
Somewhat uncomfortable.
Very uncomfortable.

How comfortable do you feel when
discussing your health concerns with
healthcare personnel?

Very comfortable.
Somewhat comfortable.
Neutral.
Somewhat uncomfortable.
Very uncomfortable.

Budgetary Provision and Funding for PWD Services

Are there sufficient funds allocated for



healthcare services specifically for persons with disabilities in your area?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Do you believe that the funding available for PWD health services is used efficiently?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Cultural Barriers

Do you feel that cultural norms and beliefs in your community affect your access to healthcare?

- Yes, significantly
- Yes, somewhat
- No, not at all

Are there any specific cultural practices that prevent you from seeking or receiving medical attention?

- Yes, (Pls Specify)
- No

How do societal perceptions of disability impact your healthcare access?

- Very negatively.
- Somewhat negatively.
- No impact.
- Somewhat positively.
- Very positively.

Physical Accessibility (Hospital Environment):

How accessible are healthcare facilities in your area for people with physical

disabilities?

Perceived Gaps and Recommendation

In Your Opinion, What Are the Main Barriers Preventing Persons with Disabilities from Accessing Health and Social Protection Services in Ondo State? (Select all that apply)

- Lack of accessibility in facilities.
- Insufficient information/awareness of available services.
- High cost of services.
- Discrimination by service providers.
- Poor government support.
- Lack of specialized services for certain disabilities.
- Others.

What Improvements Would You Recommend to Ensure Better Access to Health and Social Protection Services for Persons with Disabilities?

Your answer

Any Additional Comments or Suggestions?

Your answer

Thank you for participating in this survey.



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WHO WE ARE

Disability Not A Barrier Initiatives (DINABI Nigeria) is a non-governmental organization championing equity, inclusion, and justice for persons with disabilities. Established in Ondo State in 2011 and officially registered in Ado-Ekiti in May 2019 (CAC/IT/NO 128725), DINABI actively advocates for disability rights across health, inclusive education, gender, environment, governance, WASH, conflict sensitivity, and general rights issues.

To realize this, DINABI undertakes research and advocacy to dismantle barriers hindering social integration. We develop innovative programs, training initiatives, and public awareness campaigns. Furthermore, we provide crucial technical support and empower the disability community through self-confidence and capacity building.

Our vision is a world where individuals with disabilities are fully integrated economically, politically, academically, and socially, enjoying equal rights and opportunities free from discrimination and actively participating in nation-building.





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