



**JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR
RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND OUTREACH (RIO)**

REPORT FOR RESEARCH PROJECT ID No. R081

SECOND TRANCHE 2020

**FUNDED BY
THE NATIONAL RESEARCH FUND (NRF)**

JANUARY, 2021

1.0 Project Title:		
Promoting Awareness and Participation of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Education and other Community Based Programmes in Siaya County, Kenya (PAPPS)		
2.0 Name of Principal Investigator : Dr. Charles Makori Omoke		Email : comoke@jooust.ac.ke
Other Research Team Members		
Dr. Ruth Otienoh	Co-PI & Lead, Fieldwork	rotienoh@jooust.ac.ke
Dr. Henry Onderi	Researcher & Lead, Partnerships	honderi@jooust.ac.ke
Prof. Joseph Bosire	Researcher & Lead, Capacity Building	jbosire@jooust.ac.ke
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Dr. Washington Wachianga	Researcher	wwachianga@jooust.ac.ke
Mr. Fredrick Oluoch	Researcher & Lead, M&E	foluoch@jooust.ac.ke
3.0 Partners		
Organization	Contact Person	Contact
National Council for Persons with Disabilities	Mr. George Odhiambo	0722763131
Ability Africa Foundation	Ms. Anita Odundo	0701570624
Sabatia Eye Hospital	Mr. Oscar Baraza	0728177676
Leonard Chesire Disability	Ms. Orpa Ogot	0708840037
Deaf Aid International	Mr. Geoffrey Abuga	0720944689
4.0 Project Abstract:		
<p>Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology (JOUST) and five Collaborating Partners secured funding from the National Research Fund to conduct Action Research titled Promoting Awareness and Participation of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Education and Other Community Based Programmes in Siaya County, Kenya (PAPPS). The proposal was developed by a team of researchers led by Dr. Charles Omoke. The process of writing this proposal was supported by the University. Following the receipt of the research grant, the proposal development team was converted into the project implementation team.</p> <p>The project focuses on PWDs and their exclusion from mainstream education and socio-economic activities. The research is about ways of creating awareness and improving participation in education and other services available to them for economic empowerment. The team is concentrating, but not necessarily limiting the research in Siaya County, having been informed by the available statistical information on disability prevalence in the Country.</p>		

The project is multidisciplinary and is domiciled in the Department of Special Needs Education and Early Childhood Development. The research is supported by collaborators including the National Council for Persons with Disability, Ability Africa Foundation, Sabatia Eye Hospital, Leonard Chesire Disability and Deaf Aid International. Other Collaborators include the State Department of Interior and Coordination of National Government, State Department of Education, County Government of Siaya, Heads of Institutions, the clergy, Otto Bock Company, Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship, West Chester University, Sagam Community Hospital, Parliamentary Committee on Labour and Social Welfare, Parents and Caregivers of PWDs and Local Leaders.

The project is funded by National Research Fund for a period of three years to support field work, office equipment, computers and furniture, capacity building. The finances are managed in strict compliance to the financial regulations and procedures of the University and Government.

5.0 Thematic Area		Social Sciences
6.0 Start Date	Start date for the project	July 1, 2018
	Start date: Intervention Phase	March 1, 2020
7.0 Date of Completion	Project completion date	December 31, 2021
	Completion of Intervention Phase	January 31, 2021
8.0 Current Stage		Completed Intervention Phase
9.0 Project Total Budget		Kshs. 18,929,896.00
10.0 Amount Disbursed by NRF	Cumulative	Kshs. 15,143,917.00
	2nd Tranche	Kshs. 5,678,969.00
11.0 Amount Received by JOUST	Cumulative	Kshs. 15,143,917.00
	2nd Tranche	Kshs. 5,678,969.00
12.0 Amount Disbursed by JOUST	Cumulative	Kshs. 15,117,483.00
	2nd Tranche	Kshs. 5,851,160.00
13.0 Funding from other sources received to support the project		Kshs. 2,860,000.00 (World Bank Funded Project)
		Kshs. 1,280,000.00 (Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship)
		Kshs. 200,000.00 (Office : Furniture, maintenance)
14.0 Actual amount spent to date		Kshs. 19,457,483.00
15.0 Actual costs to completion		Kshs. 23,269,896.00

16.0 List project activities implemented in the Intervention Phase

No.	Activity	Particulars
1.	COVID 19 Containment measures	July 2020: acquired Zoom/Kenet connectivity and increased internet access points to support online meetings following the outbreak of the COVID 19 pandemic.
2.	Development of additional data collection tools	<p>July 2020: Developed and administered questionnaires and Focus Group Discussion interview guides for health facilities, parents and caregivers of children with disabilities on identification, assessment, and categorization of PWDs.</p> <p>Developed tools for collecting data from stakeholders of Vocational Education and Training in Siaya County and subsequently administered the instruments to the various respondents including relevant Directors at the County, Vocational Education and Training Institutions Managers, selected instructors.</p>
3.	Capacity Building for Curriculum Support Officers (CSOs)	September 2020 : One-day conference with Visiting Professor of West Chester University and Curriculum Support Officers (CSOs) to deliberate on appropriateness of tools used for assessment of PWDs in Kenya comparative to those in use elsewhere particularly in the US and explored use of improved tools.
4.	Review of assessment tools	September 2020: A meeting with the CSOs of Siaya County and considered the various tools that the CSOs use for assessment, categorization and placement of PWDs in educational institutions. The team discussed the merits and demerits of the tools and proposed improvements and follow-up with the national office to explore the possibilities of using improved tools in the ensuing periods.
5.	Analysis of Policy Documents	<p>September 2020: The Project team and partners reviewed the following policy documents in groups and presented the pertinent issues at three conferences in September and October 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ UN Conventions on the Rights of PWDs, 2006 ➤ UN Conventions on the Rights of Children, 1989 ➤ African Charter on the Rights of Children, 1990 ➤ Constitution of Kenya, 2010 ➤ SNE Policy, 2009 ➤ Children’s Act 2003 ➤ Persons with Disabilities Act, 2003
6.	Stakeholders data sharing forum	November 2020: Stakeholders’ Forum for reporting and sharing data with key stakeholders that comprised

		Partners, Curriculum Support Officers, SNE Teachers, Officers from MOEST and Officers from TSC in Siaya County. During the forum it emerged that there is no clear data on the number of PWDs, locally and nationally. The forum tasked the Project to explore ways of training PWDs to engage in Socio-economic activities. The Project was further tasked to find out the place of PWDs in the Competence Based Curriculum (CBC).
7.	Presentation of papers on preliminary findings at International Conference	Overall objective is to disseminate the findings in conferences and publish papers in reputable journals for international circulation.
8.	Reviewed Infrastructure to support learners with special needs against a government approved checklist.	Status report generated. The project will propose improvements to the learning environment in SNE schools.
9.	Analysis of Education Policies	<p>October 2020: The project team, partners and CSOs discussed the educational policy documents with regard to admission, retention and transition and derived appropriate recommendations.</p> <p>The following policies were considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ National Pre-Primary Education Policy and its Implementation Guidelines ➤ Sector Policy for Learners and Trainees with Disabilities and its Implementation Guidelines <p>The following were also analyzed alongside the policies since they too affect admission, retention and transition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Accessibility Audit ➤ Infrastructure Survey Summaries
10.	Partners meetings	<p>August 2020: The Project team held consultative meetings with three partners, Sabatia Eye Hospital, Deaf Aid International and National Council for Persons with Disabilities to reinvigorate their role in the project during Covid 19 period and beyond the project life.</p> <p>October 2020: Partners meeting at Siaya at Kowiny Resort to review state of implementation of the Project.</p>
11.	West Chester University Collaboration on review of assessment tools.	September 2020: The project team, CSOs with Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship collaboration deliberated on appropriateness of tools used for assessment of PWDs in Kenya and compared with tools used by West Chester University. The parties explored areas of improvement for the tools used in Kenya.

<p>12.</p>	<p>Data Collection from Stakeholders in Vocational Education and Training (VET)</p>	<p>August & September 2020: The Project Team developed tools for collecting data from stakeholders of Vocational Education and Training in Siaya County; administered the instruments to the various respondents including relevant Directors at the County, Vocational Education and Training Institutions Managers, selected instructors. The baseline data was collected through face to face interviews, focus group discussions and telephone interviews.</p>									
<p>13.</p>	<p>Curriculum Support Officers (CSOs) Forum with Project Team</p>	<p>September 2020: The project team held a meeting with the CSOs in Siaya County and considered the various tools that the CSOs use for assessment, categorization and placement of PWDs in education institutions. The team discussed the merits and demerits of the tools and proposed improvements and integrated experiences from the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship collaboration. This will be taken up with the national office to explore the possibilities of using improved tools.</p>									
<p>14.</p>	<p>Collection of Baseline on Socio-economic activities of PWDs</p>	<p>The team and partners visited additional three groups of PWDs in the County and assessed the various socio-economic activities that members of the groups engage in individually and as groups. Data was obtained from Bondo, Rarieda and Ugenya sub counties by three teams:</p>									
<p>Team A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dr. Charles Omoke (PI) ➤ Mrs. Orpa Ogot (Leonard Chesire) ➤ Mr. George Sure ➤ Mr. Francis Manyala (Sch. Head) 		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="667 1176 890 1232">Sub-county</th> <th data-bbox="890 1176 1289 1232">Venue</th> <th data-bbox="1289 1176 1492 1232">Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="667 1232 890 1344">Bondo</td> <td data-bbox="890 1232 1289 1344">Toa Ujinga Group Demonstration Farm in Usenge</td> <td data-bbox="1289 1232 1492 1344">26.08.2020</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" data-bbox="667 1344 1492 1487"> <p>The team conducted a fresh visit to Toa Ujinga group, visited a demonstration farm of the group and subsequently held discussions with selected PWDs. An earlier FGD was deemed insufficient hence the repeat visit and FGD</p> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sub-county	Venue	Date	Bondo	Toa Ujinga Group Demonstration Farm in Usenge	26.08.2020	<p>The team conducted a fresh visit to Toa Ujinga group, visited a demonstration farm of the group and subsequently held discussions with selected PWDs. An earlier FGD was deemed insufficient hence the repeat visit and FGD</p>		
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Rarieda	Tin Toler Hotel	26.08.2020									
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15.	Developed curriculum for a short course, and trained parents and caregivers of PWDs in Siaya County.	Teams		Venue		Date	
		A Dr. Charles Omoke Mr. George Sure Maxmilla Awino (Med Officer)		Bondo, Disabled Vocational Centre		22 nd October, 2020	
				Alego, Kowiny Resort		23 rd October, 2020	
		B Prof Henry Onderi Dr. Obiero Ogone Kelvin Sengila (Med Officer)		Ugenya, Nyasanda CDF		22 nd October, 2020	
		Ugunja, Sega CDF offices		23 rd October, 2020			
		C Dr. Ruth Otienoh Mr. Fredrick Oluoch Mr. Edwin Omolo (Med Officer)		Rarieda, TinToler hotel, Ndori		22 nd October, 2020	
				Gem, Gem Disabled Sheltered Workshop		23 rd October, 2020	
		<p>The project team developed short course curriculum for training parents and caregivers of PWDs to enable them improve on their roles of supporting children with disabilities, effectively access education, participate in socio-economic activities and inculcate daily living skills. The parents and caregivers from all the six sub-counties were trained and at least 150 completed the course. The team recommends that this course could be replicated elsewhere in the country. With additional input from Deaf Aid, the course content is to be enriched for replication.</p>					
16.	Inducted selected secondary school students and teachers on new and emerging technologies in special needs education	March 2020: The project team inducted some secondary school teachers and students from Ebubi Girls, Kochogo Secondary School, Ndigwa Sec. School, Nyagokiani Girls, Oriwo Boys and Rang’ala Girls on new technologies at SNE Skills Lab in JOOUST main campus.					
17.	Initiated new collaborations for advancement of improved service delivery to PWDS	<p>The project team initiated partnerships with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Association of Special Education • Ottobock Company, Germany • Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship, USA • West Chester University, USA • Sagam Community Hospital • County Government of Siaya Department of Health Department of Social Protection • Ministry of Education through CSOs • Lake Region Economic Bloc 					

17.0 Key achievements made in attainment of the project objectives

Objective	Achievements
1. To determine how PWDs including the gifted and the talented and those with autism are identified, assessed and categorized for purpose of intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established a working relationships between Siaya county referral hospital and CSOs • Established partnerships with West Chester University for regular examination and interrogation of assessment tools • We have initiated a process of engaging stakeholders to review and improve assessment tools and eventually adopt their use
2. To establish community awareness of national and local policies on inclusion of PWDs in the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project has conducted mass awareness campaigns on local language radio stations with national outreach on PWDs in Siaya county • The project has supported PWDs as well as parents/caregivers of PWDs to form support groups.
3. To assess the effect of infrastructure and environment on learning outcomes of learners with special needs and/or disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established a basis for improving infrastructure in schools to support learners with special needs
4. To determine strategies for improving participation of PWDs in education and other community programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building of over 150 parents and caregivers throughout the county • Capacity building of VET managers on transitioning of PWDs
5. To create awareness on new and integrated technologies in teacher training in special and inclusive education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created awareness among SNE teachers on available technologies
6. To establish how collaborations and network programmes can support the implementation of improved service delivery to PWDs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established eight new partnerships which could support some of the PWDs beyond the life of the project. • Won a research centre for disability, gender and youth to be funded by Lake Region Economic Bloc • Membership to International Association of Special Education

18.0 Were project activities implemented as per budget lines? If not explain

Yes. The Project Steering Committee aligned activities to budget lines when planning.

Challenges facing project implementation in Phase II

Category	Challenge	Mitigation
Scientific	COVID 19 and associated Government containment measures	Adoption of technology for interactions through virtual meetings for numbers exceeding those recommended for physical meeting by government guidelines. Organizing forums into smaller groups to comply with government directives on physical meetings and social distancing.
	Closure of access to schools in the 4 th Quarter of year 1, and closure of schools during the entire year 2 due to Covid 19 pandemic, made it difficult to access schools and address some aspects of objective 3: To assess the effect of infrastructure and environment on learning outcomes of learners with special needs and/or disabilities such as interviewing teachers.	The activities of objective 3 was postponed to year 3 now that a number of Covid 19 related restrictions have been relaxed and institutions reopened
	New and unforeseen interested parties who were very relevant to the research including vocational training institutions stakeholders.	Developing appropriate tools, collecting relevant data for analysis
	Turnover (death/transfer) of some initial participants hampering continuity hence need for mini reconnaissance sessions	Repeating some activities and conducting further induction to new actors.
Technical	Some participants had challenges interacting through technology platforms.	Organized for such external participants to participate from the Main Campus where there are adequate facilities
	Closure of learning institutions by government during the COVID 19 Pandemic which ran from March 2020 to November 2020.	Engaging managers and teachers in virtual meetings and splitting physical meetings into small groups.
Administrative	Provisioning for the project sometimes delayed as a result of changes in financial and procurement procedures from manual to digital platforms.	Training critical team members on new system i.e. digital/portal applications for finances and procurement.

19.0 Ways of Monitoring Progress.

- i. Review of project reports at the end of each activity
- ii. Periodical (Quarterly) Progress Reports to DVC (RIO) for onward transmission to NRF
- iii. Surveillance by the Office of the DVC, RIO
- iv. Regular meetings of the Steering Committee, Partners and Researchers
- v. Designated Grants Officer in Finance who liaises with Project Leader and ensures funds requested for are aligned with the Project Budget
- vi. Disbursement of funds in tranches and in any case no funds are availed for next activities before fully accounting for previous imprests
- vii. Internal Audit

20.0 Financial Statement

Total Grant:	18,929,896.00	Duration of the Project:				3 Years
Reporting Period:	March, 2020 to January, 2021					
Budget Line	Revised Total Budget	Budget for Phase II	Phase I Expenditure	Expenditure this reporting period	Cumulative Expenditure to date	Balances (For Year 3)
Project Personnel	1,500,000.00	552,000.00	296,000.00	703,000.00	999,000.00	501,000.00
Equipment & Supplies	3,760,045.00	60,000.00	3,681,134.00	8,500.00	3,689,634.00	70,411.00
Fieldwork	7,090,000.00	3,500,000.00	1,798,360.00	3,726,900.00	5,525,320.00	1,564,680.00
Transport	1,500,000.00	700,000.00	660,829.00	526,300.00	1,187,129.00	312,871.00
Training/Workshops	3,571,051.00	500,000.00	2,650,000.00	365,400.00	3,015,400.00	555,651.00
Communication	380,000.000	60,000.00	100,000.00	167,000.00	267,000.00	113,000.00
Dissemination	1,128,800.00	500,000.00	80,000.00	354,000.00	434,000.00	694,800.00
Total	18,929,896.00	5,872,000.00	9,266,323.00	5,851,160.00	15,117,483.00	3,812,413.00
Expenditure		Funds released for this reporting period		Expenditure for this reporting period	Balance	
		5,851,160.00		5,851,160.00	21,469.00	

Date of Presentation of Report: January , 2021

Dr. Charles Makori Omoke, PhD
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

Date.....