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An Evaluation and Documentation of the Impact and Lessons Learned from the Living Conditions Studies

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1. Introduction

The Norwegian Federation of Organizations of Disabled People (FFO) contracted Professor Leslie Swartz of Stellenbosch University, South Africa, to carry out an evaluation of the Living Conditions Studies (LCS) among Persons with Disabilities undertaken over a period of years by SINTEF. The requirement was a desk study designed to address the following questions:

- The use of the studies in DPOs/federations.
- The use of the studies in governmental bodies (action plans, disability inclusive budgets, etc).
- Description of the potential of the studies.
- Any other development agencies who use the results for projects/programmes.
- To what extent does NORAD as back donor and the Norwegian MFA refer to the results of the LCS?
- How can SINTEF/FFO/partner DPOs ensure that the results from the Living Condition Studies are used widely and effectively?

The research was undertaken between August 2016 and December 2016, and the core research team comprised Dr Richard Vergunst (Stellenbosch University) and Professor Swartz himself.

Both Professor Swartz and Dr Vergunst are personally very familiar with the work of SINTEF in southern Africa, and they have collaborated, and continue to collaborate, with SINTEF on a number of projects related to disability in the region. Together with SINTEF, and separately from SINTEF, they also have ongoing relationships with a number of the in-country partners and with the umbrella body representing disabled people’s organisations in Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. This organisation is the Southern African Federation of the Disabled (SAFOD). Professor Swartz was appointed Lead Research Partner for the SAFOD Research Programme (SRP) and was involved in training a number of activists who had participated in the LCS.

In terms of the requirements for the current piece of work, this contextual familiarity is an advantage, especially as, as will be seen, much of the data needed to answer the questions for the review were not formally recorded in the public domain. On the other hand, it is also important to acknowledge that the close relationship the evaluators have with both SINTEF and with SAFOD and constituent DPOs in the region could introduce bias in a number of ways. We ourselves could interpret the data we have collected in light of our ongoing relationships with SINTEF and the DPOs. Similarly, the fact that we are known to many participants, and that our relationship with SAFOD is also known to them, could affect information given to us. These are important contextual considerations. It is also the case, though, that this work has taken place against the backdrop of disability exclusion and oppression, especially in the Global South. Historically, there has been legitimate mistrust of external researchers and evaluators by disabled activists. A particular concern in this regard is the extraction of information from and about disabled people for the beneficiation of research careers, but with no benefit to disabled people themselves. It is only through a history of familiarity and collaboration with DPOs that researchers build credibility over time. We believe that this important benefit of our credibility to SAFOD and partners outweighs concerns of bias, but we have also been mindful throughout the process that we need to keep the question of bias in mind at all times. It is important that this report is read in the full understanding of the interweaving of relationships and alliances which form a background and context for the report.

There have been previous evaluations of aspects of the LCS work, notably the evaluation by NORAD in 2007.[1] This evaluation focused on methods used and the relationships between these and conclusions drawn; the current evaluation is concerned centrally with social impact and influence rather than with questions of scientific quality.

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[1] Bjørkhaug, I., Pedersen, J., & Bøås, M. (2007). *Evaluation of the report 'Living Conditions among People with Activity Limitations in Zambia'*. Oslo: Fafo. Retrieved from https://www.norad.no/globalassets/import-2162015-80434-am/www.norad.no-ny/filarkiv/ngo-evaluations/evaluation-of-the-report-_living-conditions-among-people-with-activity-limitations-in-zambia_.pdf

2. Background to the Living Conditions Studies (LCSs)

The LCSs were conducted in eight southern Africa countries (Namibia, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Lesotho, Botswana and Swaziland) in order to assess the living conditions of persons with disabilities in these countries.

The Namibian survey was carried out in 2001–2002, Zimbabwe in 2002–2003, Malawi in 2003–2004, Zambia in 2005–2006, Mozambique in 2007–2008, Swaziland and Lesotho in 2009–2010 and Botswana 2011–2014.

There were four main objectives. These were:

1. to develop a strategy and methodology for the collection of comprehensive, reliable and culturally adapted statistical data on living conditions among people with disabilities
2. to provide organisations for people with disabilities as well as local, regional and national authorities with up-to-date documentation on the state of living conditions among people with disabilities
3. to include and involve people with disability in every step of the research process
4. to initiate a discussion on the concepts and understanding of ‘disability’ in particular in the perspective of developing countries.

Secondary objectives that were developed through the process of the surveys were:

1. to provide dialogue between relevant authorities, professionals and organisations concerning the results of the studies;
2. to develop concrete measures;
3. to create a monitoring process;
4. to influence policy and planning;
5. to enhance capacity building;
6. to improve living conditions for persons with disabilities;
7. to create a discussion on disability;
8. to promote awareness activities;
9. to develop skills training;
10. to apply the results of the studies to the benefit of persons with disabilities living in the countries;

11. to create baseline data;
12. to provide the groundwork for repeated and long-term data collections on living conditions among persons with disabilities;
13. to establish a Disability Resource Centre for southern Africa;
14. to describe and analyse the living conditions;
15. to compare the living conditions between persons with disabilities and persons without disabilities;
16. to analyse the socio-demographic distribution of living conditions among persons with disabilities and persons with no disabilities;
17. to use the data from the studies in your organisation;
18. to increase awareness about research and disability;
19. to increase interest in disability issues from stakeholders; and
20. to improve relationships between stakeholders.

3. Methodology

As requested by FFO, the methodology used in this evaluation was primarily a desk top study. However, together with the desk top study, it was decided to attend a SAFOD meeting in Johannesburg and visit selected countries in order to gain first-hand experiences from relevant stakeholders.

At the meeting in Johannesburg in October 2016, we were able to conduct individual interviews with representatives from Malawi (Ms R. Kachaje from SAFOD), Botswana (Mr W. Chimidza from SAFOD), and Mozambique (Mr M. Lazaro from SAFOD).

It was decided within the constraints of our budget to visit four countries – the four countries with the most impact in terms of scholarly citations (see below). These countries were Zambia, Malawi, Namibia and Zimbabwe.

On the first week-long trip (November 2016), we visited Zambia and interviewed seven representatives – Ms R. Kamfwa (Zambia Association of the Blind), Mr N. Chiyala (ZAFOD), Ms J. Shinaka (National Association of Women with Disabilities), Ms P. Mugala (Mental Health Users Network of Zambia), Mr P. Mwazi (Zambia Association of

Employment of Persons with Disabilities), Ms C. Tembo (Zambia Association of Parents of Children with Disability), and Mr N. Muya (Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities).

On the same trip we visited Malawi, where we interviewed 10 representatives – Mr P. Ulaya (FEDOMA), Ms N. Msungeni (FEDOMA), Ms P. Mtamula (FEDOMA), Mr P. Ngomwa (Malawi Council for the Handicapped), Mr C. Khaula (Association of Physically Disabled in Malawi), Ms S. Kasasi (Disabled Women in Development), Ms J. Mabangwe (Department of Disability and Elderly Affairs under the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare), Mr J. Mkweriwa (Department of Disability and Elderly Affairs under the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare), Mr S. Kufakwina (Malawian National Association of the Deaf), and Mr M. Chiwaula (SAFOD).

The second week-long trip (November 2016) included a visit to Namibia and Zimbabwe. In Namibia, we were unable to meet with anyone appropriate and in Zimbabwe we met with five representatives – Mr W. Khupe (FODPZ), Ms C. Sibanda (FODPZ), Ms P. Sibanda (National Council of Disabled Persons of Zimbabwe), Mr I. Zhou (National Association of Societies for Care of The Handicapped and Zimbabwe National League of the Blind), and Dr E. Mtetwa (FODPZ).

The remaining interviews were done through Skype interviews – Mr N. Sefuthi from Lesotho (LNFOD), and Mr D. Trum from Namibia (NFD). No interview was carried out with a representative from Swaziland (FODSWA) despite numerous requests and invitations to take part in the evaluation.

All these meetings and interviews were facilitated by Mr M. Chiwaula, Director General of SAFOD and the appropriate SAFOD membership affiliates from each country. The interviews were based on the set objectives and were open-ended.

In addition, we conducted Skype interviews with Prof Arne Eide of SINTEF, largely to gain a context for the studies and to be given contacts with whom we could liaise. We also conducted a Skype interview with Dr Mitchell Loeb, currently a Health Scientist in the Office of Analysis and Epidemiology at the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USA. Dr Loeb was previously an employee of SINTEF and part of the LCS team.

4. Desktop review: Citations and discussions of the LCS

In addressing the questions, we have been asked to deal with in the report, the first task was to explore the extent to which the LCS have been mentioned in various forms of media. Below, we explore both the scholarly impact of the LCS and the coverage of the LCS in grey literature.

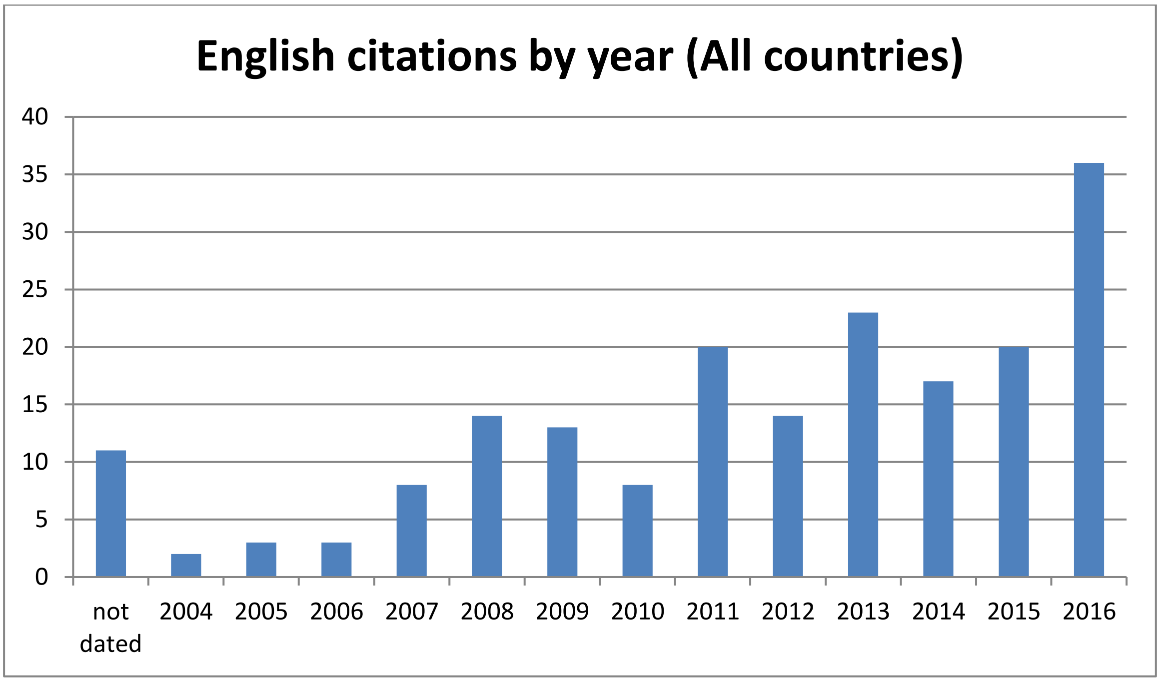
4.1 Scholarly impact

As a way of gaining background information on the uptake of the LCS reports, we conducted a citation analysis. For this purpose, we decided to use Google Scholar as opposed to databases such as Web of Science or SCOPUS, for example. We made this choice because Google Scholar accesses the widest range of outputs in the widest range of formats.

The Google Scholar search revealed a total of 250 citations of the eight LCS reports. Of the 250 citations, 192 were in English and 58 in other languages. The country by country citation analysis is presented below:

Malawi	87
Zambia	64
Zimbabwe	45
Namibia	35
Mozambique	19
Lesotho	0
Swaziland	0
Botswana	0
TOTAL	250

It is noteworthy that the general annual trend of citations for 2004–2016 is in an upward direction, as shown below. This suggests strongly that citations will continue to increase into the future.



Detailed analyses of citations by country of LCS report are available in Appendix 1. In summary, there appears to be an upward trend in citations for countries which have been cited in the literature, but three country reports are not cited in literature indexed in Google Scholar.

It is important to also note that on the international arena, the LCS were cited 23 times in the World Disability Report of 2011.

4.2 Impact in grey literature

The LCS are cited in a number of documents which have been used to take disability research and policy further, for example:

- *Disability Policy Audit in Namibia, Swaziland, Malawi and Mozambique,* Raymond Lang, 2008.
- *Technical Paper for UNESCO Meeting on Disability Data and Statistics*, Arne Eide, 2014.
- *Living Conditions among People with Disabilities in Southern Africa*, pamphlet, not dated.

- *Disability, Living Conditions and Quality of Life. The Case of the Municipality of Anapoima in Rural Colombia*, Arango Restrepo Jose Fernando, Master's Thesis, 2015.
- *Research on People with Disabilities in Zambia: Recent Experience and Findings*, Mitchell Loeb, presentation not dated.
- *Living Conditions among Persons with Disabilities Survey – Key Findings Report*, Unicef, 2013.

There is a clear trend, as in the scholarly literature, that certain countries (Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Namibia) tend to dominate in uptake coverage.

5. General impact of the LCS work: Country-level reports

In order to assess the impact of the LCS, we interviewed stakeholders knowledgeable about the LCS in a number of countries.

5.1 Malawi

Eleven representatives in Malawi were interviewed. Four representatives were from the Federation of Disability Organisations in Malawi (FEDOMA), two representatives from the Malawian National Association of the Deaf, and a representative each from the Malawian Council for the Handicapped (MACOHA), the Association of Physically Disabled, Disabled Women in Development, the Department of Disability and Elderly Affairs under the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare and the Southern African Federation of the Disabled (SAFOD).

The general consensus by all representatives is that there has been good dialogue "at all levels" between all stakeholders (from different organisations, the government ministries, departments, Disability People's Organisations (DPOs), the development partners). These discussions started with the dissemination meeting which followed the survey, and continue up until the present. As one representative stated, the discussion "hasn't died yet". Another representative confirmed this by stating that the country now has a "living document" in the form of the Living Conditions report. According to the SAFOD representative, “the interesting part is that the government uses the document very seriously”.

Related to these continuous discussions are continuous policy and programme interventions that are taking place. As one representative said, “I can confidently say that there has been a lot of developments that we have built that we have based on the findings of the survey.” According to the representatives these include: The National Equalisation Policy, the Disability Act, The National Policy for Persons with Disabilities, Special Needs Education Policy, the National Disability Strategy, the Economic Empowering Programme, The Community Based Rehabilitation Programme and the Social Cash Transfer programme. As one representative summarised, “Now we have got policy direction with some specific areas which we are supposed to concentrate on, for example, education, livelihood, employment, health…these are some of the examples which came out in the survey, the SINTEF survey.” Another representative said, “Like I’ve already alluded to, that we are going to launch a national ministry strategy this coming Monday. Stakeholders are meeting somewhere to finalise the national ministries strategy. It’s all stakeholders regardless of the disability fraternity and its providers. The strategy is coming from the study that was done.”

When it comes to a monitoring process of the survey, the general feeling was that it was not comprehensive and was rather “haphazard”, “not systematic” and not “tangible”. One representative mentioned that monitoring in Malawi “was a challenge”, and another stated that “there is no one who is owning it to say we will be monitoring it”.

Although there may be some issues with the monitoring process, there are very positive aspects to the capacity building part of the survey. What is striking is that there was a deliberate attempt to empower persons with disabilities in Malawi since the survey:

> Yes, I would say, yes, there has been capacity building, most of it with persons with disabilities themselves so that they should be able, as I mentioned earlier, to say there was campaign to promote participation with persons with disabilities in leadership positions. So, they have been trained on how they can manage the leadership in the most effective way.… So, those people have been given skills, they’ve been trained in various skills like leadership and budgeting. So, I would say there has, in fact, been capacity building.

> Ya, there has been capacity building, because our university, centre for social research, has done a lot of surveys in connection with the other surveys. And they have actually used the very same personnel that was trained by, during SINTEF time, they've used the same people to be doing the other research. So, like that, I think there was.

As one representative summarised:

> Yes, DPOs and FEDOMA empowered persons with disabilities to claim their right through capacity building, training and awareness meetings.

However, according to the SAFOD representative, the capacity building has not been owned by anybody and this makes it less effective:

> Should it be the DPOs to do the capacity building. Should it be the government doing it? Should we be, the all the other stakeholders coming together, and doing, do the capacity building or training at various levels? So, these are the areas that need to be look…to be addressed.

The general feeling is that there have been "minimal" or "slight" improvements of living conditions for persons with disabilities in Malawi, and "the çhange is slow" and "we still have a long way to go". The reason, according to one representative, is that the implementation of policies is slow. Improvements include "some children with disabilities are able to go to school, sometimes some people with disabilities are able to do some economic activities, some are able to be involved in the different local government structures, be it community level, national level, district level". According to one representative, the improvements are varied depending on whether people live in an urban or rural area. The rural communities tend to be worse-off in terms of having improved lives. One representative mentioned that, "the larger environment, the macro economic environment in term of politics, economics, technology and so forth" has had a negative impact "since persons with disabilities would not live in a vacuum in isolation". This point was supported by other representatives. Hence, as identified by one representative, "It's been difficult for us to determine these changes as an honest picture."

There have been many varying activities happening in Malawi. It is difficult to attribute them all directly and solely to the Living Conditions Survey, but participants are unanimous that the LCS has been central in laying the groundwork for many changes and empowerment opportunities. These include discussions, workshops, conferences, awareness campaigns, advocacy work, skills training, economic empowerment programmes and through various other forums and media outlets. This is supported by the following respondents:

> Discussions on disabilities, there have been a lot of discussions, a lot of meetings, awareness campaigns, there has been a lot, a lot being done. For instance, right here, I have achieved awareness and…and my core duty is to ensure that issues of disability are mainstreamed, and we impart knowledge to the general public, to the other government departments, so make sure that corporate issues of person with disabilities. And we actually make negotiating with so many sectors to ensure that issues if disabilities are being mainstreamed. That persons with disabilities should be able to utilise all the facilities that are being used by anybody else.
>
> A lot of things are happening, different players are coming in, not only from the disability sector, but other from the main sectors in the yield of information, there has been that increase towards advanced issues of disability. At district level, various structures, I understand FEDOMA, they have been able to put in place structures in the district to engage duty bearers on their responsibilities ensuring that issues of disability, people with disabilities, are not left behind. So yes, a lot of engagement discussions have taken place, they go to their houses…in education, ya, lots of things are happening.
>
> Yeah, there’s plenty, plenty awareness activities, awareness campaigns, advocacy campaigns on disability issues, be it at national level, be it at community level. They’ve been targeting different, different audiences, be it the community leaders, the persons with disabilities themselves, the policy makers, and all other government officials.
>
> What is very encouraging is that there is…that these various activities reportedly incorporate all stakeholders in Malawi and not just persons with disabilities – from “grass roots” to government officials.

There is a real sense from the participants that Malawi, as a country on all levels, has become involved in disability issues.

When it came to the question of the survey benefitting persons with disabilities in Malawi, the answer was a consistent “Yes” (as exemplified by responses by these two representatives):

> Yes, they have benefitted. As I have said, from the, we have used the findings in various aspects, with different aspects which have ended up providing us with funding for projects which have benefitted persons with disabilities.
>
> Yeah, for sure, yes. In all these results I’m talking of, there are pointers to the survey that was conducted in 2003 and there have been so many mechanisms and conventions put in place for persons with disabilities. So, the answer is a definite “yes”. Results from the study have been put in use for the benefit of persons with disabilities, including the legals which are coming from the survey results so that work towards persons with disabilities can be moved as well as recreated to make sure that we are doing the right thing.

The general consensus is that the survey has provided baseline data or a “benchmark” for further work in the area. As one representative stated, the survey started a “revolution”, and was used to “propel” other studies. Another representative goes on to say that the survey “opened our eyes and started hoping the National Statistics Office, that they should be including issues of disability as they are doing their general census”. Two other representatives mentioned the development of a Disability Management Information System in Malawi where:

> persons with disabilities are identified, they are assessed, after assessed, the data is collected by some volunteers, and some officers within the district, and such information is sent to Mokowa to be captured. After capturing, then the process, that information, they are able to, to check whether the person was assisted in one way or the other, if that person needs any type of assistance, then they know where that person is supposed to be referred to, and they also update such information.

These survey study data are well utilised by the interviewed respondents and their respective organisations. They “refer to it” in proposal writing, presentations, budgeting, advocacy work, lobbying, policy development, as well as programme management. As one respondent summarises, the data:

> has provided a basis, an argument for us to advance issues of disability at national development agenda, because that is still, they are facts, statistics that we can be able to

> present as this is what is happening, this is the situation, this is how persons with disabilities are living at the moment.

The general opinion was that the survey contributed to increased awareness about the relationship between disability and research. As one respondent confirmed, “So, I think in one way or another you’ll see it has set in…it has given us the agenda or advance in issues with disability and research.”

All the respondents were very positive about the survey. There were many positive resulting emanating from the survey. It primarily provided “evidence” for policy influence, establishment of programmes, planning, writing proposals, changing mind-sets, and the stimulus for many discussions on disability. One respondent encapsulated the general feeling that:

> We need…evidence. So when you want to speak about something you always have to say, okay, this issue, due to this report you can see it yourself. That’s why we are advocating that these things should change and these things shouldn’t happen this way. So, at least that was the positive side, then we had something to use as a tool.

In terms of stakeholder involvement, there was increased interest in disability from stakeholders and there was also improved relationships between stakeholders. One respondent stated that before the survey some stakeholders were “not into disability”, but that this has changed. Other organisations that were not dealing with disability are now getting involved in the disability sector. As two respondents elaborated:

> The SINTEF study produced, sectors are very eager or they are highly interested to work in the field of disability, to contribute something to disability. That’s why there are these champions in streaming disability. And let me also point out an aspect that the government got so interested and gave a directive that each government sector and operational office should have a disability focal point officer. So in all government sectors and all policy makers there are disability focal point desks managed from the interest which sectors have developed from the study.
>
> They have all come together, in fact they formed the national community based rehabilitation stadium committee and that has enhanced coordination amongst them. So that if people work together they hold hands and plan together, even including the district

> councils, the districts community based rehabilitation coordinating committees, and these are stakeholders from various sectors coming together and working on the plight of persons with disabilities. So it has enhanced coordination.

The general impressions of the survey in Malawi were that it came at a very good time and has had a major impact in Malawi. One of the challenges of the survey is that there was a “lack of resources to continue the process”. They do not have a plan on how to use the survey:

> But maybe because of, we do not have that, maybe like a plan on how to use this survey, maybe that’s where we slipped around because we didn’t know how, what, what, but if maybe we had something like a plan that we planned…maybe if we could have taken the recommendations and planned that we would go this way with the living conditions, maybe it would have helped us. But also after, maybe if we had, like, the saying that after these, what next?

A strong sentiment was that the survey provided much needed data, but it now needs to be evaluated further.

5.2 Zambia

Seven representatives in Zambia were interviewed. Representatives from the Zambian Association of the Blind, Zambian Federation on Disability, National Association of Women with Disabilities, Mental Health Users Network of Zambia, Zambian Association of Employment of Persons with Disabilities, Zambian Association of Parents of Children with Disability, and the Zambian Agency for Persons with Disabilities were interviewed. All the representatives, except for the last representative, were in a group interview.

According to one representative the survey document “went to sleep” once the survey was completed and there was little dialogue between stakeholders. His thought was that lack of funding resulted in the document “going to sleep”. This sentiment was supported by other representatives, with them arguing that it is the government that made it “get dust”, remain “dormant” or “be shelved”. If it was up to the DPO, then there would have been more dialogue between stakeholders. Although the results were disseminated, dialogue was not really carried out thereafter. As one representative stated, “not much has been achieved from this particular survey.” According to one representative, there has been some dialogue between “traditional” stakeholders such as DPOs, Persons with Disabilities (PWD) and the Department of Social Welfare, but this did not have significant influence. In summary, all representatives agreed that, despite it being a very good document, not much followed after the dissemination of the results.

Hence, the general opinion from this group was that there has been no development of concrete measures since the survey was carried out. However, a representative stated that it is possible that the survey document had a bearing on the subsequent disability policy in the country and the scaling up of the social cash transfer, although she could not attest to this relationship. Another representative argued that a concrete measure from the survey for him was that the government now had more reliable statistics to work with and to react to accordingly. SINTEF, according to him, “gave a different eye to the process” of statistics and reliable data.

Based on the above, the group agreed that there was no monitoring process of the survey in place in Zambia. The reason given for this was that there was once again no funding available.

There was uncertainty, and it was “difficult to say” what role the survey had on policies and planning. For example, the design and development of the National Policy on Persons with Disabilities in Zambia was discussed as a possible outcome from the survey, but there was no consensus. The discussion then led to the fact that, despite policies, there is a lack of implementation due to lack of advocacy, which in turn is due to a lack of funding. Further, there were discussions that DPOs need to be included in these advocacies, and without them not much could be achieved. Government working alone with these policies and plans is not good enough.

In terms of capacity building, the group felt that there was none in Zambia and that it was “difficult to point out”.

Regarding the objective of improving the living conditions of persons with disabilities, the general consensus from the group was that this was difficult to ascertain in “that there has been no follow up or measures to measure the improvement”. One respondent stated that one improvement was that there is more discussion about disability issues, whereas, in the past, “you would not even hear about disability”. While some agreed with this, there were others who felt that these discussions were not the result of the survey, but from “other organisations”. Others agreed that the increase in social cash transfer was an improvement in the living conditions of persons with disabilities, but overall the improvement has been “minimal”.

There was agreement that awareness activities related to disability seems to have taken place in Zambia, but they were “not very loud”.

Skills training seems to actually have been “going down” since the survey was carried out. In terms of the objective of achieving baseline data, there was mixed opinion as to whether the survey was able to do that. Issues of the reliability and validity of the survey were discussed. Some representatives did not know if baseline data has been achieved, while others felt that the methodology of the survey could be questioned. One representative summed up the sentiment by answering a “weak yes” to this question of the achievement of baseline data. Following on from this was the issue of creating the groundwork for repeated and long-term data collections – some representatives felt that they were not in a position to answer this, as they were not involved in the process from the start, while others who were involved stated that one could “adhere to” the document in the future and that the groundwork had been established.

Notwithstanding the above concerns, the general consensus was that the survey report does get used and referred to in the organisations themselves – from planning, budgeting, awareness raising to writing proposals, and is used in “all corners of the country”. There was also a strong emphasis on using the survey report in advocacy work for their respective organisations. One representative stated that the document is being used “everywhere generally”, while another said that its effectiveness exists in it being an “eye-opener” to disability issues in the country, and “even the government has come to understand what disability is”. One representative stated that it has provided statistics about disability in the country and “so people are now say, thinking, look, this is no longer a minority group, it’s an emerging group that is there to stay and let’s see how we can plan better around it”.

According to the representatives, there is now increased awareness about research and disability – in terms of stakeholders now wanting data and statistics about the situation of disability in the country. As one stated, “I think interests from the stakeholders doubled.” For example, with the government, “you go to parliament, a lot of members of parliament got interest in this and talk about issues with, the issues to do with disability. So, the interest has been there.” One representative, however, mentioned that the interest did not come from disabled persons but from “other stakeholders”. To summarise, there has been “increased interest”, “networking” and “working together” among stakeholders when it came to research on disability issues – “it created a kind of a platform where these stakeholders can start meeting and discussing”.

When asked about the direct and indirect benefits for persons with disabilities arising out of the report, one representative summarised others’ views when she said:

> Yes, direct and indirect. The direct, just now, because we knew before the survey, we were not even sure, like how many persons were there in the country with disabilities. How many men, how many women. But after this we had a picture, yeah. So, I think that was a direct benefit because we needed to know. Yeah. And then indirectly, I think we’ve been…although we may not know, we’ve been more aware. Yeah, we’ve been more aware on disability and disability issues and we’ve had better understanding of disability. …when it comes to talking about the issues that affect disabled, they are speaking from an informed view, rather than the way we used to speak about data without…so now it’s better this time. We’ve benefitted.

In concluding the discussion, one representative asked that further work be done in the field of disability in Zambia:

> My recommendation as well is that we should, when you are doing a survey, it’s more like a project. And the project needs to be monitored and evaluated. This has not been done on this one. It’s very important for us to know where we are, where we have come, you know the way we are answering all these questions. Because there has been no monitoring, there has been no evaluation. So please, my appeal towards the funders, let it be done. Or if it cannot do the other survey, let’s do the monitoring and evaluating of this one.

5.3 Zimbabwe

Five representatives in Zimbabwe were interviewed. Three representatives from the Federation of Disabled Persons Zimbabwe (FODPZ), one from the National Council of Disabled Persons of Zimbabwe and the Zimbabwe National League of the Blind, and one from the National Association of Societies for Care of the Handicap were interviewed.

According to a FODPZ representative, the document was a “hot topic” for three years following the survey in 2003, but after that nothing happened with regard to it – “thereafter, I think it became something which was put on silence. It was buried. Yes. It was actually cremated”.

He went on to explain why this happened:

> Because after it has been published, we found ourselves as Zimbabweans in a very unprecedented economic situation in the height of 2008. So, everything was overtaken by events and we were only focusing on, not on living conditions, but on just how to survive. Whether, at one level, I think it’s affected people from focusing on other things. That is my opinion.

He stated that there was very little dialogue currently, and if there was dialogue it was on an ad hoc basis and “unplanned”. This opinion was supported by others. One representative summarised:

> When the report was validated, there was a big turnout from government, from all stakeholder networks, and that went very well…but the follow up, I think they didn’t actually happen in a systematic manner.

According to him, the reason for this was the death of Mr Alexander Phiri, the then Director General of SAFOD – “so then it’s like a fire that has now died down, and we may need some new firewood”.

There seems to be consensus that there is discussion around disability in Zimbabwe:

> Yes, many workshops that been held with different stakeholders, including Government holding brainstorming workshops or planning meetings, there have been several discussions. But you know, the problem mainly has been to do with implementation.

In terms of concrete measures coming out of the survey, one representative was not confident about this issue and thought that there may "have been some declarations of intent". Lack of resources was explained as a factor why concrete measures were not implemented. One representative stated that concrete measures were identified but not implemented in Zimbabwe, for instance, "effectively involving people with disabilities in decision-making" was identified but not implemented. She went on to say that, "people with disabilities are still living in isolation". As one representative concluded, concrete measures are "not…as tangible as people would actually right home about" because the "living conditions have more or less deteriorated". As one summarised:

> There are no concrete measures…there could have been some, you know, issues that came out of the survey that probably facilitated some kind of advocacy around disability issues, likely from the disability fraternity, but we can't really pinpoint it, any policy issue that arose from such a survey. So, it ends somewhere around advocacy. You know, it's a good advocacy tool.

Related to the concrete measures issue, none of those interviewed felt that there was a successful monitoring process regarding the survey. Partly because there were no real measures in place to monitor, and partly because of lack or resources. One representative concluded, "You know, this survey was done, people go, and that's it. Yeah."

In terms of policy development and planning, there seems to have been very little done. No concrete policies were mentioned as examples. Lack of resources and funding again came out as a possible reason for this. As one representative mentioned:

> I think there are more things to be considered and more, essentially, and more which may take precedence over those things. You can see our economy. You can see our situation. So, those other things, maybe, maybe (are more important), and they do other things.

When it comes to capacity building, there seems to be very little done in Zimbabwe. The general feeling was that the capacity building that was done was at government level and not with persons with disabilities.

In relation to the objective of improving the living conditions of persons with disabilities, the general consensus was that the living conditions had actually deteriorated since the survey, due to economic and political reasons in the country. As one representative remembers, “there were some even industries which could employ disabled people. They are now closed”, and “Government was also giving some public assistance…would get an equivalent of R500 from government every month. But nobody gets that now”.

There have been awareness activities since the survey in 2002. But, one representative feels that this awareness was “spontaneous” and not a result of the survey. Another representative felt that more could be done with awareness activities, but lack of resources makes this difficult in Zimbabwe. Another representative stated that awareness has gone a long way, but “awareness without concrete action will just do nothing you know”.

Skills training seems to be taking place. “There has been a lot of skills training for disabled people at a basic level, by the way,” said one representative. Another stated that, “Yes, we are fighting for inclusion. Here and there, there is, but not much, not everywhere, but there is.” They go on to say that, “we can see the light there, but we still need more.”

When it comes to the survey being applied for the benefit of persons with disabilities living in Zimbabwe, the general opinion is that:

> Most of it is, yes, it applied theory, theoretically, but practically, most of the times.… We’ve been told if funds, if resources permit, if resources permit we will. But then, there are no resources.

One representative mentioned that the survey was a very good advocacy tool and that this was benefitting persons with disabilities in Zimbabwe in some way.

In terms of baseline data being achieved, there were mixed opinions. Some representatives questioned the methodology of the survey and “it did not capture quite a lot of variables”, especially to do with rural populations. While others agreed that baseline data had been achieved, “the problem is still amount to you need them to then take that baseline and use it for programming”. When it came to setting the groundwork for further data collections, there were once again varying answers from “a minimal level” to “not 100%”.

The general consensus is that the data from the survey does get used by the respective organisations. This was primarily so in the first few years following the release of the data – from advocacy work to budgets/funding and planning. As two representatives stated:

> We once used it, I think in the first five years, we using the data. But now, things are dynamic and many things have evolved since, so now it may not be reliable, as we are saying, many things have really changed in Zimbabwe. It has been sinking into problems.
>
> Of course, it's been overtaken by events, but its good reference data.

There have been positive results emerging from the survey, with the main positive spin-off being that the survey has "highlighted" disability in the country. One representative qualified this by saying:

> In the first five years, many people were making reference because it was widely circulated or distributed, so in the first five years it was a useful tool to make reference to it, and also to use some of the material that was in it.… But now, that data is no longer as accurate. Because it, 14 years ago, it's a long time.

Another representative summarised:

> Like I said before, the positives are that the survey contributes to the, you know, reservoir of knowledge that people have on disability and the glaring, you know, state of affairs regarding the underdevelopment of the disability fraternity all together. You know lack of education, basic disability infrastructure, livelihoods and so on and so forth. So, the survey really is very critical when it comes to that. It is some kind of living testimony when it comes to describing the living conditions of persons with disabilities.

Increased awareness about the relationship between research and disability was, according to most representatives, achieved. One, however, emphasised that this was on an academic and not a practical level. Related to this, all stakeholders affirmed that the survey increased interest in disability issues from stakeholders as well as improved relationships between stakeholders. As one representative revealed, "they get aware that disabled persons are also human beings."

In terms of the representatives’ general impressions about the survey, one representative stated that it was “an excellent endeavour”, but that it lacked continuity and was “just an event”. Another representative mentioned that it gave recognition to persons with disabilities and that it enlightens people to the fact that persons with disabilities “are also human beings”. As another representative said, “we can now be involved in society” and persons with disabilities “are now coming out”. One representative finally stated that SINTEF “didn’t provide a way forward for the survey. So, it was like something that was just done, and then it is gathering dust somewhere…on the shelves.”

5.4 Mozambique

One representative in Mozambique was interviewed. According to the SAFOD representative, there has been extensive dialogue between relevant authorities, professionals and organisations concerning the results of the studies in Mozambique. Many, if not all, sectors were involved in the whole study process, including government, universities, DPOs, media and communities – especially at the launch of the results in the country. There still seems to be dialogue with regard to the study and there also, currently, seems to be improved relationships between stakeholders.

Concrete measures include the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; the study was used as a tool in the creation of a National Disability Council, and also encouraged discussion of inclusive education. There have also been day-to-day improvements for persons with disabilities in, for example, shopping centres, banks and airports. Despite these concrete measures, there has been little, if any, monitoring process. There is still a need to monitor the study more formally.

In terms of policy development and planning, there was definitely a sense that this was happening with special reference to their sign language policy in the country.

There seems to have been issues with capacity building in the country due to funding problems. Despite a need being identified at the launch of the study results, capacity building did not materialise in Mozambique. This was highlighted as a priority.

The general opinion was that there was no improvement in living conditions for persons with disabilities; there were limited and gradual benefits coming out of the study; there were no awareness activities; and limited skills training but this was not done systematically. Baseline data has been achieved as well as the groundwork for repeated and long-term data collections on living conditions among persons with disabilities. The study data is used extensively in Mozambique – on a “day-to-day basis” and not only in organisations, but in life in general. However, the feeling is that the data is used by “high level people” but not at grassroots or community levels. In other words, policy level is fine but not sufficient at a practical level. Awareness about the relationship between disability and research is on a theoretical but not practical level.

One tangible result of the study in Mozambique was that the statistical office (INE) actually decided to establish a disability focal point (within INE), and that this task was given to Mr. Olimpio Zavale who was heading the INE team that were responsible for the data collection in Mozambique.

5.5 Botswana

One SAFOD representative in Botswana was interviewed. In Botswana, compared to the other countries, there was a “different scenario” in that the report had not been made public at the time of this evaluation. Hence, the representative from Botswana was not in a position to give much comment or reflect on the impact of the study in Botswana.

He, however, emphasised that the study was supported by the Office of the President in Botswana, and not by the Federation of the Disabled, and hence did not involve persons with disabilities. DPOs are still waiting to see the report and assess its impact on the country. For instance, according to the SAFOD representative, there has been no dialogue or discussion between relevant stakeholders concerning the results of the study in the country. The reason for the limited role of SAFOD and BOFOD were due to internal problems in SAFOD in particular. It is on the other hand very positive that Office of the President took such a strong interest in the study and should be in a position to utilize the study (that were launched in November 2016).

5.6 Lesotho

One SAFOD representative in Lesotho was interviewed. According to this representative, there has been dialogue between stakeholders These are usually “issued by the DPOs” and involve various forums. “The government would engage by way of a dialogue on what the DPO’s would be proposing.” These dialogues would then “inform some of the policy interventions”. Discussions are on-going in that there has been no other survey done in the country. However, the representative stated that you do not “hear the government or other stakeholders talking about disability” unless it is initiated by persons with disabilities. Later in the interview, the representative stated that, “our government is not that much committed to disability issues” and hence it was difficult to ascertain if the living conditions of persons with disabilities have actually improved since the survey in Lesotho. He emphasised that an evaluation of the survey needs to be done to address that issue but that “it is a struggle on our side to convince our government to carry out the evaluation”.

In terms of concrete measures, the representative highlighted two measures that have resulted from the survey. They are the “disability legalisation” and the “National Disability Instrument Plan”, of which the first measure still needs to be passed from a bill into law. The second measure is a plan “meant to guide the government ministries on how to mainstream disability issues in their ministry annual plans”.

Despite no monitoring, there has been some capacity building as a result of the survey. This was a “’wonderful programme” of awareness building where they used people from the villages to do the awareness. Awareness programmes across the country have been implemented. There have also been skills training, especially to do with advocacy issues:

> So now we have focal points, disability focal points in about 12 government ministries, those people being, are being trained on disability issues. And we also have disability focal points in the local community councils, you know, like if the local governments structures in Lesotho. So, they are called local community councils. There are people who, with disabilities, who are being trained, they are now skilled and able to advocate

> for their rights, and they are able to hold meetings with the duty bearers within the community as to how to handle issues of disability.

Hence, according to the representative, persons with disabilities have benefitted from the survey study through training initiatives, employment opportunities and improvements in access to schooling.

SAFOD uses the results of the survey study to influence government and to make "sure that the data is being used by different sectors in our communities and to the government as well". It is also used for "evidence based advocacy work" and for "us to flag out the message of the survey to the government and other stakeholders". This evidence base that the survey study supplied was for this representative one of the most positive results.

Since the survey, there has been an increased interest in disability issues from stakeholders in Lesotho. As the representative mentioned, "we have so many partners who have shown interest in disability issues since the study.''

The representative mentioned that the survey study may not be relevant anymore but that they still use the data as there is currently no alternative.

When it comes to general impressions of the survey study, the representative stated the following:

> I think the survey was very good and very useful to us, but now I think, you know, most of the interventions that were being proposed by the study were not implemented due to lack of funding. I think even though, you know, it has been…much has been done in terms of investing in the development of the survey, but not that much has been done to make sure that the results of the study are being implemented accordingly.

5.7 Namibia

One SAFOD representative in Namibia was interviewed. This representative stated that there was very little dialogue between stakeholders concerning the LCS in the country. There had also been no real monitoring process since the survey was done.

In terms of policy development, the respondent felt that this did take place “partially”. There has also been some capacity building.

When it comes to improving living conditions, it was reflected that persons with disabilities in urban areas tended to be better off compared to persons with disabilities in rural areas. This was, according to the representative, because urban persons had better access to education than their rural counterparts. This is related to the survey supposedly resulting in better access to education, in that education became more inclusive and accommodating for persons with disabilities.

Discussion between stakeholders about disability has taken place – between civil society, DPOs and government ministries. This has resulted in many awareness campaigns in the country with the help of the media and relevant stakeholders. Skills training is also happening in Namibia, with vocation education training being quite prominent. There have been improved relationships between stakeholders since the survey was conducted – the relationships are now “strong”.

The use of the survey in the representative’s organisation is limited. The representative reported that, “we are hardly discussing the survey report”, but acknowledged that others may have used the data in other circumstances. The representative concluded that they need to use the data more to come up with strategic plans.

A positive result of the survey is that disability has been given higher status in the government – from the Ministry of Health to the Office of the President. It is hence receiving more attention and advocacy, and this is partly due to the survey.

In conclusion, the representative stated that there were very good impressions coming out of the survey, but that another survey needs to be conducted as soon as possible.

5.8 Swaziland

Despite numerous invitations and requests to take part in this evaluation, there has been no response from this country.

6. The LCS in global perspective: Reflections from a member of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics

Key players in the early conceptualisation and development of the LCS studies were Prof Arne Eide, who remains with SINTEF, and Dr Mitchell Loeb, who left SINTEF in the early 2000s to take up a position as Health Scientist in the Office of Analysis and Epidemiology at the National Centre for Health Statistics (NCHS), Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, USA. Dr Loeb is also a key member of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, a voluntary working group made up of representatives of over 100 National Statistical Offices and international, non-governmental and disability organisations that was organised under the aegis of the United Nations Statistical Division. It is clear that Dr Loeb's insider status regarding the LCS could be seen as a source of bias, but we believed that his current global perspective could shed light on the impact of the LCS. We therefore interviewed Dr Loeb by Skype.

According to Dr Loeb, the impact of the LCS goes beyond the boundaries of the countries that participated. The process has had more expansive and far-reaching impact. A key contribution, and a key lesson which influenced future work globally, was, according to Dr Loeb, the meaningful inclusion of persons with disabilities in the research process as a whole. This, according to Dr Loeb, "created a dynamic that I don't think ever existed before." He recalled:

> One of the most impactful episodes for me was, I remember, I think it was in Malawi. There was a group of interviewers that we trained from DPOs and I think there were three or four that learned a lot, and I could see that they were keen to continue. They wanted to create a little research group amongst themselves to sell their expertise in data collection.… Amazingly strong people. I think that's what I learnt, how strong these individuals are, how resilient.

Another impact was that the survey studies set up a model for future international disability research – especially regarding the shift from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and disaggregating all development outcomes by disability status:

> And if we look back to the SINTEF work, that's exactly what… (current researchers and statistical offices) do. They collect disability data using the Washington group questions, in almost certain they use the recommended cut offs the Washington group sets and they collect all of this other information on education, on employment, on housing standards, on social participation. They're in a position to look at the segregation of these major outcomes by disability status.

The LCS studies built relationships with disability communities but also more broadly. Relationships with academic institutions were created. This was for Dr Loeb "the second most impactful area". Creating these collaborations that developed over time gave sub-Saharan Africa a power house of academic research, and research in which there were new partnerships between universities and the disability sector. These relationships have been maintained and strengthened, as we ourselves as part of the academic community in southern Africa can attest.

Dr Loeb summarised the global impact of the LCS studies on a wider perspective when he said:

> You could think of them each as individual national projects to collect data to support national infrastructure, but there is a much broader regional international impact to this work. I mean, if you think of that fact that not only does the Washington Group reference the work of SINTEF, but SINTEF, through the work that they've been doing, is invited to international forums all the time.

7. Impact on NORAD and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway

We did not find much information on the impact of the SINTEF studies on NORAD and the MFA. A thorough search of online information did not reveal anything of consequence, apart from one report, which we discuss below. We contacted both NORAD and the MFA by email for further information; unfortunately, we have not thus far received responses to our request for this information.

As we noted earlier, NORAD did commission a methodological evaluation of the LCS in 2007. This report concludes:

> While the evaluation team finds the substantive results of the survey as presented in the report reliable, there are a number of technical improvements that could be made. Chief among such improvements is proper consideration of the sampling design of the survey. This pertains to issues such as the sampling procedures used for the households within survey clusters, treatment of non-response, use of sampling based weights to be able to calculate representative estimates, and taking account of the sample structure in tests of significance and calculations of standard errors.

The main strength in the Zambia report is that it provides reliable data and analyses relevant to advocacy and knowledge based policies towards people with disability. It has also been an important focus for dialogue between stakeholders, and for academic debate and knowledge development. It is, furthermore, innovative in its use of disabled staff in fieldwork.

Though, as we have mentioned, this evaluation was more focussed on the technical strengths and weaknesses of the surveys, it is noteworthy that a major focus in the conclusion is on the social processes set in place by the SINTEF engagement.

8. Concluding remarks and suggestions

It is clear that on a country for country basis, the LCS has had varied success and uptake. Each country has their own unique story about how the survey study has impacted, or not impacted, on them. Some countries, like Malawi and Zambia, seem to have experienced more impact than others. The reasons for this are numerous, but it is all fundamentally based on the support networks (in particular, government support), the infrastructures of the countries including the leadership within the disability sectors, as well as the approach of stakeholders. For example, Malawi was well supported by their government and had strong leadership through the disability sectors, while Botswana lacked support networks and tended to have stakeholder issues regarding the release of the findings. It does not seem reasonable to consider the impacts of the LCS without a consideration of the broader context in each country. We suspect that studies in other sectors would have similar varying uptake in different countries, and a method not used in the current study could be to compare the LCS uptake with the uptake of other studies on a country by country basis. It is recommended, therefore, that each country be addressed on their own merit and that sweeping generalisations not be made across the survey studies in the eight countries.

The main issue that was highlighted by most countries is that the process set in motion by the LCS needs to be a continuous process and not a once off intervention. In this regard, participants in our evaluation highlight another issue which is key to development work in general – projects are commonly conceptualised individually, but they form part of a history of engagement amongst a complex network of players. With regard to the LCS in particular, a common theme from participants we spoke to was a lack of ongoing monitoring capacity and application in most countries emphasised. The representatives felt that the survey studies could be “taken to another level”, but realise that funding and local capacity is an obstacle. This is a complex challenge going forward but one worth taking up – local, meaningful and useful data-gathering as part of an ongoing reflexive practice for countries remains an elusive goal at present.

In summary, some key lessons learned through the process are:

1. It is important not to make very broad generalisations across the surveys – each country has their own dynamics, and hence impact. While some countries seem to have had very successful impact, there are others that have had less successful impact. This is a contextual factor not under the control of SINTEF or FFO.

2. Countries where there has been good collaboration between stakeholders, strong leadership within DPOs and more government involvement have shown to be more successful in terms of impact. The more stakeholders are involved (importantly, with the inclusion of government), the more it is possible for more long-term impact. This impact is reflected in both the qualitative stories from key stakeholders as well as the

quantitative data reflected in the scholarly impact.

3. As the Zimbabwe case showed, probably most clearly, the impact of the survey has much to do with the current political, economic and social circumstances of a country. Context is thus important. They believe that the impact could have been stronger and more sustained had Zimbabwe not experienced such a high degree of instability soon after the survey was completed.

4. Despite the inter-country differences, discussed above, the LCS process was experienced as a very good advocacy tool which highlighted disability issues in most countries.

5. The gap between policy and implementation (again, a well-recognised problem in development work) was clear. There is evidence of policy developments following the LCS, but this was not always transferred into implementation of programmes.

6. The issue of long-term impact remains a major challenge. The surveys had the potential to put longer-term monitoring in place, but lack of funding and resources were highlighted as key issues inhibiting the implementation of a more longitudinal, ongoing approach.

7. Despite this challenge, it was also learned that there were clearly broader and indirect impacts of these studies. These included the training and development of people in disability studies – from the training of fieldworkers to the qualifications of various degrees to persons at university institutions. This survey study has thus widened the human resource capacity and knowledge capacity internationally in disability studies.

8. The apparent lack of carry-over into NORAD and MFA practice is concerning and it may be helpful if this is addressed amongst Norwegian partners.

9. It is clear that the impact of the LCS goes beyond the boundaries of the countries that participated in the surveys. From our data collected for this evaluation, and from our own engagement in the field, we are convinced that these small studies have had a global impact on disability and development work, which should not be underestimated.

Based on these key findings we make the following recommendations:

1. The key success of the LCS, which is in the area of process – of inclusion and participation by disabled people in research, of developments in creating partnerships between DPOs and other role-players – should be celebrated and highlighted in the form of policy briefs which could be disseminated in Norway and further afield.

2. The question of uptake and problems with uptake, especially in low-resource contexts, needs to be considered more broadly than at the level of the LCS. We suggest that the case of the LCS possibly be used as a basis for broader dialogue around this issue.

3. The need for a Disability Resource Centre in southern Africa, as identified by the LCS aims, remains, and it would seem that this would require more ongoing high-level research and monitoring capacity as a partnership with DPOs. This is worth pursuing.

The global impact of the LCS on disability and development research, and the collection of disability statistics, seems considerable and is worth highlighting by FFO in the form of pamphlets and documents. If development work is a process dependant on relationships and trust, there is an example here which has been influential in a broad arena.

9. List of Abbreviations

BOFOD - Botswana Federation of the Disabled
DPO - Disability People’s Organisation
FAMOD - Mozambican Forum of Disabled People’s Organisations
FEDOMA - Federation of Disability Organisations in Malawi
FFO - The Norwegian Federation of Organizations of Disabled People
FODPZ - Federation of Organisations of Disabled Persons in Zimbabwe
FODSWA - Federation of Organisations of Disabled People in Swaziland
LCS - Living Condition Studies
LNFOD - Lesotho National Federation of Organisations of the Disabled
MFA - Ministry of Foreign Affairs
NFD - National Federation of Disabled People in Namibia
PWD - Persons with Disabilities
SAFOD - Southern African Federation of the Disabled
SRP - SAFOD Research Programme
ZAFOD - Zambia Federation of Disability Organisations

Appendix 1: Breakdown of Citations by Country LCS Report:

Malawi

Malawi received the most citations (87 citations). Of the 87 citations, 70 were English citations with 17 in other languages.

Analysis of the 70 English citations show that there were 2 book citations, 2 chapter citations, 46 journal article citations and 20 document citations.

Books	2
Chapters	2
Journal Articles	46
Documents	20
TOTAL	70

The 46 journal article citations covered 33 journals. Five journals had more than one citation, with *Disability and Rehabilitation* having 6, *Disability and Society* 6, *African Journal of Disability* 3, *World Development* 2 and *BMC International Health and Human Rights* 2.

Disability and Rehabilitation	6
Disability and Society	6
African Journal of Disability	3
World Development	2
BMC International Health and Human Rights	2

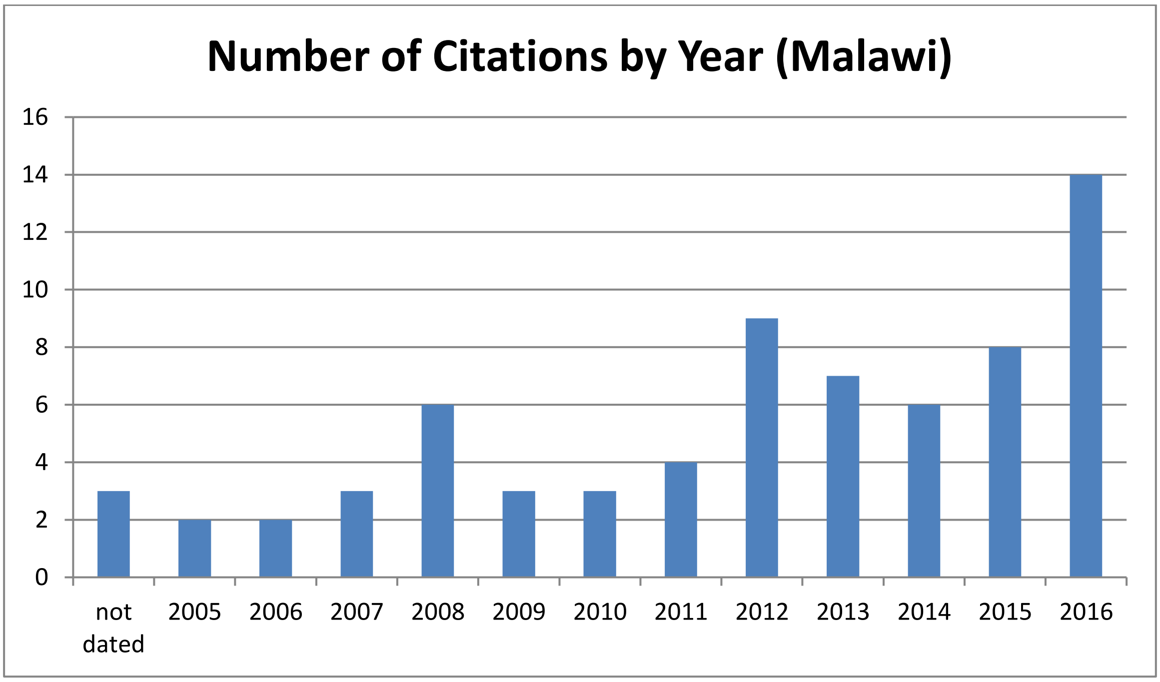
Within the 20 documents, there were 5 Doctoral dissertations (4 from South Africa and 1 from Europe) and 3 Master’s dissertations (1 from South Africa and 2 from Europe).

In terms of authorship of the journal articles, there were 7 first authors who were cited more than once.

Braathen, S. H. (Norway)	7
Magnusson, L. (Sweden)	4
Eide, A. H. (Norway)	4
Borg, J. (Sweden)	3
Loeb, M. (Norway)	2
Wylie, K. (Australia)	2
World Health Organization (Switzerland)	2

It is noteworthy that the highest numbers of citations were by authors currently (Braathen and Eide) or formerly (Loeb) employed by SINTEF.

The number of citations by year shows that Malawi had consistent citations from 2005–2016, peaking in 2016.



Zambia

Zambia received the second most citations (64 citations). Of the 64 citations, 51 were English citations with 13 in other languages.

Analysis of the 51 English citations show that there were 2 book citations, 3 chapter citations, 25 journal article citations and 21 document citations.

Books	2
Chapters	3
Journal Articles	25
Documents	21
TOTAL	51

The 25 journal article citations covered 17 journals. Four journals had more than one citation, with *Disability and Rehabilitation* having 4, *Disability and Society* 3, *African Journal of Disability* 3, *BMJ Open* 2.

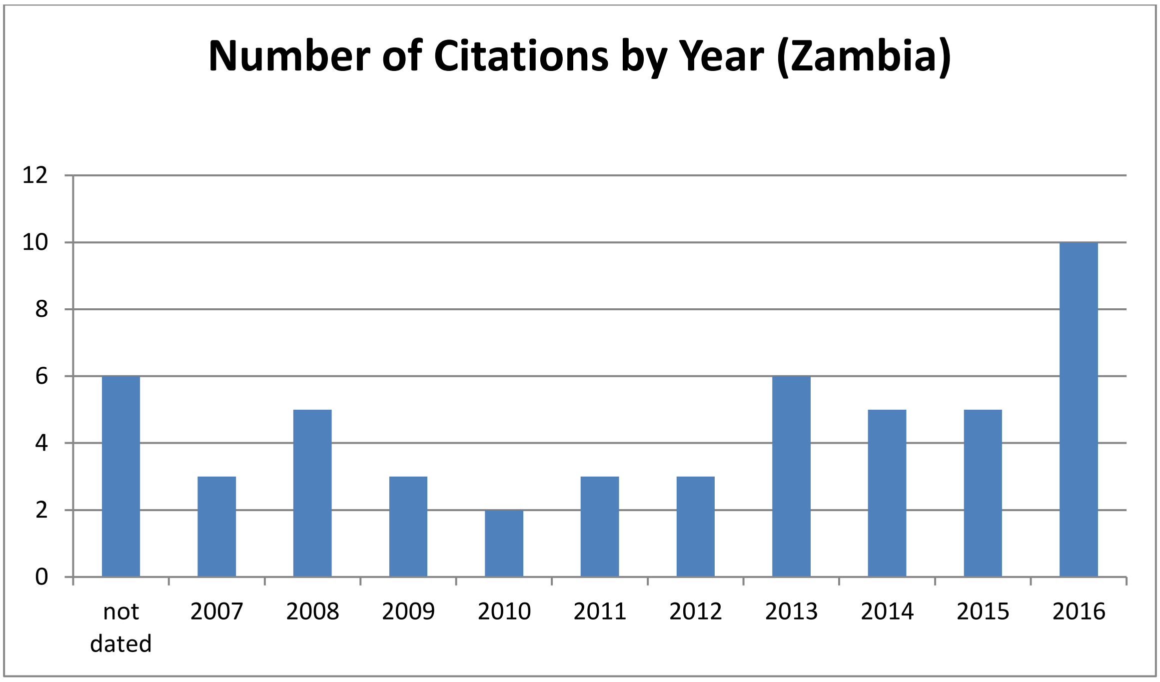
Disability and Rehabilitation	4
Disability and Society	3
African Journal of Disability	3
BMJ Open	2

Within the 21 documents, there were 2 Doctoral dissertations (2 from South Africa) and 1 Master's dissertation (1 from Europe).

In terms of authorship of the journal articles, there were 8 first authors who were cited more than once.

Loeb, M. (Norway)	4
Mont, D. (USA)	3
Banda-Chalwe, M. (Australia)	3
Rohleder, P. (South Africa)	2
Wylie, K. (Australia)	2
Hosseinpoor, A. R. (Switzerland)	2
Magnusson, L. (Sweden)	2
World Health Organization (Switzerland)	2

Number of citations by year shows that Zambia also had consistent citations, but from 2007–2016, with it again peaking in 2016.



Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe received the third most citations (45 citations). Of the 45 citations, 32 were English citations with 12 in other languages.

Analysis of the 32 English citations show that there were 1 book citation, 2 chapter citations, 18 journal article citations and 11 document citations.

Books	1
Chapters	2
Journal Articles	18
Documents	11
TOTAL	32

The 18 journal article citations covered 14 journals. Two journals had more than one citation, with *Disability and Rehabilitation* having 4, *Disability and Society* 2.

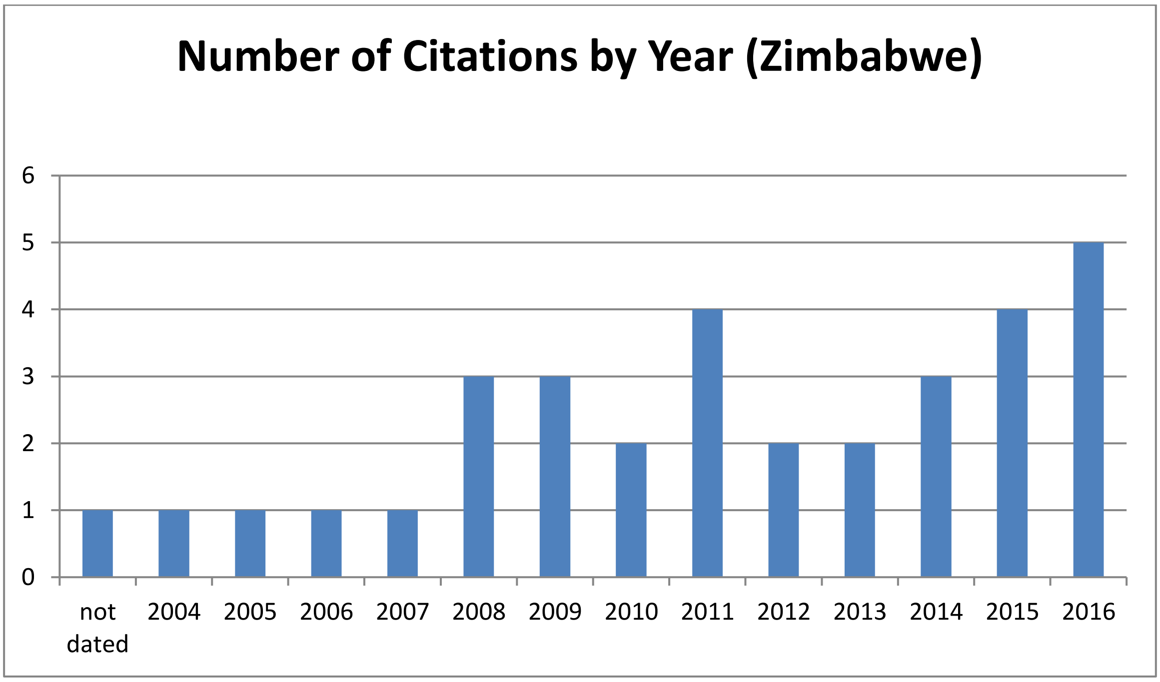
Disability and Rehabilitation	4
Disability and Society	2

Within the 12 documents there was 1 Doctoral dissertation (1 from Europe) and 1 Master's dissertation (1 from South Africa).

In terms of authorship of the journal articles, there were 4 first authors who were cited more than once.

Eide, A. H. (Norway)	3
Munsaka, E. (South Africa)	3
Loeb, M. E. (Norway)	2
World Health Organization (Switzerland)	2

Number of citations by year shows that Zimbabwe also had consistent citations, but from 2004–2016, with it again peaking in 2016.



Namibia

Namibia received the fourth most citations (35 citations). Of the 35 citations, 21 were English citations with 14 in other languages.

Analysis of the 21 English citations show that there were 0 book citations, 1 chapter citation, 14 journal article citations and 6 document citations.

Books	0
Chapters	1
Journal Articles	14
Documents	6
TOTAL	21

The 14 journal article citations covered 13 journals. One journal had more than one citation, namely *Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology* with 2.

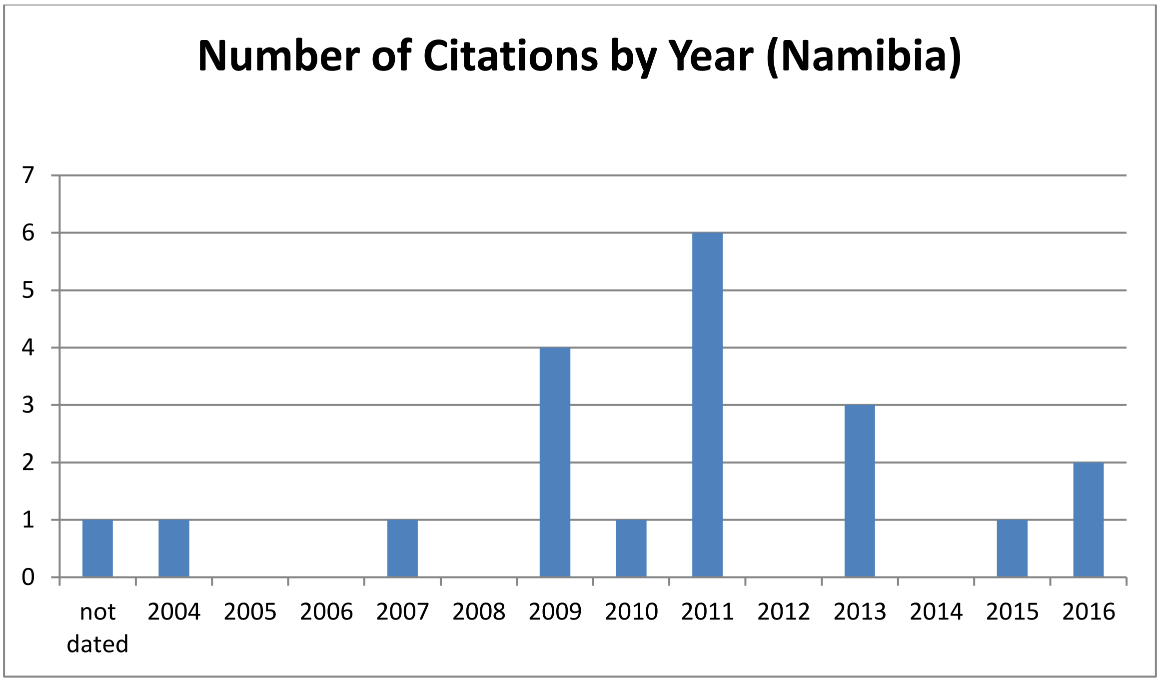
Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology	2

Within the 12 documents there were no Doctoral or Master’s dissertations.

In terms of authorship of the journal articles, there was 1 first author who was cited more than once.

Borg, J. (Sweden)	5

Number of citations by year shows that Namibia had inconsistent citations from 2004–2016, with it peaking in 2011.



Mozambique

Mozambique received the fifth most citations (19 citations). Of the 19 citations, 17 were English citations with 2 in other languages.

Analysis of the 17 English citations show that there were 0 book citations, 0 chapter citations, 9 journal article citations and 8 document citations.

Books	0
Chapters	0
Journal Articles	9
Documents	8
TOTAL	17

The 9 journal article citations covered 8 journals. One journal had more than one citation, namely *African Journal of Disability* with 2.

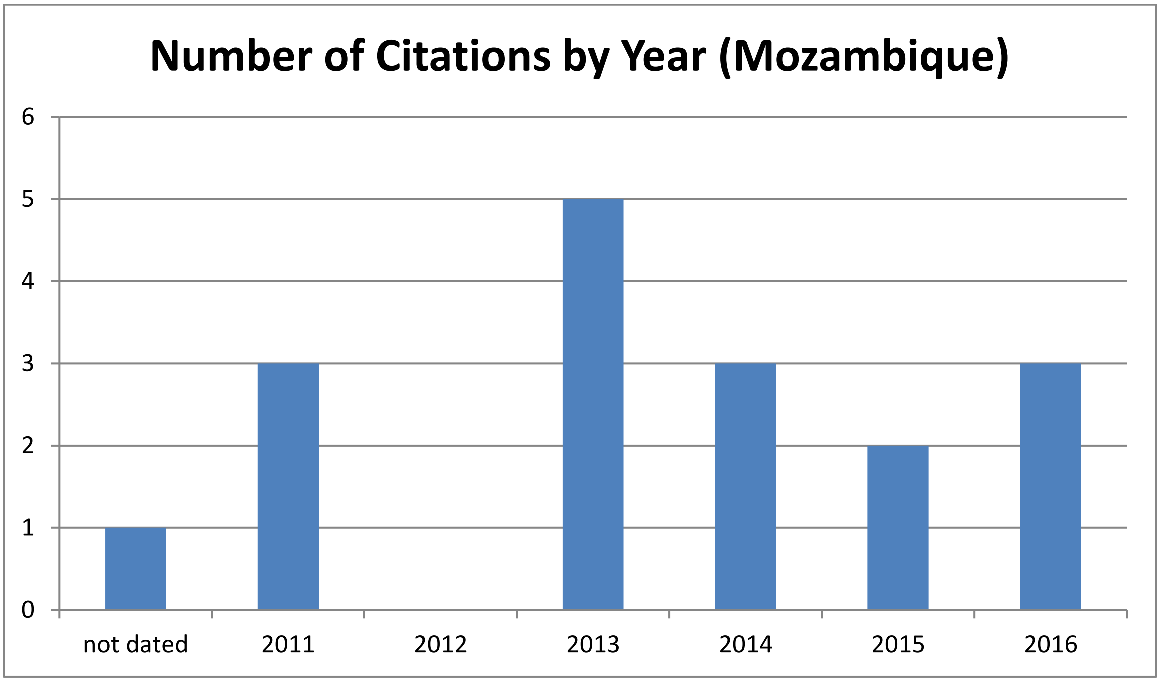
African Journal of Disability	2

Within the 8 documents there were 2 Doctoral dissertations from South Africa.

In terms of authorship of the journal articles, there were 2 first authors who was cited more than once.

Wylie, K. (Australia)	2
World Health Organization (Switzerland)	2

Number of citations by year shows that Mozambique had inconsistent citations from 2011–2016, with it peaking in 2013.



The other three countries (Lesotho, Swaziland and Botswana) had no citations.