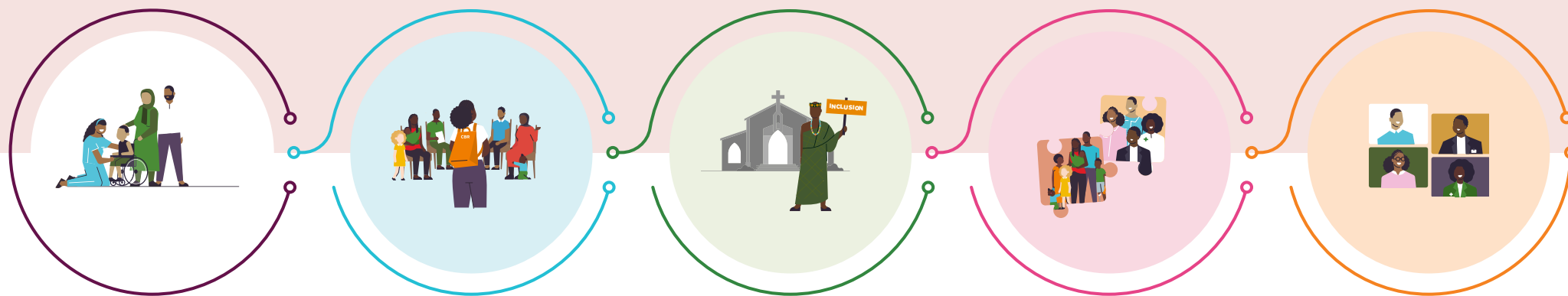


# Change pathways to community-based disability inclusion

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Community-Based Rehabilitation / Community-Based Inclusive Development (CBR/CBID) is a multi-sectoral strategy to inclusion. But how does this strategy create change? Collaborative research led by Liliane Fonds and Radboud University, in partnership with universities in Cameroon, Sierra Leone, and Zambia, identified five key change pathways to disability inclusion. These pathways are crucial to enhance the rights and wellbeing of children with disabilities and their families.



## **FAMILY SUPPORT CLOSE TO HOME:**

- Home visits by trained community workers identify the children, map out the daily needs of the child and the family or caregivers, and provide basic homebased rehabilitation
- Connect families to essential services (health, educations, livelihoods, and social support)

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF PEER GROUPS:**

- Support groups for parents, youth and children
- Provide emotional and practical support
- Advocate for access to services and rights
- Build skills
- Create livelihood opportunities

## **SENSITISATION OF COMMUNITY INFLUENCERS:**

- Engage community leaders such as religious leaders, village chiefs and traditional healers
- Promote disability inclusion
- Challenge harmful societal attitudes
- Foster an inclusive environment

## **STAKEHOLDER FORUMS:**

- Platforms to sensitise “duty bearers”: government officials, community leaders, service providers
- Connect them with parents and young people
- Promote institutional collaboration
- Lobby and advocate for access to services and rights (local, regional and national)

## **STRONG PARTNERSHIPS WITH SERVICE PROVIDERS:**

- Meetings with service providers to strengthen partnerships and share resources.
- Establish a referral network to improve coordination among healthcare providers, educators, and rehabilitation specialists
- Enhance skills of service providers in disability inclusion and family support

## Impact in synergy

When planning and implementing programs, it is essential to focus on synergies within and between the five pathways. The interconnectedness between interventions allows progress in one area to catalyse improvements in others, ultimately creating inclusive, sustainable communities where children and young people with disabilities can thrive.