

# Rehabilitation Compass for Inclusion (RCI)

THE PATH TO GOOD-QUALITY REHABILITATION CARE IN CAMEROON



A growing child wants nothing more than to be able to walk, play, move around and ultimately lead an independent life. Unfortunately, having a disability, this is far from easy. Certainly in Cameroon, where a staggering 86 percent of the children and young people with a disability do not have access to good rehabilitation care.

The shortage of good rehabilitation care in Cameroon is a structural problem which must be resolved from the bottom up. A good training as physiotherapist, occupational therapist or Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) fieldworker will lead to an increase in the number of trained rehabilitation professionals, a wider range and a higher quality of the rehabilitation services. These improvements will ensure that children and youngsters with a disability, who are growing up in poverty, and who need rehabilitation the most, will have access to better rehabilitation care.

## AIM

In collaboration with the Liliane Foundation, the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Service (CBCHS) wishes to ensure that *every child and every youngster with a disability, in Cameroon, including the poorest, has as good a quality of life as possible.*

## INTENDED IMPACT

- ▶ children and youngsters with a disability can develop their physical and psychosocial skills optimally;
- ▶ parents/carers support their children with more self-confidence, and knowledge about and acceptance of the disability;

- ▶ communities respect, accept and recognize that people with a disability are as valuable and have the same rights as everyone.

## STRATEGY

In order to achieve the aforementioned, with the support of AFAS Foundation, we wish to:

- ▶ set up a 1-year Community Based Rehabilitation certificate course;
- ▶ set up a 2-year diploma course in physiotherapy and a 4-year Bachelor course in physiotherapy;
- ▶ set up a 2-year diploma course in occupational therapy and a 4-year Bachelor course in occupational therapy;
- ▶ enable future local teachers to obtain a Master's degree in physiotherapy and occupational therapy.

## Furthermore, we aim at:

- ▶ enhancing the referral system between the trained service providers, the partner organizations and the community;
- ▶ setting up and gaining recognition for a national professional association for physiotherapy, occupational therapy and CBR in Cameroon;
- ▶ setting up, together with the government, a structure within which these professional groups are recognized and can access career opportunities.

The project will start in the first quarter of 2021 and will last four years. It will cover eight of the ten regions of Cameroon.

## SUSTAINABILITY

In order to guarantee the sustainability, the entire project will be carried out in close collaboration with representatives of persons with a disability, representatives of the relevant national and regional authorities, experienced and accredited training institutes, local partner organizations and with the regional and international federations for physiotherapy and occupational therapy. Furthermore, during the first year, a business plan will be elaborated in order to pursue financial sustainability.

Click on the button or scan the QR-code to view the animation.



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