

**Call for Papers for the KM4Dev Journal:
Special Issue on Knowledge for Disability Inclusive Development**

The Knowledge Management for Development Journal (KM4D Journal) is a peer-reviewed community-based journal on knowledge management for development – for and by development practitioners, researchers and policymakers. The journal is closely related to the KM4Dev community of practice [www.km4dev.org].

The KM4D Journal is currently inviting papers for an upcoming special issue on knowledge for disability inclusive development, to be published in **September 2016**. The Guest Editors for this issue are Charlotte Scarf (lead), Fiona Budge, Penafrancia Ching, Sunil Deepak, Ros Madden, Beatriz Miranda, Sainimili Tawake, and Maya Thomas, with Sarah Cummings.

Rationale

Disability inclusive development is gaining ground as a global priority, as is evident by the explicit mention of persons with disabilities in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (UN 2015). When conceived in terms of knowledge and knowledge processes, disability inclusive development requires negotiated understanding and synthesis of ‘multiple knowledges’ (Brown 2011) to address multiple forms of disadvantage and discrimination experienced by people with disabilities in low and middle income countries (WHO & World Bank 2011). This Special Issue will explore how this has been achieved or impeded by different stakeholders in different contexts, including but not limited to the inclusion or exclusion of the perspectives of persons with disabilities, their families and other advocates, in the formulation and implementation of development policies and programs. The purpose is to enhance understanding of how we can create conditions for more insightful learning and meaningful action among all stakeholders concerned with disability and development who have different ways of knowing and experiencing the world.

In particular, we welcome submissions on the following topics:

- **Perspectives of persons with disabilities**

Persons with disabilities are an essential source of knowledge and experience to help find solutions to ensure their full and equal participation in society. How can persons with disabilities and their advocates (e.g. DPOs, families, friends) participate in bringing about more inclusive development? Papers could explore involvement by persons with disabilities and their advocates in developing and implementing disability-related policy, services, supports and other strategies; setting research priorities; promoting social acceptance of diversity; and creating a more accommodating environment to enjoy the same rights and opportunities as other members of their community.

- **Family perspectives**

All too often the accumulated knowledge of families of persons with disabilities is undervalued when it comes to disability-related policy and program planning. How can families, including aging parents and siblings of persons with disabilities, be actively involved in shaping more meaningful policies, services, supports for their family members with disabilities? What is their role/potential as agents of change? Papers could explore: issues and concerns that different family members of persons with disabilities face in navigating the service system and accessing equal opportunities for their loved ones; and their role as the first line of care, and as potential enablers of empowerment, for a very diverse group of people with very different options.

- **Gender and LGBT perspectives**

Women and girls and LGBT persons with disabilities are among the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world. How are their needs and experiences understood and reflected in

development policies and programs? Papers could explore policies and programs to address sexual and gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health promotion, and the neglected issue of menstrual hygiene management in low resource settings; the way women and girls and LGBT persons with disabilities are portrayed in mainstream development narratives, and the impact of various stereotypes on different groups, including heterosexual cisgender men and women; case studies of love, sex, romance, gender experimentation and transition among persons with disabilities; and strategies to build awareness and sensitivity to sexual orientation and gender identity of persons with disabilities.

- **Societal perspectives**

Social attitudes towards persons with disabilities vary widely. While positive perspectives can be observed in many contexts, negative perspectives, such as assumed inferiority, pity and even fear, are still prevalent in societies all over the world. How is disability perceived and treated in different communities, and what can be gained by engaging with discourses that propagate negative images of disability? Papers could explore social attitudes and responses to different groups of persons with disabilities; encounters between different worldviews; the impact of attitudinal factors on development policies and programs; and lessons learned from educational and awareness raising campaigns to address disability-related discrimination and social exclusion.

- **Critical perspectives**

Now that the issue of disability is on the development agenda, it is important for all those concerned to reflect critically on how the 'development' world works and some of its inherent problems and challenges. Papers could explore: the difference between community-based inclusive development and community-based rehabilitation; implications of the knowledge-power nexus and cultural dominance for persons with disability as aid recipients; everyday practices and innovative strategies of transformational change by persons with disabilities, their families and other advocates in the Global South.

- **Multi-sectoral collaboration**

To what extent do disability-related organisations, government, non-profit, and private sector service providers collaborate to ensure integrated approaches to inclusive development policy and program planning? Papers could explore sectoral responsibilities, interdependencies and gaps in the policy environment and service system to ensure equal opportunity and access for persons with disabilities; the connection between community-based inclusive development or community-based rehabilitation program components; the relationship between formal and informal care, and 'modern' and 'traditional' health and rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities, especially in settings where the latter is more accessible to the majority of the population.

- **Impact of policy on practice**

Significant international treaties, policies and plans signal consensus about the need to remedy disparities related to stigma and discrimination and improve quality of life for people with disabilities, especially in low and middle income countries. Among these, is the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) is pre-eminent. What is the impact of these initiatives on development policy and programs from a knowledge perspective? To what extent has the CRPD been implemented and realized? Papers could explore how international and national mandates have galvanized action, learning and research; ways to implement disability inclusive development effectively on the ground; organizational efforts at mainstreaming and learning related to disability; and challenges and good practices in monitoring and evaluation of the impact and quality of disability inclusive development.

- **Knowledge integration**

The complex and multi-dimensional nature of disability demands the breaking down of barriers between various expressions of knowledge (e.g scientific and experiential, explicit and implicit, quantitative and qualitative) so that each can contribute to the creation of new insights and strategies to advance disability inclusive development. How can knowledge be integrated to address disadvantages experienced by persons with disabilities in low and middle-income countries, especially in challenging situations such as disasters and armed conflicts? Papers could address: barriers and facilitators of mutual learning among stakeholders concerned with disability; and practical strategies and approaches (e.g participatory action research, appreciative inquiry, outcome mapping) to bring stakeholders together to synthesize their insights and experiences and generate new knowledge.

- **Knowledge translation**

How can we narrow the gap between research and policy, with empirical and practice-based insights directly informing policy development? Papers could examine where research and policy processes overlap; barriers and facilitators of evidence-based policy development; scenarios where research conflicts with political values; the role of the media in setting the policy agenda; and the application of commercial marketing and media techniques by researchers and other change agents seeking to influence policy.

Your contribution

This Special Issue will include articles, case studies and other contributions (see below for a full list). We particularly encourage submissions from researchers, practitioners, policymakers and activists from the Global South. We also encourage submissions from all disciplines, as long as they focus on the role of knowledge or knowledge processes in advancing – or inhibiting – disability inclusive development. Submissions are welcome in English, French and Spanish. We can offer ‘peer support’ to authors who are inexperienced writers.

About the Guest Editors

Charlotte Scarf is an independent writer, editor and researcher based in New York City, and an Honorary Research Fellow at the Centre for Disability Research and Policy at the University of Sydney. Her research is concerned with the politics of inclusion in knowledge-based health and development initiatives. She is interested in questions about power, partnership, participation, communication and learning in North-South encounters in the context of development. She holds a PhD in International Studies, a Masters in Communication, and a Bachelor in Political Economy.

Fiona Budge is an independent researcher, trainer and facilitator. Born in New Zealand, she has lived and worked in Nigeria, Indonesia and Europe. She is a former supervisor and lecturer at the VU University in Amsterdam and a researcher for Disability Studies in Nederland (DSiN). She holds diploma's in Occupational Therapy and Comprehensive Nursing (Technical Institutes in NZ), a Bachelor in Cultural Anthropology and Public Relations (USQ, Australia) and a Masters Degree in Medical Anthropology and Sociology (UvA, The Netherlands).

Penafrancia (Penny) Ching is currently a faculty member of the Department of Occupational Therapy, University of the Philippines Manila. She serves as the CBR program head of the College of Allied Medical Professions where she collaborates with various government and non-governmental organizations of persons with disabilities and CBR implementers. She is responsible for the preparation and training of students in different community-based programs that integrate community development principles with health programs. Penny has worked in various low-resourced settings especially in the context of disasters and how needs of persons with disabilities

and vulnerable groups are addressed. She holds a Masters Degree in Community Development and Bachelors Degree in Occupational Therapy.

Sunil Deepak is an independent consultant, currently heading the north-east regional office of Mobility India in Guwahati (India) and is an advisor to Italian NGO "AIFO" (Bologna, Italy). He has been involved in CBR programmes in Asia, Africa and South America for about three decades, especially in preparation of learning materials, implementing training of community workers and participatory research & documentation. He has collaborated extensively with different UN organisations, especially with Disability & Rehabilitation team of the World Health Organisation. He has a bachelors degree in medicine, post graduate diploma in anaesthesia and leprology and masters in disability studies.

Rosamond (Ros) Madden has worked on disability information, statistics and research since 1992, in government and at the University of Sydney where she now serves as an Honorary Senior Research Fellow. Ros has worked internationally with the WHO on disability and other classifications for 20+ years, was a member of the Editorial Committee for the World Report on Disability (2007-2011) and is a current member of the Editorial Board of Disability, CBR and Inclusive Development (2011-current). Her continuing research interests include: disability measurement and policy, in the framework of the UN CRPD and using the ICF; research and monitoring for community-based rehabilitation (CBR) and other disability-inclusive development programs. Ros was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in June 2014 for her work.

Beatriz Miranda has been trained as a sociologist and anthropologist (Ecuador-Mexico, Belgium and England). She works at the VUMC University of Amsterdam. Her main field of study and research is development and disability including leprosy. She has been involved in social research and cooperation projects in the USA, Central and South America, Belgium, England, India, China and Indonesia looking at social issues linked to AIDS, disability, gender, religion, street children, post-coloniality, race and ethnicity. She was the study manager of the SARI Project in Indonesia that aimed to understand the life of people affected by leprosy in West-Java towards an improvement of their life conditions. Currently she coordinates the BRIDGES project between Brazil and Indonesia regarding sustainability of small leprosy and disability organizations. She teaches Disability research, Sociological approaches to stigma and Sociology of the body, Medical Anthropology. She is also the coordinator of the Disability Studies on-line Programme at the 17, Institute for Critical Studies in Mexico.

Sarah Cummings is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Knowledge Management for Development Journal* which she founded with a group of colleagues in 2005. She is currently working as an independent social entrepreneur focusing on knowledge and development. She is a member of the KM4Dev community.

Submission guidelines

If you would like to submit a paper, please send a short proposal, including the title of your paper and an abstract (minimum one paragraph – maximum one page) by email to:

KM4DJ-Sept2016@dggroups.org

Submission deadline for title and abstract	January 30, 2016
Acceptance of short proposal	February 29, 2016
Submission of full paper	April 15, 2016
Completion of peer-review	May 30, 2016
Submission of final version of paper	July 15, 2016
Publication date	September 1, 2016

For further information about the journal, kindly consult the journal website at:

<http://journal.km4dev.org/index.php/km4dj>

Guidelines for authors are available on the journal's website:

<http://journal.km4dev.org/index.php/km4dj/about/submissions#authorGuidelines>

References:

Brown, V.E. (2011) Multiple knowledges, multiple languages: are the limits of my language the limits of my world? Knowledge Management for Development Journal 6(2): 120-131.

United Nations (2015) Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015 (A/RES/70/1). Retrieved 1 December 2015 from <http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/1>

WHO & World Bank. (2011) World report on disability. World Health Organization/World Bank: Geneva.

Types of contributions

Articles are refereed through a peer support process. Each submission is limited to a maximum of 6000 words (including notes and references), plus a summarising abstract no longer than 200 words, a short biographical summary of the authors and contact details. Articles can include:

- Theory-focused articles which introduce, or advance or question scientific concepts, models and approaches in knowledge management for development.
- Review articles which review approaches and advance the field.
- Practice-based articles which are based on the application of knowledge management for development. Although they may be focused on practice, they need to have a theoretical basis in the literature of knowledge management and development, and take the theory a step further. Articles may use case examples to illustrate a point, but a theory or premise is at the forefront.

Case studies are generally slightly shorter than papers, with a case example at the forefront serving as a basis for the author's theories. The case studies should not exceed 4000 words and are subject to peer review.

Thought pieces are an outlet for expressing opinions, sharing new ideas, or presenting philosophical discourses. They should comprise a maximum of 2000 words and are not subject to peer review, although they should be revised in line with the comments of the Editors.

Publication reviews which review approaches and advance the field. // Which review a publication and highlight what is interesting, innovative, relevant and also not so strong in the publication + all details to access it.

Short stories are short contributions (maximum of 2000 words), with a more personal take than an article or a case study. A short story can address either personal experiences or a newsworthy topic.

KM4Dev Community Notes comprise summaries of discussions which have taken place on the KM4Dev community of practice online discussion forum, or a conference or workshop report which has taken place under the auspices of KM4Dev www.km4dev.org/journal. The objective of Community Notes is to showcase the activities of the KM4Dev community. Community notes may be submitted by any member of the KM4Dev community.

Life stories are portraits of figures from the knowledge management for development field, tracing back their crucial moments in the field, lessons learned and trends/observations for the future. These articles should not exceed 4000 words.

Debates are controversial exchanges between two persons about a specific topic in the field of knowledge management for development – for which the two persons disagree. Debates consist of a series of answers to one another, around issues introduced by a neutral voice. These articles should not exceed 3000 words. The summary and details of both authors should be shared. These articles require more preparation time.

Letters are open letters to either the editors or any person (as a reaction to a discussion, document or otherwise). These should not exceed 1000 words.

Annotated bibliographies are collections of publications (books, papers, articles and other written items) that deal with one specific topic. These articles should not exceed 4000 words or 30 references. Each reference should contain full author, access, publisher and publication details.