

# Advancing Disability Rights Monitoring through Disaggregated Statistics in Sub-Saharan Africa

## Launch Event

Webinar

19 Feb 2025 | 11:00am – 12:30pm (UTC+2)

Languages: English and South African Sign Language

People with disabilities face challenges in many areas of life, especially in education, jobs, health, and poverty. Collecting and analysing data by disability type and severity is important to understand these issues, but it is not used enough in the region. This makes it harder to create policies and programs that improve the lives of people with disabilities in SSA.

There is also a lack of skills and resources to develop detailed disability data, and organizations supporting people with disabilities (OPDs) often struggle to access the information they need for inclusive policies and programs. Disability rights efforts require detailed data on education, health, and poverty to show the extent of the challenges faced by people with disabilities. When combined with data on jobs, schools, and health services, this information can help create better policies.

The Disability Data Initiative (DDI) is a group of researchers working on new ways to develop much-needed disability statistics for different countries. DDI SSA is launching an 18-month project to increase capacity amongst young researchers and advocates to use the DDI research approaches and tools to inform advocacy and monitor disability rights. At this event, we will share our project ideas and introduce the Disability Statistics Databases, a new platform for easy access to disability data.

To register, click here

## AGENDA

Chair: Prof Evariste Karangwa

Agenda:

- 1) **Key welcome** (5 min)  
*Kaylee Stewart*
- 2) **Introduction to the DDI Rights Monitoring Project** (10 min)  
*Jill Hanass-Hancock*
- 3) **Launch of DDI databases:** Presentation with highlight of data from South Africa, Rwanda and Kenya (20min)  
*Nolufefe Zukulu*
- 4) **Round table discussion:** How can the DDI Rights Monitoring Project support the work of key stakeholders who advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities in Sub-Saharan Africa (30 min)  
*Prof Alfred Agwanda*  
*Dr Beth Nasiforo*  
*Dr Praveena Sukhraj-Ely*
- 5) **Question and answer session** (20 min)
- 6) **Closure** (5 min)

Registration link:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/869dea07-ef65-49eb-adb2-60e819a87a2e@f1930bff-9b51-4doc-b2bd-c26age0f4600>

Please send any questions to Bradley Carpenter.  
[Bradley.Carpenter@mrc.ac.za](mailto:Bradley.Carpenter@mrc.ac.za)

For more information about the project, please visit  
<https://www.samrc.ac.za/intramural-research-units/ddi-ssa>

## SPEAKER TITLES AND AFFILIATIONS

**Kaylee Stewart** - Mastercard Foundation

**Prof Evariste Karangwa** - University of Rwanda

**Prof Jill Hanass-Hancock** - SAMRC

**Nolufefe Zukulu** - SAMRC

**Prof Alfred Agwanda** - University of Nairobi

**Dr Beth Nasiforo** - University of Rwanda

**Dr Praveena Sukhraj-Ely** - Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities

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