

**NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR DISABILITY REPORT ON COMMUNITY DIALOGUE
SESSIONS HELD IN LIRA DISTRICT FROM 26TH – 30TH , JANUARY, 2016**

**PROMOTING RIGHTS AND ACCOUNTABILITIES IN AFRICAN COMMUNITIES
(PRAAC) PROJECT COORDINATED BY PLAN UGANDA**

Compiled by

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FACILITATORS
FROM NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR DISABILITY**

List and contacts of Facilitators from NCD who participated is provided as below:

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| 1) Beatrice Guzu Executive secretary NCD | 0772643084 |
| 2) Mari Samuel (Programme Officer- NCD) | 0772660809 |
| 3) Tumwesigye Benson –Sign language interpreter | 0772315525 |
| 4) Adima Moses (Beatrice Guzu’s Guide as a Person with Visual Impairment) | |

1.0 Introduction:

The National Council for Disability (NCD) is a public institution established by Act of Parliament in 2003 and inaugurated in August 2004 as a National body charged with monitoring the extent to which Disabled Persons benefit from existing legislation, policies and programmes. Its establishment was jointly initiated and supported by Government and Uganda's Disability fraternity as a means of monitoring and setting standards for Disability-related interventions in the country. The work of the NCD is conducted within the context of the international and national legal regime on human/disability rights, as well as the country's Social Development Sector Investment Plan (SDSIP) that complements ongoing Government Poverty reduction initiatives elaborated in the National Development Plan (NDP). In its work, the NCD monitors Government institutions, civil society and the private sector. This is made possible through its structure that runs from the national to the sub-county level.

1.1 Functions

The NCD operates on the basis of the National Council for Disability Act 14, 2003 with clearly stipulated functions, mandating it to:

Monitor and evaluate the extent to which Government, NGOs and the private sector include and meet the needs of PWDs in their work;

Act as a national body through which the concerns of PWDs can be communicated to Government and non-government actors for action;

Advocate for the promotion of activities undertaken by institutions, organizations and individuals for the promotion and development of programmes and projects designed to improve the situation of PWDs;

Carry out or commission surveys and investigations in matters or incidents relating to violation of PWDs' rights and take appropriate action;

Consider and recommend ways and means of controlling the unnecessary increase of disability in Uganda;

Assist the Electoral Commission in conducting free and fair elections for Parliamentary and Local Government Council Representatives of PWDs;

Identify and give guidelines on disability interventions and mainstreaming to organizations working for PWDs;

Hold representatives' annual general meetings for review and planning purposes;

Mobilize resources for use in the performance of the Council's work.

2.0 National Council For Disability Engagements with Plan Uganda and lessons learnt from the PRAAC Project Community Dialogue Meetings.

In fulfillment of its mandate to mobilize resources, in the mid 2013, National Council for Disability officials approached Plan Uganda and held several consultations for closer working relationships. The discussions were fruitful and the two important output to note are:

(i) Plan Uganda supported National Council for Disability in terms of funding the development of NCD five year (20-15-2020 Strategic plan, and

ii) Plan Uganda engaged NCD officials in the community dialogue meetings under the PRAAC Project in districts where Plan already had its presence for purposes of capturing and documenting issues for follow up, policy development and advocacy to promote disability sensitivity and disability mainstreaming by duty bearers and other stakeholders.

The report provides a written account of the community dialogue meetings organized by Plan Uganda in the PRAAC project districts of Kamuli, Lira and Kampala Districts with National Council for Disability officials engaged to interface with the Persons with disability in order to capture concerns on violations of their rights, understand and document issues for follow up, and advocate for policy developments and disability mainstreaming.

The opportunity for Plan Uganda and National council for disability to engage together in community dialogue meetings under the PRAAC Project in three districts already highlighted above was kick-started when the Project officer in charge PRAAC Project, Jacqueline held some consultative meetings with the National Council for Disability senior officials at the NCD Secretariat (Ntinda) and agreed on carrying out joint community dialogue meetings in the three districts/areas of Kawempe division in Kampala, Kamuli district and Lira District in line with a drawn Terms of Reference (TOR). The original plan was to carry out the activities in the second quarter and the third quarter. However after one meeting was held in Kawempe in the second quarter, the rest of the programme was rescheduled for Third quarter to cover Kamuli district, Lira District and Kawempe division. The terms of reference (as attached) specified the detailed expected output, duties and roles of the different parties.

It is upon that background that National Council for disability staff conducted the Community dialogue meetings in the specified districts and areas stated in the body of this report for purposes of carrying-out and engaging in dialogue with different communities including Persons with Disabilities, their parents, caregivers, leaders and community volunteers. The community dialogue meetings also enabled the Trainers/ facilitators from the National Council for Disability to identify and highlight advocacy issues, policy issues, and make recommendations for follow up by the PRAAC project managers, NCD as well as different Stakeholders- Including the Disabled persons organizations, the district organs and leadership.

3.0 The methodology:

The methodologies for conducting the community dialogues were more or less similar, as below:

3.1 Opening key note Presentation by Resource persons –especially the police officers, on the positive and negative trends regarding the cases of protection and violations of rights of Persons-women, men, youth, the elderly and children with disabilities. Followed by complements ,questions and clarifications by the members present.

3.2 Specific questions and responses regarding challenges facing PWDs directed to Persons with disability, the care-givers , community leaders guided by the Facilitators from National council for disability facilitators.

3.3 Experience/information sharing by Different resource persons/leaders/ PWDs/care-givers

3.4 clarifications made on issues affecting PWDs and status of Service delivery to PWDs by Sub-county leaders, Project facilitators/ PWD Leaders and National Council for Disability facilitators

3.5 Note –taking exercise by the NCD facilitators for purposes of documenting issues that need follow up by different stakeholders, recommendations for policy development, issues of advocacy, etc. to be submitted in a report to Plan Uganda.

4.0 Recommendation For Follow Up By PRAAC Project Team, District Official& Other Stakeholders For Purposes Of Policy Formulation, Follow Up On Identified Issues And Advocacy.

4.1 Summary of Specific Recommendations By leaders Of Disability groups/ Community based organizations in Lira District from the Dialogue meeting at gracious palace hotel Lira:

4.1.1 Members noted that the Employment Act needs to include more provisions on issues that enhance employment of PWDs.

4.1.2 The meeting recommended that training of all teachers in Special Needs Education in PTCs be supported.

4.1.3 School administrators need to be informed to write to UNEB introducing the candidates with disability for purposes of enabling UNEB to plan for their examination materials requirements.

4.1.4 Members recommended that special focus needs to be drawn towards increasing funding for the Sub county Councils for Disability.

4.1.5 Members recommended the need for data collection concerning numbers of PWDs with issues of as a basis for advocating & Lobbying for increased funding.

4.1.6 Members recognized the need for improvement in physical accessibility provisions as well as information accessibility at all levels in the district; including translation of laws in local languages

- 4.1.7 Members recommended that renovation works of the Public Administration blocks in the district and all levels be reviewed to take care of physical accessibility provisions.
- 4.1.8 The buildings and infrastructure which were built long ago and did not take care of the accessibility provisions should be reworked basing on the CRPD provision of the principle Reasonable accommodation.
- 4.1.9 FM Radio talk shows be prioritized and programmed to educate the public on rights and needs of PWDs in all sectors.
- 4.1.10 The Ordinances and bye-laws by passed to strengthen disability mainstreaming in all sectors
- 4.1.11The meeting recommended that the focus on communication with the deaf using sign language be supported at all levels.
- 4.1.12 The representative of NGOs in the District Councils for Disability (DCD) committees /structures was reminded to compile and present reports from other NGOS to be presented to the DCD and NCD.
- 4.1.13 Members recommended that the reporting mechanisms of the Sub county councils for disability be streamlined.
- 4.1.14 The sub county CDOs to work hand in hand with the PRAAC Project community volunteers Members of Councils of sub county councils for Disability, and at all levels, in order to effectively create awareness and promote disability sensitivity in the district

5.0 Other Issues for the PRAAC Project noted by the NCD Facilitators

- 5.1 Need to form and encourage participation of Parents and PWDs in groups for peer counseling, income generation activities to tap from the government programmes, and keep the routine for giving the CWD/PWD the prescribed Devices /drugs consistently.
- 5.2 The national proposed mobile outreach clinics for ENT services , if established under PRAAC project / or as part of child Rights protection services would help to alleviate the challenges facing parents of children with severe disabilities interns of costly referral expenses.
- 5.3 Such medical outreach services would factor in supply of pumpers, Special nappies, and other consumables to back up parents providing palliative care to their children with delayed growth and celebral palsy in communities, as well as CBR counselors.
- 5.4 Need to link such families with cadre of well trained CBR Workers, community volunteers and CDOs to support the care-givers with the necessary locally made appliances and home –made solutions.

- 5.5 Need to strengthen the connection with Father's Heart ministries and other faith based organizations that can offer free wheel chairs with PWDs who need wheel chairs in the region.
- 5.6 Parents of CWD and PWDs to form groups at parish level and be in a stronger position to: Access government programmes like YLP. Women fund, special grant, CDD
- 5.7 PWDS can as well join mainstream groups
- 5.8 At mulago there is a trained HIV/AIDS Counsellor who is a person with a disability. It is not in the working policy of government to create seperate HIV/AIDS Programmes for different groups. Hence PWDs should take advantage of the existing programmes.
- 5.9 The benefits of being in groups were highlighted:
- i) stronger voice
 - ii) greater influence for Lobbying and advocacy to be included in government budget processes
 - iii) identification/recognition by different stakeholders
- 5.10 Government budgeting structures were shared from parish development committees, through s/county development committees to Districts and to the national level. Requires that PWDS Must stand out and speak on issues that affect them to be incorporated in the budget as national priorities. A government budget is a tool that influences allocation of resources.
- 5.11 PWDs Call for self esteem. PWDs must get out of self pity and be confident to voice/speak out on all matters that affect them in different foras.
- 5.12 Advocacy area: PWDs to be represented in all public organs/committees and boards, to influence policies in favour of PWDs in all sectors at all levels.

6.0 Summary Of Major Issues That Were Highlighted During The Lira Seminar At Gracious Palace Hotel On Policy And Desired Changes To Be Upheld as below:

- 6.1 Popularize the laws that are disability friendly by printing and distributing more copies to all districts.
- 6.2 The capacity of the National Council for disability to be strengthened especially at the district and community level.
- 6.3 The policy issues Noted in the meeting were –
- 6.3.1 sign language be included in the school's curriculum
 - 6.3.2 every school / University board to have representation of PWDs
 - 6.3.3 Government/ duty bearers to create market opportunities for goods produced by PWDs

6.3.4 On economic empowerment , the grants should deliberately and meaningfully address PWDs

6.3.5 employment quarters be set for PWDs

6.3.6 more advocacy to address opportunities for Elderly and Children with disability in the SAGE and other child focused programmes.

7.0 Information And Clarity Made By The Justice , Law And Order Sectors Presented By Mr. Kibuuka Christian Legal Assistant With NUDIPU Lira during the Lira Gracious Palace Hotel seminar.

7.1 clarity made that JLOS refers to the domain of the police, courts of law, prisons , local government and Ministry of Internal affairs.

7.2 clarity made that justice requires cooperation from PWDs. PWDs must avoid lies and cooperate with the agents of justice

7.3 emphasis made that PWDs do not need to be discouraged from reporting cases affecting them.

7.4 information given that on sign language skills for Police is ongoing training in Kabale on sign language. The PRAAC project and other stakeholders should take interest and follow on progress of the initiative.

7.5 Employment opportunities for PWDs in the JLOS Exists; currently the Resident State Attorney in Iganga is a PWD

7.6 Regarding Employing Sign language interpreters to be focused on Level of enumeration and job satisfaction. You may recruit a sign language interpreter, but if he is not properly paid he may abandon the job.

7.7 Training the PWDs to know what they expect in the JLOS system

7.8 Providing access to JLOS Structures both in terms of physical infrastructure and access to information .

7.9 Integrate issues on disability mainstreaming / integrating PWDS in all the JLOS Training curriculums

7.10 Awareness on the JLOS Special requirements should be popularized among the PWDs. JLOS operates on the basis of files being opened , and the files are moved from office of the Resident State Attorney (RSA) to the other offices of courts as the court sessions are being organized or Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADL) Or Small Claim Procedures (SCP) , OR if Local Councilors are to be present.. Each of these levels requires the parties to the case to be prepared and if any one of them is deaf, then Sign language interpretation services must be arranged for in time. If not done in time . the case will be drugged and may negatively affect the Deaf person.

8.0 For purposes of clarity and ease of following the challenges identified and the recommendations proposed by the participants are highlighted in a tabular form:

DAY ONE /REPORT ON LIRA DISTRICT COMMUNITY DIALOGUE SESSION HELD AT BARR SUBCOUNTY ON 27.01.2016.				
MODERATORS AND MOBILISERS:				
HARRIET AJOK & JOYCE LAWINO – LIRA District PRAAC Project coordinators, REPRESENTATIVE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER INCHARGE BARR SUBCOUNTY –NINE VILLAGE COMMUNITY MOBILIZERS UNDER PRAAC IN BARR SUBCOUNTY (with detailed list of participants)				
LIST OF DETAILS OF COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS OF BARR SUBCOUNTY WHO PARTICIPATED DURING THE COMMUNITY DIALOGUE				
SN	NAMES	VILLAGE	PARISH	PHONE CONTACT
1.	AKONO TONNY	ATIRA	ONYWAKO	0773286301
2.	ALIRO BONNY	BITOLEYI	ONYWAKO	0777114228
3.	EMUNA ANDREW	ABALI "A"	ALEBERE	0775348693
4.	OJOM DICKEN	ATINGTWO	ALEBERE	0784781693
5.	OKONYE NELSON	AYEL	ALEBERE	0774600754
6.	DORCAS OKWIR	AGULUTWO	ALEBERE	0772343766
7.	ODONGO JASPER	TEGWENG "A"	ONYWAKO	0777556715
8.	OKWIR FRANCIS	APADE	ONYWAKO	0787011181
9.	OMARA TEDDY	ABULUBULU	ONYWAKO	0783644342
<p>Details of attendance:</p> <p>Attendance by 25 Care-takers and 35 PWD /community members</p> <p>Number of Persons and children with disability:</p> <p>Number of Men with disability: 09</p> <p>Number of Women with disability: 15</p> <p>Number of boys with disability: 05</p> <p>Number of girls with disability:06</p> <p>Number of parents /care-givers of persons/children with disability:</p> <p>Men:10 Women: 15</p> <p>Helpers /guides/ other participants – Registered by the PRAAC project community volunteers .</p>				
DAY ONE/ REPORT ON LIRA DISTRICT COMMUNITY DIALOGUE SESSION HELD AT BARR SUBCOUNTY HEADQUARTERS ON 27.01.2016				
SN	CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED	CASES FOR FOLLO W UP	RECOMMENDATIONS	

1.	<p>Most PWD s are not in groups and have not benefitted from existing government programmes.</p> <p>The community development officials and community volunteers have to do more to support PWDs in communities to form and join groups to be able to tap various opportunities.</p>	<p>Case of Ogwal Francis, with Physical Disability (one arm is paralyzed and weak) , married man with children.</p> <p>Problem/ challenge voiced:</p> <p>Finds difficulty with digging /cultivation</p> <p>Finds difficulty with building /constructing a house</p> <p>Also diffulty washing clothes</p> <p>Experiences negative attitudes from some members of the family and community who use abusive language against him.</p> <p>How does he cope with the challenge?</p> <p>His wife washes for him, digs and helps him where he is unable.</p>	<p>He needs to join Groups of PWDs to tap existing Special grant and existing government funding programmes like CDD, NUSAF and so on.</p>
2.	<p>There are no government aided primary and secondary schools in lango sub region and the deaf children are left out . the deaf children cannot even communicate with their parents properly and miss lots of opportunities. They are in most cases discriminated and denied opportunities in families and communities.</p>	<p>case of Emmanuel aged 23 years , deaf , attended Nancy School for The Deaf (a private school in the surburbs of Lira Town), studied up to P.3,</p> <p>Problem:</p> <p>Deaf and has difficulty with communication</p> <p>Cannot communicate with service providers like the police</p> <p>Negative attitude from some community members who do not understand the special needs of the deaf people.</p>	<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>i) Support deaf Emmanuel and other deaf youth with opportunities for vocational training in trades like carpentry</p> <p>ii) conduct sign language training for police, health workers, Community volunteers, community development officials, parents/ care givers of the deaf persons and key service providers to be able to communicate with the deaf persons</p>

		Has no employable skill for proper livelihood Cannot easily communicate with family members and his rights are violated.	/children iii) Sub county/ PRAAC Project should lobby Government to establish government aided Schools for the deaf in the region to supplement the Existing private one which charges high fees and most parents cannot afford.
3.	Community development officers lack skills of reaching out and supporting PWDs. PWDs lack counseling and basic information	CP Odur- an elderly man with physical disability (using one old artificial leg) from Barr trading centre, Barr parish, barr sub-county –Atrained sign language interpreter. Challege: he has no knowledge on any existing government programmes for persons with disability. When PWDs take their products for sell, their products are not bought at a fair price; hence PWDs are cheated by the buyers.	Recommendation: PWDs be trained in vocational skills to be able to get employed in better paying trades. Community mobilzers to better target PWDs on issues that concern them
3.	Community mobilzers need to be empowered with CBR Skills and facilitated to reach out to PWDs and their families	John Opio Ogwang ; blind on one eye after an unsuccessful operation; still feels pain and requires treatment to have the eye in a better shape. The operation that was done in November 2015, left the eye-point to close completely.	Recommended: To go to Hospital for treatment and medical attention
4.		Stella Komalworo aged 26, with a physical disability – one leg paralyzed and uses one crutch for mobility (an aspirant for the position of PWD Female councilor Barr Sub	Recommendation: Government should continue to make public buildings accessible to PWDs by enforcing the Access to public building control Act 2014

		<p>county).</p> <p>Challenge:</p> <p>Lack accessibility provisions to most public buildings / no ramps in most of the public buildings which make it difficult for PWDs to access many public offices.</p> <p>Difficulty moving to do home chores like fetching water.</p> <p>She requests to be helped to acquire a metallic crutch since her wooden crutch may easily break when doing some domestic tasks.</p>	<p>To look for money (about 30,000/- to 50,000/-) to order for one from Mulago Orthopedic Dept. or Lira District Disabled persons Union Workshop.</p> <p>-Generally PWDs need to form groups to tap the available government grants for IGA.</p>
5.	<p>Lack of jobs and income by men with disability leads to their being in a state of fear and insecurity to the extent that the married men get to fear that their wives may be taken over by Non-disabled rich men in their neighborhoods.</p>	<p>Yeko Otim, married man with Children and with physical disability .</p> <p>Challenge;</p> <p>Financial challenges with difficulty of school fees</p> <p>Fear that their wives can be taken by the able bodied with more resources</p> <p>Not respected and insulted by community using abusive language</p> <p>Their crops like cassava stolen by the community members</p>	<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>Legal aid services sought for</p> <p>To join Groups and tap the Government funding programmes</p> <p>To establish IGAs</p>
6.		<p>Paul Obira, married man with Children and BLIND .</p> <p>Challenge;</p> <p>People steal their things taking advantage of the disability limitations</p> <p>Their things stolen from the garden</p> <p>need for white cane as a device for mobility and</p>	<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>Need to link him up with UNAB to give technical information on possible sources of the white cane and other forms of support for the blind and people with visual impairments.</p> <p>Need for legal aid services/ need to link him</p>

		identification and save them from traffic risks.	with JUSTICE CENTRE LIRA AS A REFERRAL FOR LEGAL AID SERVICES/ ALSO LIRA NUDIPU Human rights and legal aid project can be consulted.
7.	A number of would be beneficiaries of Special grant who are PWDs have not known what to do . Hence community volunteers and community development workers have not done their work in mobilizing PWDs for income generation and formation of parental support groups.	Hellen Akullu, Elderly grandmother with physical disability – crawling /moving on four . Challenge: her tricycle broke down and she could not repair it. She crawls around and cannot move far except when she is carried by well wishers for such meetings like the community dialogue we had at Barr sub county headquarter She is weak and cannot engage in agriculture to support her grandchildren whom her daughter produced and left for her to look after She has the obligation of supporting her grandchildren Her survival and income is dependent on handouts from well-wishers	She needs to join the PWD GROUPS AND SEEK FOR SPECIAL GRANT
8.	Lack of sign language communication training in the region has grossly affected the deaf persons and their parents. Government has not established any training opportunities for sign language which has left many ignorant of how to communicate with the deaf	OPIDI OSCAR 10 years of age, deaf child in P.4 at Nancy School for the deaf, in LIRA as a boarding student being supported by his father with limited income. The father of OSCAR OPIDI (OMARA AMOS from Wako Parish) was present ; observed that Nancy	Recommendation: Need for the PRAAC project to seek for special sign language Interpretation training for Parents ,care-givers , community volunteers, police , health workers and CDOs. UNAD and Kyambogo University can be consulted to facilitate

		<p>School for the deaf has a bushy surrounding which makes it risky for the children with hearing problem</p> <p>It is the only school in lango with facilities for deaf children</p> <p>Challenge:</p> <p>Finds difficulty communicating with his deaf child-Oscar since he (the father) does not know sign language.</p>	<p>such trainings.</p> <p>Need for the PRAAC project to lobby the District Local Government to table a request to ministry of Education science technology and sports to Establish a government Aided School for the deaf in Lango sub-region since there are many cases of deaf children in the sub-region.</p> <p>Then PRAAC Project should also lobby for better ENT medical services and referral facilities and outreach clinics/ mobile clinics that should target the many cases of children with problems to do with eyes, ears, and throat in Busoga and Lango sub-regions.</p>
		<p>case of Ogwal Calvin - 9years with multiple disability-weak hands ,cannot hold anything firmly on the left hand, with low vision, also having mild mental retardation and Epilepsy. (currently out of school – Tetyang primary school within Barr parish for health reasons)</p> <p>Challenge; parent lives in fear of the child’s safety every time; how to keep monitoring the child and looking for money to support the child for education and treatment.</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>Need to form and participate in parents groups for peer counseling , income generation activities to tap from the government programmes, and keep the routine for giving the child the prescribed drugs consistently.</p> <p>The national proposed mobile outreach clinics for ENT services , if established under PRAAC project / or as part of child Rights protection services would help to alleviate the challenges</p>

			<p>facing parents of children with severe disabilities interns of costly referral expenses.</p> <p>The medical outreach services would factor in supply of pumpers, Special nappies, and other consumables to back up parents providing palliative care to their children with delayed growth and cerebral palsy in communities.</p> <p>Need to link such families with cadre of well trained CBR Workers, community volunteers and CDOs to support the care-givers with the necessary locally made appliances and home –made solutions.</p>
9.	<p>parents have failed to understand their children who are deaf and the service providers have also failed to effectively communicate with the deaf clients in their respective sectors and the deaf community is lagging behind in their uptake of services.</p>	<p>Julio Oyom , care taker and father of a deaf child 23 years old; Challenge: communication gap- the child knows sign language and the father does not know-hence they can't communicate</p> <p>When the children get sick it becomes difficult for the parents to make plans or take action for right treatment or referral.</p> <p>Negative attitude of the communities shows up in abusive language and insults made against the children with disabilities. The parents feel bad when their children are insulted</p> <p>The challenge of school fees since NANCY SCHOOL IS A PRIVATE SCHOOL</p>	<p>Nancy school for the deaf should train parents of the deaf children also in sign language skills because the parents find it difficult to communicate with their deaf children</p>

		<p>Janet Opaka , mother of a deaf child , AKETCH NANCY 11 years, at Tetyang P/S – UPE School- does not have special facilities for the deaf- the child is not able to learn . Challenge: the mother cannot afford Fees at Nancy School for the Deaf The child is teased by other children who cannot communicate with the deaf child</p> <p>Request: PRAAC to lobby that some schools be provided with facilities and teachers who can teach deaf children School communities and environment be prepared to accommodate children with disabilities</p> <p>The parent be supported with funds to pay school fees for her child with disability since she has other children to provide for.</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION: PRAAC to lobby for sponsorship for the deaf child /CHILDREN WITH DISABILITY</p> <p>PRAAC to work with community leaders and sub-county council for disability structures to sensitize school communities to protect the rights of children with disability in schools.</p> <p>The parents of children with disability be mobilized to be part of the PWDs groups to benefit from the special grants since the guidelines has been revised to cater for care-givers/ parents of Persons and children with disability</p> <p>PRAAC Project should facilitate special sessions for training parents and care givers of deaf children in sign-language skills.</p> <p>Need for the region to establish a government aided school for the deaf</p>
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CONCLUDING REMARKS FOR DAY 1

1. NCD Facilitator thanked the community members present for the information given.
 2. pledged to give a few responses to their challenges and regarding the others to be compiled in a report that would be given Plan Uganda and other stakeholders
- l) Responses made include
- a) advice for the PWD s to form groups
 - b) also Parents of PWDs and children with disabilities to form groups
 - c) the respective groups formed must be registered because both government and NGOs only support people who are I groups.
 - d) parents of deaf children can form groups and lobby for support to be trained in sign-language skills to solve the communication problem with their children.
 - e) on the problem of poor learning school environment for Children with disabilities –where other

children insult and tease children with disabilities, parents can work with school management to sensitize school communities on the rights of CWD.

f) PRAAC project and the community leaders can lobby and advocate jointly and forward the matter concerning the lack of special Needs education facilities in the near schools to be addressed by Government.

g) PRAAC project community volunteers and the community leaders can lobby and advocate jointly and forward the matter concerning the PWDs whose rights are violated and need legal services and have their matter to be addressed. There are a number of legal aid services that provide free services to people whose rights have been violated at no cost. Members were informed that some of the organizations that provide such services are;

- Justice Centre In Lira

- NUDIPU Human Rights And Legal Aid Project In Lira, Among Others

h) mobility appliances and the sources require money

i) cerebral palsy and epilepsy require intervention of the community volunteers and the CDOs

j) formation of groups need constitution and proposals which community volunteers and CDOs can assist to write.

k) use of abusive language and discrimination is unacceptable

l) budget development process requires the participation and engagement of the community leaders; in the parish development committee, sub-county development committee, District, then sectors and National. If the issues of PWDs/ CWDs are left out from the lower levels, then it will not be taken on in the District budget and national budget documents. Government works through the budget and planning frameworks. Hence we must work hard to sensitize out parish development committees to prioritize our issues in the budget meetings which begin from SEPTEMBER EVERY YEAR.

DAY TWO / COMMUNITY DIALOGUE MEETING HELD AT OGUR SUBCOUNTY HEADQUARTERS , ADUU VILLAGE, OGUR PARISH, OGUR SUBCOUNTY ON 28.01.2016

MODERATOR AND MOBILISERS:
 HARRIET AJOK & JOYCE LAWINO – LIRA District PRAAC Project coordinators, SUBCOUNTY CHIEF , FIVE VILLAGE COMMUNITY MOBILIZERS UNDER PRAAC IN OGUR SUBCOUNTY (with detailed list of participants)

LIST OF DETAILS OF COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS OF BARR SUBCOUNTY WHO PARTICIPATED DURING THE COMMUNITY DIALOGUE IN LIRA

SN	NAMES	VILLAGE	PARISH	PHONE CONTACT
1.	OLUK SAMUEL	AWILIWUNGA	AKOR	0780960594
2.	AVAM TONNY	AKANGI	AKOR	0784559645
3.	ALILA MARTIN	TELELA-AJIA	AKOR	0778885275
4.	ANGURA MORISH	ODOKOKOME	AKOR	0781271460
5.	OKELLO MOSES	NYEKO-PELONYI	AKOR	0777564611

Details of attendance:

Attendance by 35 Care-takers and 45 PWD /community members.

Number of Persons and children with disability:

Number of Men with disability:16

Number of Women with disability: 10

Number of boys with disability: 09

Number of girls with disability:10

Number of parents /care-givers of persons/children with disability:

Men-17 Women - 18

Helpers /guides/ other participants – Registered by the PRAAC project community volunteers .

SN	CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED	CASES FOR FOLLOW UP	RECOMMENDATIONS
1.	There was serious gap noted in the transport sector in the rural areas for persons with severe physical disabilities. Wheel -chair users suffer double charges when using public transport which makes it hard for them to participate in community affairs. Public transport taxis and motor-cycles charge separate fairs for PWD travelers.	Eugenio Ogwal -75 yrs from Atanga Village , Adua parish ,Ogur sub-county ; with physical disability, only crawls and was brought on a boda boda motorcycle, Problem/ challenge voiced: Finds difficulty with mobility Finds difficulty with	Recommendation: he needs to join Groups of PWDs to tap existing Special grant and existing government funding programmes like CDD, NUSAF and so on. The PRAAC Project and all community programmes that target PWDs should factor in

	<p>Most PWDs lack employment /sources of income and have problem with livelihood.</p> <p>PWDs lack descent shelter , food, clothing, bedding, proper care for the children, including school fees.</p>	<p>building /constructing a house; having a house which is grass thatched and leaking</p> <p>Lacks food</p> <p>Lack of school fees for the grand children</p> <p>How does he cope with the challenge?</p> <p>His grand children help to give him food.</p>	<p>livelihood support & rehabilitative services/ assistive devices. It is also pertinent to understand that most families of PWDs/CWDs face high costs associated with disabilities.</p>
2.	<p>Parents with disabilities lack counseling services. Most families whose heads are persons with disabilities are vulnerable to insecurity and the children/ other family members suffer both psychological and physical harm/torture. The Elderly persons with disability in the community feel left out in the direct cash transfer programme of government.</p>	<p>case of Benson Oyugi aged 81 years (from Akanu Village, Akanu Parish, Ogur s/c , blind , wife died, his daughter was murdered in August, 10TH 2015</p> <p>Problem: Blind and with grand children who are young. He is lonely and lacks source of livelihood</p>	<p>Recommendation : The PRAAC Project should factor in family counseling and material support for families of persons /children with disabilities to address the situation of their state of insecurity/ vulnerability both psychological and physical.</p> <p>Mr. Benson Oyugi and other elderly PWDs be mobilized to join PWD group/ parental support groups to benefit from a special grant/ and related benefits.</p> <p>Mr. Benson Oyugi and other elderly PWDs be identified and registered when the SAGE is rolled over in OGUR S/C</p>
3.	<p>There is no government direct cash transfer programme in the district . However there are extreme cases that warrant special funding for PWDs / or their care-takers.</p> <p>Most PWDs lack employment /sources of income and have problem with livelihood.</p>	<p>Atwaro Joan - an elderly woman(51 Years old) with physical disability(paralyzed half-way the body) from Bung Village, Akor parish, Ogur sub-county – weak and cannot do hard work.</p> <p>Challenge: she is caretaking 7</p>	<p>Recommendation: Join Groups for PWDs to tap existing opportunities for IGA</p> <p>PRAAC Project and community development Department to Advocate and lobby for direct cash transfer for special categories of needy</p>

	<p>PWDs lack descent shelter , food, clothing, bedding, proper care for the children, including school fees for their children.</p>	<p>children and school fees is a big challenge. Her shelter is in a poor shape- a grass thatched house which is leaking</p>	<p>elderly persons taking care of grand-children without support. Atwaro Joan should be encouraged to join Groups of PWDs to tap existing Special grant and existing government funding programmes like CDD, NUSAF and so on.</p> <p>The PRAAC Project and all community programmes that target PWDs should factor in livelihood support & rehabilitative services/ assistive devices. It is also pertinent to understand that most families of PWDs/CWDs face high costs associated with disabilities.</p>
4.	<p>Most PWDs lack Skills and information on available referral services and opportunities. They also have low capacity for income generation- hence cannot even afford to purchase or maintain mobility appliances. and have no proper source of income to afford descent livelihood as well as rehabilitative services/assistive services (mobility appliances such as wheelchairs/tricycles). With efficient rehabilitation services/facilities PWDs can improve their capacity for income generation.</p>	<p>Akello constance (Anyok village, Akanu Parish)-with severe physical disability –having both legs weak with an old tricycle which she has failed to repair. Challenge: Caretaking 2 orphans She cannot dig Used to do food vending but has become too weak to carry on with the business.</p>	<p>Recommendation: Akello constance to join groups for PWDs, and be able to tap from existing government programmes for IGA, to be able to raise income for livelihood and School fees for the grand children required. PRAAC to built capacity of community development officials to provide CBR services to PWDs and their families, as well as access rehabilitative services.</p>
5.	<p>PWDs are at risk of losing their properties from people who despise and take advantage of their vulnerability due to their disability/ies</p>	<p>Milton Obote , aged 52 years , blind, Challenges: Sold part of his land to somebody who has grabbed all his land taking</p>	<p>Recommendation: Follow up be made by PRAAC and Plan to expedite the land case and have the land handed over to OBOTE MILTON</p>

		<p>advantage of his disability as a blind person.</p> <p>When Obote took him to court he won the case , but the person insisted to continue using the whole land.</p> <p>Obote has sought help from plan and all the documents of the land are with the PRAAC project official (Angella) to help him get back his land.</p> <p>Presently Obote stays in the bush.</p> <p>MILTON OBOTE is from Akanu Parish, Imatikworo village</p>	<p>(blind).</p> <p>PRAAC Project facilitators to contact the NUDIPU Human rights and legal aid project in Lira to be to pursue the matter in support of OBOTE MILTON as a person with blindness whose rights has been violated.</p> <p>National Council for Disability facilitators to contact NUDIPU Headquarters and other legal aid support originations for intervention.</p> <p>The PRAAC Project facilitators to also follow up on the case of another plot of land belonging to Milton Obote which is in dispute with the uncle. The file for the case got lost and is being handled by a lawyer called Okayi Isaac.</p>
6.	<p>Lack of medical outreach services have left parents with severely disabled children with challenging tasks of footing long distances to hospitals as well as struggling helplessly to try to get supplies of pumpers and detergents for cleaning the children with severe disabilities.</p> <p>Lack of information on available medical support for mothers with sexual and health reproductive problems is also another challenge in the community.</p> <p>VISITULAR case is common in community and most mothers do not know where to go and most women suffer in silence.</p>	<p>Janet Akullu aged 28 years old, with a physical disability –one leg weak (from ACAN ADIRO Village , Akor parish); mother of a child with disability-hydrocephalous –aged 10 years called Wacha Isaac. Akullu is also a mother with visitular and needs treatment from Mulago or a referral hospital.</p> <p>Akullu can be reached by phone contact through :</p> <p>i) Opio tom- a neighbor 0773176405</p> <p>ii) Alela Martin , a community Volunteer for Telela-ajia village, Akor parish- 0778885275</p> <p>Challenge:</p>	<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>The mother of the hydrocephalous child (Janet Akullu) advised to join PWD groups or parent of CWD Groups to benefit from Special grant and other Government programs.</p> <p>Make effort to take the CWD for medical treatment.</p> <p>Ensure that the child is kept clean to avoid secondary complications.</p> <p>Family members and community members to accord Akullu possible morale and material support to take care of CWD.</p>

		<p>She is weak and cannot move easily She has a weak leg Child with hydrocephalous only keeps in a lying position and cannot turn by himself – has bed sores The mother is weak as person with physical disability and cannot carry the hydrocephalous child to hospital for medical referral services ; has embarked on treating the child locally with honey.</p>	<p>Akullu needs to be connected to NGO that supports cases of mothers with visitular (e.g. TEREWODE). PRAAC Project facilitators to build the capacity of the community development officials to be in position to provide referral information for mothers with visitular.</p>
7.	<p>Most PWDs lack capacity for starting and running income generating Activities.</p>	<p>Akullu Ketty , with a physical disability, weak right arm; operated in two occasions, (from Nyekopelonyi village, Akor parish) Requested for financial support for fees and upkeep for the children</p>	<p>Recommendation: -Generally PWDs need to join PWD/ Parents groups to tap the available government grants for IGA</p>
8.	<p>Lack of proper medical referral and follow up on children that have undergone cleft palate and related medical surgery.</p>	<p>Acui Joan care-taker of a child with disability, Adong Miriam, 9 years old – with cleft palate that was operated at the age of 2 years , but did not recover properly-still feels pain from the operation point. The child cannot walk .</p>	<p>Recommendation ; The PRAAC Project to provide Medical referral for treatment and post treatment complications . The PRAAC Project to provide referral support for CWD to appropriate medical centres like CORSU in Entebbe or Mulago Hospital to carry out a review free of charge. PRAAC can support the family with transport to CORSU and provide some upkeep money, then CORSU undertakes corrective operation or treatment, and PRAAC transports the child and</p>

			the mother back home.
9.	Lack of clear source of income coupled by the high cost of referral services have led to many Cases of children with impairments getting from bad to worse/receiving no attention in time.	Akello Christine (36 years) Mother of Angu Phiona 9 years- a child with hydrocephalous- operated from Mbale Hospital- but the leg became weak , the child cannot walk, cannot talk	Recommended: PRAAC project to consider providing/ lobbying other organizations /programmes/projects for referral support for treatment at CORSU Hospital in Entebbe/ or any other appropriate hospital.
10.	Most parents of children with disability have not formed/joined groups and lack information on how to handle certain conditions affecting their CWDs. They also lack the benefit of belonging to groups , e.g. peer counseling, having bigger voice for negotiations, benefiting from government grants, as well as confronting negative attitudes against persons and children with disabilities.	Case of Among Stella , mother of a child with disability called Odur Daniel -9years (with multiple disability) , both legs weak, with mild mental retardation, with speech difficulty, Challenge: In the case of the Mother , she has to monitor the child's where about all the time to ensure his safety and this reduces her time for looking for money. She lives in fear of the boy falling in danger.	Recommendation: The PRAAC Project to follow up to ensure Among Stella joins the parents' support group nearest to her for peer counseling opportunity, as well as IGA Support from existing government programmes. Parents of children with disability require as much support as PWDs themselves and should be considered as part of the targeted beneficiaries for the special grant.
11.	Lack of information on available medical and referral services.	Okille Philip, aged 77 years with urinal incontinence.	Recommended for medical referral for regular review in the main hospital.

THIRD DAY/ COMMUNITY DIALOGUE MEETING HELD AT GRACIOUS PALACE HOTEL IN LIRA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ,LIRA TOWN ON 29.01.2016				
MODERATOR AND MOBILISERS: HARRIET AJOK & JOYCE LAWINO – LIRA District PRAAC Project coordinators (with detailed list of participants)				
Men : 22 Women: 20				
LIST OF KEY RESOURCES PERSONS WHO PARTICIPATED DURING THE COMMUNITY DIALOGUE MEETING ORGANIZED BY PRAAC PROJECT.				
SN	NAMES	TITLE /ORGANISATION	LOCATION/EMAIL	PHONE CONTACT
1.	Obote Charles Bogere (PWD)-	Radio Presenter With Radio Unity FM	LIRA MUNICIPALITY/ bogereobote@gmail.com	07773399670/0779208269
2.	Kibuuka Christian	Legal Assistant For NUDIPU Legal Project Based In Lira	LIRA MUNICIPALITY/ Kibuukachristian1@gmail.com	0774909695/ 0704889392
3.	AKELLO JANE BEATRICE – DISTRICT,	Coordinator For Lira Fathers’ Heart Mobility Ministry (linked to Francis Mugwanya-Kampala based Director Father's Heart Mobility Ministry- 0772414944)	LIRA MUNICIPALITY/ akellobachar@yahoo.com	0777112155
4.	Sister Mary	Head mistress Ngetta Girls school (with a unit for the blind / secondary school project	LIRA MUNICIPALITY	

Methodology:

1. Presentations made on pertinent concerns /issues affecting PWDs; on health, sexual and reproductive health, Accessibility to physical structures and information in public service delivery systems, e.g. courts of law, schools , by the different resource persons listed above and also Chairperson of the District Council for disability, and other Leaders of the disability fraternity in the Lira Sub region; .

2. A Number Of Resource Persons Were Given Opportunity To Make Presentations In Regard To Their Different Fields On Matters Concerning The Situation Of PWDs/CWDs, Then Plan /PRAAC Field Officers And National Council For Disability Facilitators Made Responses And Captured The Issues For Documentation.

In effect the dialogue addressed areas to do with the following;

“What are the challenges faced by PWD/CWD in the community?”

Generally PWDs still have low access to services

“What are the challenges faced by parents /care givers of children with disability in the community?”

Financial constraints, long distance to service centres for the CWD, lack of rehabilitation facilities, lack of information in addressing issues of PWDs, poor communication with the deaf children

“What government ought to do”

To promote disability mainstreaming, promote affirmative action, increase funding to support programmes of PWDs, create awareness on services that support PWDs, promote public –private partnership in health , education , rehabilitation services for PWDs, support initiatives of the faith based organizations that support PWDs, Provide university / tertiary Education and employment opportunities for PWDs.

“What other stakeholders ought to do.”

Partner with government in the implementation of the disability friendly laws.

“The way forward”

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION PRINCIPLE EXPLAINED.

Further information was complemented by NCD, thus; Uganda ratified the convention on the rights of PWDs (UN CRPD), which commits Uganda to observe the principle of REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION. It means that if an office which is supposed to attend to a PWD is upstairs and the PWD cannot access it , then , the officer to be seen has to arrange to meet the PWD from a ground level which is accessible to the PWD.

MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE INSTEAD OF JUST EMPLOYING SIGNLANGUAGE INTERPRETERS:

Sign language interpretation means nothing to UN-EDUCATED DEAF PERSON. Deaf persons who have not learnt Sign language cannot benefit from professional / standard Sign-language interpretation services.

3. Testimonies and Issues voiced by Florence Adong a historical founder member of LIRA District UNION for PWDs:

It is important for PWDs to get organized in groups. This was the principle that led the disability movement to start various groups like the parents of children with disability groups, the Association of the blind, the association of the deaf, etc.

She informed the members that LIRA LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL ENACTED AN ORDINANCE ON THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITY.

“ ALL PARENTS MUST SEND THEIR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITY TO SCHOOL ‘

On health , the disability movement advocated tirelessly to for the hospital to introduce special delivery beds for mothers with disability.

The District health committee passed a policy that in all health centres PWDS must be served first

She called on the youth to work closely with the elders in the work of the Lira District UNION.

She noted the importance of the PRAAC Project , making special effort to support girls with disabilities in schools with sanitary pads to encourage them to continue schooling.

She also called on the PRAAC PROJECT to put in place the special rooms /accessible toilets for girls with disabilities during their menstrual period.

Omara Mathew – chairperson District UNION LIRA , Expressed appreciation to plan for the help offered to children with severe disabilities of different types, especially medical referral to children with hydrocephalous for their surgery and transport and called the medical department to continue giving such support to children with such severe conditions.

Omara also expressed appreciation to the project for the special support given to the offices of the Lira District Union- e.g. The computers, the perkins brailers and other equipments. He called on the district to help with maintenance support.

Request:

government to support the lango sub region with government aided special schools for the deaf and the blind.

He also informed the members during the dialogue meeting that the rehabilitation centres at gur and Onyakedi were destroyed during the insurgency. Hence there is need to put up new rehabilitation centres for PWDS in the region .

RECOMMENDATION

The PRAAC Project to build a model resource centre, with office space for District Council for disability and a conference hall for hire to the public at a fee to provide income for maintaining the structures, with a workshop for making tricycles to serve the whole of northern and eastern Uganda since there is none in the two regions.

Head mistress Ngetta girls school with an annex for the blind children

Request;

Government to support the school with special learning and teaching ,materials which are very expensive.

The school requires printers and scanners to help in producing large print materials for children with low vision.

She called on former students of the school who are well placed to organize a fundraising drive for the school.

The response was immediate ,three former students of the school identified themselves and pledged to ,be part of the organizers for the fund raising drive.

The chairperson district council for disability – Mandu Edward, thanked Plan for the PRAAC project and the support that the district has received. He called on the youth with disabilities who benefitted from the Lira district local government under the sponsorship of YAP- in the late 1990's to come back and support the drive to promote the district disabled people's organizations

Akello Beatrice Jane- Coordinator for Father's Heart Mobility Ministries thanked Plan for the partnership made in 2015 with the father's heart mobility ministries to benefit PWDs who were supplied wheel chairs for two days . she mobilized and organized for assessment of PWDs on her own money .

SUMMARY OF IDENTIFIED CHALLENGES FACING PWDs in LIRA:

A number of stakeholders have played different roles to promote the well being of persons with disability.

There are still lots of gaps that need to be addressed.

The wheel chairs are still needed. However wheel chairs may not be the right device for working /business PWDs who need tri-cycles. The district union lira has a workshop with a number of skilled technicians who can make tricycles. The project just needs to purchased the materials to enable the tricycles to be made.

Even the metallic crutches can be made and sold to those who can afford to get back some money into the workshop project for sustainability reasons.

lack of special learning and instructional materials in schools for children with severe disabilities,
lack of access to legal and policy documents ,
issues of limitations to means for Economic empowerment,
negative attitude and discrimination in EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ,
lack of communication skills with the deaf- in JLOS institutions
lack of affirmative action for prisoners and suspects with disability which requires urgent consideration
the weak structures of the council for disability and other public service structures which are supposed to monitor and protect the rights of PWDs and children with disabilities.

ACHIEVEMENTS /WAY FORWARD

- i) Lira District Local government has enacted an or ordinance to ensure parents and care givers take children to school , whether they are children with disability or not
- ii) NUDIPU has established a Free legal aid project for the defense and protection of rights of poor persons with disability. Hence the task is to ensure that the initiative is popularized and its sustainability is guaranteed by the support of other organizations and structures like National and District Council for Disability as well as Disabled persons Associations.
- iii) Through the initiatives of the NUDIPU Human rights and JLOS project a number of police officers were identified and taken for training in sign language communication skills in Kabale to address the critical gap in service delivery to the deaf in public institutions e.g. Police , prisons , courts etc,

- iv) initiative and advocacy started by the PRAAC Project to promote affirmative action for prisoners and suspects with disability which requires urgent consideration and support by the District and Government agencies as duty bearers, e.g. NCD.
- v) the important role Initiated by the PRAAC Project of carrying out support for Medical referral support to children with severe disabilities to be supported by the duty bearers ,
- vi) the achievements so far registered through the Ngetta girls Mission school for girls with visual impairment and providing special education for the blind children in lango region to be supported by the duty bearers, especially the district Local government and the other organs of government by giving some basic necessities like providing sanitary pads for the girls with disability in schools which make most GIRL Children With And Without Disabilities To Drop Out,
- Vii) Ongoing media/ FM Radio RHINO(in LIRA) advocacy on issues affecting PWDs /CWDs to be strengthened by the duty bearers and other government structures like the district local Government and the District Council for Disability/NCD ,
- Viii) the ongoing regular community dialogues under the project to be supported and by NCD For purposes of continuously teasing out and developing advocacy on issues affecting children and persons with disability and to propose the necessary changes for the improvement of the participation of PWDs.

General information

Lira is among the districts where The District Union of Persons with disability (A branch of NUDIPU) has built capacity to do a number of activities, including establishing and provision of free legal and Human rights services for Persons with Disability.

This was substantiated by Edward Mandu –the chairperson of the district Council for Disability in Lira – during his submission while presenting his views on the community Dialogue at Gracious Palace Hotel on 29th January 2016;

“Lira District Union is ranked among the best in the Country”

Akello Jane Beatrice, a person with severe physical disability, aspiring for the position of a PWD female representative for Lira District Local Government and the coordinator for Father’s Heart Mobility Ministries called on the Government to introduce Braille version of the News papers for the benefit of the visually impaired persons, also for the introduction of sign language interpreters in all public institutions.

A) ON ISSUES OF PROGRAMMING & ADVOCACY

1. National council for disability to include programming for capacity building for targeted District councils for disability committee members information Sharing on approaches of Community Based Rehabilitation – focusing on transfer of skills and knowledge to parents and care givers of Persons and children with disability from within their home /community settings, among others.

2.Community development officials need to work with the community leaders to arrange special programmes for sensitizing deaf youths in communities to understand issues of sexual and reproductive health, as well as legal implications associated with pre-marital sex.

3. PRAAC Project to contact existing FM Radio stations to popularize best practices in management of disability conditions & parenting.

4. PRAAC Project to advocate for formation of parental support groups for purposes of establishing peer counseling platforms & Village savings and lending Associations (VSLA) ,targeting PWDs and Parents of CWD, etc.

B) ON ISSUES ON IMMEDIATE FOLLOW UP (details are captured in the matrix, above):

i) For Children /Persons With Epilepsy Like Kintu Paul

Family counseled for other members to take the responsibilities of caring for the Person with epilepsy, cerebral palsy and cases of the terminally ill, to help the care-givers.

Referral support be availed for children with Epilepsy. Hospital management to be approached by the PRAAC Project to approach and advise for Epilepsy outreach clinics to be initiated and conducted in communities which are far from the Hospitals.

Family and community be made aware of how to provide first aid support to a person with Epilepsy who has fallen in a situation of feating by trained medical practitioners to be organized by PRAAC Project.

The mother and family members encouraged to continue supporting the Person with Epilepsy to take care when there are triggering signs

The Parents mother encouraged to join or form PWD groups of parent groups for children with disability to tap into the special grant/ Government programmes targeting support to PWD groups and other community groups

ii) For Children /Persons With Cerebral Palsy:

Families –care-givers and parents be supported to the child stay clean

Family members to love and help train the Child to perform all the Activities of Daily living (ADL) independently

Family counseled for other members to take the responsibilities of caring for the child to help the mother.

The community development workers/ officials and parents and care-givers of Children with disabilities to be trained in Community based rehabilitation skills.(capacity to coordinate different relevant resource persons to transfer Knowledge, skills and professional information to the Parents, family members and care-givers of Children and Persons with Disabilities from within their home environment/settings)

Link the family/child with the Uganda Parents of People with Intellectual Disability (UPPID)

iii) For Children /Persons who are deaf:

Parents and care-takers of children who are deaf, or have any form of disability should love their children and give them educational opportunities.

The deaf /PWDs can marry like any other person as a human right issue

The deaf/ PWDs can engage in agricultural activities and participate in all economic / livelihood activities as a human right

The deaf/PWDs have the right to participate in all public / community affairs like any other people in community and should be provided with Signlanguage interpreters to facilitate their communication in all public meetings .

Employers of PWDs have the responsibility to pay them fairly because they have the same rights as any other, including the right to marry and take responsibility of their families.

Awareness raising programmes by both NGO and Government must give information concerning the rights of PWDs of all ages including Children with disabilities, so that the rights of PWDs are protected at all levels.

Seek more information from Uganda Association of the Deaf (UNAD)

iv) For Children /Persons with severe physical disability :

To be supported with appropriate mobility appliances (crutches, wheel chairs / tricycles)

v) Other Issues are captured in the matrix, above.

9.0 CONCLUSION:

In all cases medical assessment for children/persons with disability is a must so that the rehabilitation /assistive devices can be acquired early enough to avoid secondary disabilities. There is need for reviews to be made every three months to establish whether the device is still fitting or not

The PRAAC project should support district Associations of PWDs and link them to the office of the District community development officer for sustainability of gains made by the project.

The PRAAC Project needs to target capacity building /training for government and community structures responsible for community mobilization and economic empowerment. The project needs to build media campaign strategies to disseminate information to the community beneficiaries, specifically focusing on persons and children with disabilities