

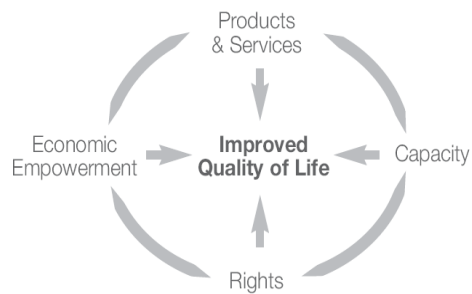
Motivation Africa

Enhancing the quality of life of people with mobility disabilities

The Motivation Charitable Trust is a UK-based development agency working in partnership to initiate innovative programmes to improve the quality of life of people with mobility disabilities. Our Africa regional office based in Cape Town is responsible for the coordination, planning and implementation of our programmes in Africa and is independently registered as a Section 21 not-for-profit company.

Disabled people can only be involved in the decisions that affect their lives once their practical needs, such as mobility aids, have been met. Motivation initiates programmes that seek to ensure sustainable provision of appropriate mobility products and services. We also work to advance the economic empowerment of people with mobility disabilities and the capacity of local disabled people's organisations (DPOs)

to empower people with disabilities to effectively advocate for their rights. This holistic approach represents the areas that must be addressed in order to facilitate an improved quality of life for people with mobility disabilities.



Key to the sustainability and effectiveness of our programmes is working in partnership at every level. We collaborate with governments, international organisations, civil society groups and training institutions. We prioritise the development of a wide range of training to ensure that skills development and professionalisation remain central to the development of wheelchair service provision and DPOs in Africa.

Cross-cutting issues through all of Motivation Africa's work are Gender, HIV/AIDS, Environmental Protection and Participation

Training in Wheelchair Provision



Working with the Tanzanian Training Centre for Orthopaedic Technologists (TATCOT), Motivation developed the world's first Wheelchair Technologists' Training Course (W TTC). The one year course equips students with both technical and clinical aspects of wheelchair provision and prepares them to effectively manage a comprehensive wheelchair service. The course is internationally recognised and accredited by the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics, and promotes the need for professionals trained in this discipline. The course is now run independently by TATCOT and Motivation continues to support TATCOT to increase their capacity to develop the course and become a resource for the international promotion of training in wheelchair technology.

In South Africa, Motivation is working with the Western Cape Rehabilitation Centre (WCRC) and the Empowerment Through Partnership Trust (ETPT) to develop three supportive seating training modules for qualified professionals. Supportive seating is needed for children and adults with more complex seating needs, such as those with cerebral palsy. All of our training is being developed in line with the World Health Organization (WHO) Guidelines on the 'Provision of Manual Wheelchairs in Less Resourced Settings'.

Drawing on these and other courses, Motivation and TATCOT are collaborating to expand the range of training available at TATCOT to include short courses in wheelchair assessment and prescription, wheelchair repair and modification, and an advanced module to train students to provide supportive seating. Training is also being integrated into the curricula of allied health professional schools such as the Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Nursing and Prosthetic and Orthotic training courses.

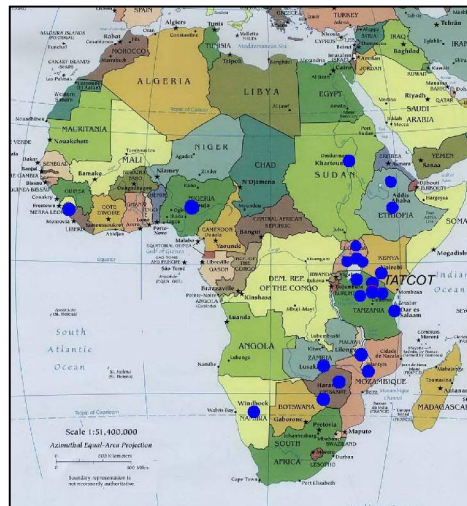


As a parallel programme to address wheelchair provision in environments where local production is not viable or cost-effective, service providers are trained in the assembly and production of Motivation's 'Worldmade' wheelchairs, which are imported ready to assemble and fit to the individual. The Worldmade approach can deliver high numbers of wheelchairs in a short space of time where resources and funding are available.

The Wheelchair Service Network

Since its inception in 2000, more than 50 students have graduated from the WTTTC to 11 African countries in Africa: Ethiopia, Kenya, Namibia, Nigeria, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Motivation is working with TATCOT and the Pan Africa Wheelchair Association (PAWA) to provide technical and capacity building support to wheelchair services and to promote the professionalisation of services. Visits are made to wheelchair service partners across Africa to evaluate progress and provide input. We are also involved in initiating Wheelchair Stakeholders' Meetings to bring together government, DPOs, wheelchair producers, rehabilitation centres, donor organisations and international organisations to plan collaborative national strategies to address wheelchair needs.



Capacity Building Disabled People's Organisations



Motivation works with DPO partners to ensure that disabled people's rights as enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) are known and upheld.

This is essential for disabled people to address their marginalisation in society and to be able to influence the policies that affect them.

Our capacity building activities provide training for DPO partners in managing, monitoring, fundraising, planning, budgeting and reporting, so that they are better equipped to advocate for the rights of their members and implement programmes that address the needs of disabled people.

A primary activity of our DPO partners is the implementation of peer group training (PGT). PGT is the transferring of mobility, health and daily living skills from wheelchair user to wheelchair user. Training includes: mobility skills, healthcare education (such as HIV/AIDS awareness and avoidance and treatment of pressure ulcers), disability awareness to build self-esteem and advocacy skills through increasing knowledge of the rights of disabled people. These elements help to maximise independence, build knowledge and confidence and develop skills thereby enabling their reintegration into society.

Another area of our DPO partners' work is the economic empowerment of their members. Disabled people are the poorest of the poor and frequently lack opportunities for employment and education. Through supporting their access to mainstream employment or skills development to enable them to set up their own enterprises, the DPOs are addressing the poverty of their membership.

Motivation's DPO partners are also collaborating with wheelchair service providers to ensure that people with mobility disabilities have access to an appropriate wheelchair – the first step to being able to claim their wider rights.

To date, Motivation has worked with DPOs in Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Zambia and South Africa.



Current Portfolio of Activities and Partners in Africa: 2008-10

In **Angola** Motivation's Worldmade wheelchairs are being distributed through the International Committee of the Red Cross and research has been carried out on the development of wheelchair services in the country.

In **Ethiopia** we are working with the Prosthetic and Orthotic Centre in Addis Ababa and the Tigray Disabled Youth Association in Mekelle to support the development of their wheelchair services. This work is being supported through our USAID funded 'Wheelchair User Support Program' which is enabling us to provide assistance to a network of wheelchair services across Africa.

In **Kenya** we are collaborating with the Association of Physically Disabled of Kenya, one of the largest wheelchair producers in Africa, to support the development of their wheelchair services to create a centre of excellence in Africa. We are also working with the Kenya Paraplegic Organisation to support the development of their peer group training activities.

In **Malawi** we are collaborating with the Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital in Blantyre on a Norwegian Association of the Disabled supported project to develop their wheelchair services. A Wheelchair Stakeholders' Meeting has been held to bring together those involved in all aspects of wheelchair provision and a taskforce elected to carry forward recommendations.

In **Mozambique** we are working with the Bristol Link Mozambique and the Maureen Oswin Fund to support two wheelchair technologists through the WTTC at TATCOT and to also support the establishment of an appropriate wheelchair service in the country.

In **Namibia** we are collaborating with Sintef and their local partner Local Rehabilitation Workshop (LOREWO) to develop the wheelchair service in Oshakati.

In **Nigeria** we are working with O'Dolf Limited, a wheelchair service run by a graduate of the WTTC in Tanzania.

In **Sierra Leone** we are collaborating with Handicap International on a project supported by the Rotary Club of Clifton to initiate wheelchair production.

In **South Africa** we have established a regional office from which our Africa work is planned and coordinated. Our focus in South Africa is on training development, and we are working in partnership with WCRC and ETPT to develop a range of courses related to the clinical aspects of wheelchair provision in line with the WHO Guidelines. This work has been supported by USAID and the Sylvia Adams Trust. We are also working to develop peer group training programmes in South Africa and to support the delivery of the Motivation's 'Worldmade' wheelchairs across the country.

In **Sudan** we are in discussion with potential collaboration partners following the graduation of two Sudanese wheelchair technologists in July 2008.

In **Tanzania** our partnership with TATCOT has spanned more than ten years. Our collaboration is continuing with the development of a range of training courses in line

with the WHO Guidelines on the clinical aspects of wheelchair service delivery, wheelchair repair and maintenance and training of referral staff. We are also working in partnership with TATCOT and Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania to establish a centre of excellence for wheelchair provision in Tanzania which will provide for the most complex needs of wheelchair users and be a field attachment centre for learners.

We are also working in partnership with the Kilimanjaro Association of the Spinally Injured to enable them to expand their operations to new regions of the country and be a nationally representative organisation for people with a spinal cord injury. This project is also bringing together representatives from Kenya, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe to develop standardised and formalised peer group training packages for Africa.

A national Wheelchair Stakeholders' Conference was held in November 2008 in Dar Es Salaam to promote the WHO Guidelines in Tanzania. The conference was attended by 86 participants and a taskforce has been elected to carry forward recommendations. The above activities are chiefly funded by the Big Lottery Fund in the UK and are managed from our local office in Moshi, Kilimanjaro.

In Uganda our work is focused on addressing the practical needs of internally displaced disabled people through a project funded by The Baring Foundation and The John Ellerman Foundation Joint International Development Grants Programme. The needs of disabled people in the numerous internally displaced people's camps in Northern Uganda are largely ignored and this project is challenging the mainstream development agencies to make their programmes inclusive of disabled people. It is also developing peer group training initiatives to empower people with mobility disabilities to understand and demand their rights. We also have a network of wheelchair service partners in Uganda run by wheelchair technologists trained at TATCOT.

In Zambia our main partner is DISACARE. We collaborate with DISACARE on peer group training and on wheelchair service development, including the development of training in wheelchair repair and maintenance.

In Zimbabwe we have worked with Disabled Women's Support Organisation and the Quadriplegics and Paraplegics Association of Zimbabwe to build their capacity. Both organisations have increased their effectiveness and efficiency and have five year strategic plans in place to address the needs of their membership. The economic difficulties in the country have made local wheelchair production almost impossible and Motivation has trained key staff at LOREWO in Bulawayo and Jairos Jiri in Harare in skills to assemble and prescribe Motivation's Worldmade wheelchair which is now being distributed.



