Benin ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) in 2012, and the government validated an implementation plan in 2014. An entity within the Ministry of Health (MOH) oversees the physical rehabilitation sector. National plans for strengthening physical rehabilitation services, and the social protection and inclusion of persons with disabilities, exist. However, there is very little data available on physical disabilities. Rehabilitation services remain too expensive for most patients, and are mainly available in more populated and developed areas.

MoveAbility’s first exploratory mission to Benin took place in 2008. We have been working with the Service de Kinésithérapie et d’Appareillage Orthopédique (SKAO) in Parakou and the Centre National Hospitalier Universitaire Hubert K. Maga (CNHU) in Cotonou since, respectively, 2009 and 2011. In 2014, we offered some support to the Centre Médico-Social Sainte Elisabeth de la Trinité (referred to as Calavi) in Abomey-Calavi. All three institutions provide physical rehabilitation services. The École Supérieure de Kinésithérapie (ESK) and the CNHU train physical rehabilitation professionals.

The World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT) Congress in 2020 will take place in Benin.

KEY FACTS & FIGURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACTS</th>
<th>FIGURES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POPULATION</td>
<td>11,175,000¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES</td>
<td>~840,000²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAUSE OF DISABILITIES (MOBILITY, SELF-CARE, VISION)</td>
<td>Communicable, maternal, neonatal, and nutritional diseases; Non-communicable diseases; Injuries³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (UNCRPD)</td>
<td>2012⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI)</td>
<td>161/188</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Source: World Bank data
² Source: https://www.hi-us.org/benin
³ Source: http://www.healthdata.org/benin
⁴ Ratification of the UNCRPD

MOVEABILITY’S PARTNERS IN BENIN*

- Association Beninoise des Kinesitherapeutes (ABEKIR)
- Orthoprothésistes et Professionnels de l’Appareillage Orthopédique du Bénin (AOPB)
- Centre d’Appareillage Orthopédique (CAO) du Centre National Hospitalier Universitaire (CNHU), Cotonou
- Centre Médico-Social Sainte Elisabeth de la Trinité (referred to as Calavi)
- École Supérieure de Kinésithérapie (ESK)
- Ministry of Health (MOH)
- Service de Kinésithérapie et d’Appareillage Orthopédique (SKAO), Parakou

*Presented in alphabetical order
OUR APPROACH IN BENIN

WORKING CLOSELY WITH NATIONAL AGENCIES
MoveAbility will continue to support the MOH – along with the institutions under its purview, notably the CNHU and the SKAO – and the national platform on physical rehabilitation, in their work to oversee and develop the physical rehabilitation sector in Benin. For example, to help the platform bolster their managerial capacities MoveAbility will support them in undergoing training, and provide them with our technical expertise and other assistance for their activities. To encourage the exchange of ideas and best practices with other organizations in the region, we will also sponsor the attendance of representatives to conferences and other events abroad. We plan to increase our support to national agencies towards 2021, when a new memorandum of understanding with the authorities will be signed.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO SERVICES
In line with our overall strategy for the region, we will continue to strengthen our partnerships with both local and regional organizations, with a view of making physical rehabilitation services – including prosthetics and orthotics, and physiotherapy – more easily accessible, particularly for the most vulnerable. Notably, we will work with Calavi to cover the costs of services of these vulnerable patients. MoveAbility will organize training sessions for professionals in the rehabilitation sector and others – for example, for persons caring for children with cerebral palsy – in cooperation with local service providers such as CNHU and SKAO. These trainings will improve the quality and broaden the availability of suitable care for persons with physical disabilities in Benin.

SHARING EXPERIENCE TO PROGRESS

The Beneficiary Feedback and Technical Assessment (BFTA) is a tool developed by MoveAbility and the ICRC, used to provide objective feedback about services given to beneficiaries at each physical rehabilitation center.

Interviews are conducted among persons with disabilities who have received an assistive device in a physical rehabilitation center. These interviews are conducted by external or internal stakeholders on the basis of a range of questions related to the quality of services and products, but also on access to services and products to improve the quality of life.

The beneficiary feedback mechanism is a participatory monitoring tool, as well as an effective and concrete method to assess the outcome of the actions that have been implemented. Analysis of the results is very important to align future activities and have a positive impact on the final beneficiaries.

This was the case for Félicienne Houmagon Zanou who was interviewed in her mother tongue, the fon, at her home with the Red Cross of Benin about the services and products she had received at the CNHU.

She describes the assessment as a positive experience:
“This evaluation was an opportunity for me to express my concerns and worries. The evaluation taught me a lot about how to wear my prosthesis. Before I wore it as I thought I should, not knowing that there were different ways to fit the stump into the socket of the prosthesis. Because I wore my prosthesis inappropriately, sometimes I had small wounds that made me feel uncomfortable when I walked. Despite the pain, my prosthesis was very useful to me and it allowed me to keep my little business. With this evaluation, I was given tips on how to wear my prosthesis better. I also learned how to maintain it to ensure that it remains in good condition. These adjustments and advice were of great relief to me and my prosthesis became more comfortable. I would also like to add that I am sure this evaluation will have a positive impact on the center. Thanks to the feedback and recommendations given by MoveAbility, the services and products provided at the center will be improved for the good of the users.”

Felicienne is being interviewed at her home about her experience at the Centre National Hospitalier Universitaire (CNHU) in Cotonou, by Marielle Adaigue, a member of the Benin Red Cross staff.
MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

NATIONAL PLAN
The national platform for the rehabilitation sector – which is part of the objectives set in the memorandum of understanding signed with the Ministry of Health in 2017 – finalized its first action plan in 2018.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING
With our support, physiotherapists and prosthetists/orthotists from Calavi and SKAO were able to attend various training programs, such as technical courses and a seminar on project management.

QUALITY OF SERVICES
We facilitated the SKAO’s orders for raw materials; we also assessed the quality of their services, and gave them recommendations for improvement based on our findings.

ACCESS TO SERVICES
We worked with Calavi to ensure that particularly vulnerable patients had access to physical rehabilitation services: patients, selected by Calavi, will have part of their treatment costs covered by MoveAbility.

MANAGEMENT CAPACITIES
With MoveAbility’s support, the CNHU in Cotonou used the Essential Management Package’s (EMP) to carry out a self-assessment. This will provide useful information to orient their future strategy and plan of action.

BENEFICIARY STATISTICS 2016–2018

PEOPLE WHO RECEIVED SERVICES FROM OUR PARTNERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>People</th>
<th>Prostheses</th>
<th>Orthoses</th>
<th>Crutches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>52</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*0 - 15 years old

1 Services include: prosthetics and orthotics, physiotherapy, other rehabilitation services and consultations.
2 The final beneficiaries data as reported by the partners in the field.
3 As reported in October 2018, extrapolated to year end.
OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED IMPACT FOR 2019-2021

By the end of the reporting period covered by this document, in 2021, we aim to have contributed to the following objectives:

**NATIONAL PLAN**
- The national platform – with a validated plan of action – is autonomous and meets regularly; the national platform and the authorities work towards the further development of the rehabilitation sector in Benin, including through the implementation of the WHO Rehabilitation Support Package
- The government has finalized and validated a strategic plan for improving the rehabilitation sector by 2021
- In 2020, the World Confederation for Physical Therapy Africa Congress is successfully held in Cotonou, bringing together a broad audience of international and regional professionals

**EDUCATION AND TRAINING**
- People working in the field of physical rehabilitation – such as prosthetists, orthotists, and physiotherapists – continue to undertake further education and training to hone their skills, and the pool of qualified professionals is broadened by the end of the reporting period

**QUALITY OF SERVICES**
- The Ecole Supérieure de Kinésithérapie has improved its management, and is able to carry out assessment on the rehabilitation sector
- Both the Centre National Hospitalier Universitaire (CNHU) and the Service de Kinésithérapie et d'Appareillage Orthopédique (SKAO) regularly share data on rehabilitation activities with the Ministry of Health (MOH)
- Stakeholders in the physical rehabilitation sector – especially professional associations of prosthetists/orthotists and physiotherapists and also organizations of disabled persons – develop their capacities to carry out their projects

**ACCESS TO SERVICES**
- Economically vulnerable people receiving treatment at Calavi’s supported centers access good quality services for free

**MANAGEMENT CAPACITIES**
- At CNHU and SKAO, tools for ensuring the quality of services (e.g. EMSAT, BFTA, PTS) and management tools (e.g. PMS, Stock Management) are implemented
- The MOH is able to effectively monitor its activities and analyzes its data

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1. The budget is indicative and is subject to income received.