Challenges of persons with physical disabilities in accessing WaSH: Implications for sustainable universal health coverage. Case study from Lagos metropolis, Nigeria

By

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Introduction

- Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments pose various barriers that may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others (UN, 2006).

- It is estimated that about one billion people in the world are living with disabilities and 80% live in low and middle-income countries (WHO, 2011).

- Disability is a major concern globally because of the large number of people affected and due to its impact.

- Sustainable Development Goals, SDG 6 which emphasize on availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all is a major reference to disability.
Introduction cont’d

- Disability is a major public health problem in Africa
- It is estimated that the prevalence rate of moderate and severe disabilities in African is approximately 15.3% (World Bank, 2011).
- Poor access to WaSH have significant health and social impacts on human population (Kuper et al., 2018).
- A major challenge faced by people with disabilities is discrimination and exclusion which worsen the difficulties with access to WaSH (WHO, 2011).
The study area is approximately located on longitude 3°18' 0"E to 3°25' 30"E and latitude 6°28'0" N to 6°38'30"N within the Lagos metropolis, Nigeria (Figure 1).

The study area covers Agege, Lagos Mainland and Surulere LGAs.

The Lagos Metropolis accounts for about 37% of the total landmass of the state.

The average population density is about 20,000 persons per square kilometers (Ilesanmi, 2010).

Fig. 1. Study area
Material and Methods

- Data were collected from 3 LGAs in Lagos metropolis on the challenges of persons with physical disabilities in accessing WaSH facilities.
- The LGAs were selected using random sampling techniques.
- 50 structured questionnaires were administered in each LGA totaling 150 using a systematic method.
- Descriptive, cross-tabulation and factor analysis were employed for data analysis.
- Disability, and Health (ICF) was employed for the assessment of disability.
- The results were presented using charts and tables while ArcMap 10.3.1 was used to generate the study area map.
Data presentation and results

- The result shows that the male was the majority with the dominant age group of 30 to 39 years.
- About 51.3% of the respondents engage in alms begging as a source of livelihood.
- Approximately 42.7% live in a public building.
- The crippled constitute the dominant persons with physical disabilities with the major cause attributed to natural occurrence.
- Greater proportions representing 64.0% of the respondents lack of access to WaSH facilities.
- About 28.0% claimed they have difficulties in accessing WaSH facilities are difficult to access.
- Regarding the adequacy of WaSH facilities, 86.0% of the respondents claimed there is high inadequacy of WaSH amenities.
About 65.3%, 30.0%, and 4.7% rated the satisfaction of the quality of service delivery of WaSH as unsatisfactory, fairly satisfactory, and satisfactory respectively.

The factor analysis extracted 5 main components with a cumulative variance of 73.48% in the data set.

The five components were classified into three major factors affecting respondents’ access to WaSH facilities.

The factors are: accessibility factor (distance covered, time taken, and waiting time to access water).

- Social factor (low esteem, verbal abuse, and limited privacy).
- Design factor (difficult staircase, weight of container, wet/slippery floors).

Factor 1 accounted for 19.57% with high positive loadings on waiting time and weight of container.
Data presentation and results cont’d

- Factor two accounted for 17.81% and have positive loadings on low esteem and verbal abuse.

- Difficult staircase, wet/ slippery floor and limited privacy constitute factor 3 and accounted for 16.31% of the variance of the data set.

- Factor 4 have high positive loading on distance and time taken with about 9.92% of the variance.

- Only one variable (design of the facilities) have high positive loading on factor 5 and it accounted for 9.89 of the variance.

- Respondents coping strategies indicate that the majority representing 96.6, 74.7, and 73.3% of the respondents depend on family members, neighbors, and machines to access WaSH facilities in the study area.

- About half proportion of the respondents’ prefer to remain silent as coping strategy for accessing WaSH facility in the study area.
Implications of the study, Conclusion and recommendations

Implications of the study

- The outcome of this study will provide database on persons with physical disabilities in Lagos metropolis as it relates WaSH.
- The result will serve as baseline information for policy, guidelines, and infrastructure/technology design that will enhanced access to WaSH facilities by persons with physical disabilities for improved healthy living conditions.

Conclusion and recommendations

- The study concluded that accessibility, social and design of amenities factors are responsible for the challenges of persons with physical disabilities in the study area.
- The study recommended investment in WaSH infrastructure that will reduce/eliminate the physical barriers in accessing WaSH amenities.
- Public education, enlightenment and policies that will eliminate discrimination of persons with physical disabilities for robust inclusion in WaSH infrastructure should be given proper attention.
Thank you for your attention