

6th FATO CONGRESS in Arusha, Tanzania



TATCOT

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE



October 2011

6th International Congress of FATO ARUSHA TANZANIA 19 - 24 SEPTEMBER 2011

In Collaboration with

**Tanzania Training Centre for
Orthopaedic Technologists**

Special edition



TATCOT was appointed by the African Federation of Orthopaedic Technologists (FATO) to organize and host its Sixth International Congress for People with Physical Disabilities. This event was

organized and hosted by the Tanzanian Government under the umbrella of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare.

The venue, the Naura Springs Hotel, Arusha, accommodated over 400 professionals from all over Africa and other countries in the world over six days.

The theme of the Congress was the "RIGHT TO QUALITY CARE". It was officially opened by the Deputy Minister of Health, Dr. Lucy Nkya.

During the plenary sessions of the first four days the problems of ensuring access to appropriate orthopaedic

rehabilitation services were discussed. It was found that similar problems exist in all African countries and the governments have big challenges to solve them. It was agreed that the Congress theme the "right to quality care" has to be made a priority by the responsible Ministries in all African countries.



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Speech of the Deputy Minister of Health of Tanzania

In her opening speech, the Deputy Minister underlined that the increasing number of road accidents involving motorcycles and the stigma against people with disabilities in Tanzania have worsened.

At least 30 per cent of patients in surgical wards in local hospitals were those involved in road traffic accidents.

Many motorcycle riders have lost limbs or sustained serious fractures in such accidents.

According to the Deputy Minister, a survey carried out between 2006 and 2009 by the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC) in Moshi, most of the physically disabled persons were below the age of 25.

She cited other challenges facing orthopaedic medicine in Africa such as the inadequate number of qualified professionals in technical orthopaedics who are capable of improving locally available resources and achieving an accepted quality of products.



Deputy Minister Dr Lucy Nkya (right)

6th FATO CONGRESS in Arusha, Tanzania

Health expert speaks on behalf of disabled people

Harold Shangali can hardly be considered as somebody who talks loud. Yet the 57-year old medical expert working in Moshi is a strong voice for thousands of people living with physical disabilities worldwide.

He was in Arusha recently for the 6th International Congress of the Federation of Orthopaedic Technologists (FATO) that drew hundreds of delegates from Africa and beyond. During the week-long Congress, Shangali was honored with the title of a life member of FATO, a Pan African Organisation established 20 years ago to ensure access of the disabled people in the continent to appropriate orthopaedic and rehabilitation services.

Orthopaedics is the medical specialty that focuses on injuries and diseases of the human body's musculoskeletal system. The complex system includes bone joints, ligaments, tendons, muscles and nerves all of which allows one to work or be active. According to Shangali, the possible causes for physical disabilities to any person are many, ranging from complications during his or her birth to abnormalities that develop due to old age.

Other causes include cerebral palsy, tumors, post-polio complications, traumatic injuries due to road accidents-especially now with the growing number of motorcycles used for public transport-and vascular diseases which are mainly caused by diabetes. He says the African continent can deal squarely with the problem of physical disabilities through effective and sufficient public sensitisation programmes.

"The ultimate goal is to ensure that people with physical disabilities acquire a better quality of life so that they become independent in their day-to-day life.

Issues of rehabilitation of the disabled are now being addressed by the East African Community, where at least 10 per cent of its population of 120 million is said to comprise persons with disabilities.

He is concerned that although the government has outlined policies on rehabilitation of the physical disabled, they are not yet fully backed with adequate action.



Currently many non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are involved in rehabilitation projects for the disabled, which is not a healthy situation. "Unfortunately, many NGOs are not registered by the government for the job, and are working unilaterally.

2 October 2011 THE CITIZEN ON SUNDAY



Congress registration

"THE INCREASING NUMBER OF PHYSICAL DISABILITIES DUE TO CHRONIC ILLNESSES, ROAD ACCIDENTS, CIVIL CONFLICTS AND CRIME, AMONG OTHER FACTORS, IS A GROWING CONCERN IN AFRICA"

Delegates from Tanzania

Among the 400 congress delegates from all over Africa, Asia, Europe and USA, there was a large number representing Tanzania.

The Association of Prosthetics and Orthotics, Tanzania (APOT) was represented by 20 delegates from all over the country.

Several international sponsors

supported their students studying in the different TATCOT-programmes and enabled them to attend the FATO congress.

Some 25 students from the Degree and Diploma programmes offered by TATCOT were present for the whole week.

The Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC) sponsored

10 medical doctors and professionals from the rehabilitation medicine departments.

The total number of professionals from Tanzania reached 80 delegates who participated active in the FATO event, which was the biggest since its renewal of the look in Dakar, Senegal 2005.



Former TATCOT students from Zimbabwe

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Official Opening: Masse Niang, FATO President (left) and Dr. Lucy Nkya, Deputy Minister, MoH, Tanzania (middle)

CCBRT expert sounds alarm over risk of disability in new-born

Complications during birth raise the risk of newly-born children in Tanzania getting permanent physical disabilities, such as clubfoot, Walter Tunji, an expert from Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation (CCBRT) in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, told the audience.

Life long physical disabilities found to be common in the country include the effect of polio, spinal injuries, complications with the muscles, multiple-sclerosis, cerebral palsy, ar-

thritis and amputation of limbs.

Mr. Tunji BSc in Prosthetics and Orthotics, Head of the Dar es Salaam based orthopaedic laboratory, told the 400 experts that in Tanzania there is estimated to be 1.5 to 2 children per 1000 live births born with clubfoot which is above the world average of 1 in every 1000 births with clubfoot worldwide. The defect is more common in boys than in girls and about 80 per cent of clubfoot cases occur in the

developing countries.

He suggested that a non-surgical procedure for treating clubfoot in children known as the Ponseti Method, was safe and effective and decreases the need for extensive corrective surgery. Its early initiation can lead to a near normal foot that can use everyday shoes.

25 September 2011 national news

1.5 TO 2
CHILDREN
PER 1000
LIVE-BIRTHS
IN
TANZANIA
HAVE
CLUBFOOT
DEFORMITY

Red Cross says Africa in need of policy reforms

The Chairperson of the International Committee of Red Cross Special Fund for the Disabled (ICRC-SFD), Prof Claude Le Courte, raised the concern during the on-going 6th Congress of the African Federation of Orthopaedic Technicians (FATO). She said this year's joint World Report on Disability by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the World Bank identified

several barriers which have hampered access to appropriate orthopaedic and rehabilitation services that can be tackled only through policy reforms.

According to the report, these have to include reforming the policies and delivery system, developing funding mechanisms, increasing human resources, expanding and de-

centralizing services delivery, among others.



Masse Niang (left) and Professor Claude Le Courte (right)

The WHO representative in Tanzania

The WHO representative in Tanzania, Dr Rutaro Chatora, said besides the road carnage on Africa's roads, the problem of disabilities in the continent has been worsened by many wars and civil strife in various countries.

"All these are strong justifications for programmes to rehabilitate and support those who

are affected", he said. He explained that like many other technical health areas, lack of qualified orthopaedic technologists remained an impediment to the implementation of programmes for persons with disability. He said the WHO was aware of the low priority given to the training of orthopaedic technolo-

gists in the Africa region compared to dealing with other health problems such as AIDS, TB, Malaria and ailments related to pregnancy and childbirth.

21 September 2011 THE CITIZEN



Congress Delegates from ICRC



FATO CONGRESS
ENSURING ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE ORTHOPAEDIC REHABILITATION SERVICES
"RIGHT TO QUALITY CARE"



19th - 24th SEPTEMBER 2011
NAURA SPRINGS HOTEL - ARUSHA

WASILIANA NA IDARA YA USTAWI NA MAENDELEO YA JAMII

A wheelchair accessible, professional exhibition was open in parallel to the Congress plenary sessions. It provided the participants with an overview of the state of the art of orthopaedic components and assistive devices. Exhibitors from Africa, Asia and Europe showed their products and demonstrated their function.



6th FATO CONGRESS in Arusha, Tanzania

Organisation of the great event



The local organization of the biggest ever FATO Congress has been carried out by a TATCOT team under the leadership of Mr. Harold G. Shangali.

The greatest challenge has been to find and select an appropriate Congress venue which could handle the great number of participants and also be accessible for people with physically disabilities who use wheelchairs. After an intensive selection process, the

organizers found the Naura Springs Hotel, Arusha as the most appropriate place which could cater for the needs and demands of the Congress. The main hall could accommodate

400 delegates and the four breakout rooms were large enough to provide space and equipment for the workshop sessions. Some 160 delegates were also accommodated in the Congress venue and the others found suitable and affordable hotels within a 10 minutes walk from the Naura Springs Hotel.

Visa procedures, transport and the importation of goods for the planned exhibition were also handled by the local organizing committee.

Maulu Tours, a tour operator with its main office in Moshi, was assigned to organize all hotel bookings and transport related issues.

The clearing agent company Nazareth imported all goods for the exhibition, which were shipped in to Kilimanjaro Airport by the international participating companies.

The greatest challenge has

been the financial budget to cover the cost for the local organization. Contributions from ICRC and fund raising activities in Moshi, Arusha and Dar es Salaam by the local organizers provided the required financial resources. The great financial support by the MoH covered a big part of the congress activities.

The organization of an open day to visit TATCOT was another challenge. The local organizing committee would like to give many thanks to the TATCOT staff involved, who made the visit of 200 Congress delegates a 100% success.

At the end it has been a great pleasure to hand over the organization at the beginning of the Congress to the International Organizing Committee under the leadership of the FATO President, Mr. Masse Niang.



Mr. C. Tardif, ICRC Director and H. Shangali, visiting the venue and checking the facility and discussing arrangements with the manager



Mr President Masse Niang (third left) visited the local Organizing Committee team at TATCOT to be briefed about the selected congress venue. From right to left, Mr H. Shangali, Mrs Lilian, Mr. L. Mtalo, Prof. N. Jacobs, Mr. W. Raab

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Scientific Programme

The Scientific Committee was appointed by FATO to organize the programme for the Congress. Its membership included members of FATO and representatives of International Organizations that are involved in orthopaedic technology in Africa. The Committee was very ably chaired by Isabelle Urseau of Handicap International.

The programme was conducted in two languages, French and English, which allowed for the full participation of all the participants. This was supported by simultaneous translation

The programme was very full and comprehensive and had a number of different elements:

1. Prior to the Congress the different national groups were asked to complete a questionnaire which covered all aspects of physical and functional rehabilitation in their countries including needs versus the capacities, legislation and policies, national strategies and policies, community based rehabilitation, and professional development and recognition.
2. There were plenary sessions on these topics which presented the results of the questionnaires as well as presenting the experiences of representative countries on these topics. The Key speakers of these sessions were Isabelle Urseau (Physical and Functional Rehabilitation), Chapal Khasnabis (Needs versus

the Capacities), Joe Ubiedo (Legislation and Policies), Mase Niang (National Strategies and Policies), Chapal Khasnabis (Community Based Rehabilitation), and Harold Shangali (Professional Development and Recognition).

3. These topics were then discussed in 5 small workshops, each workshop been give one of the above topics and asked to discuss it by answering the following questions:
-What should FATO do to ensure the development and the implementation of the topic in a policy, strategy and action plan in rehabilitation?
-What should national actors in rehabilitation, or linked to rehabilitation, do to ensure the development and the implementation of the topic in a policy, strategy and action plan in rehabilitation?
- What should international stakeholders do to ensure the development and the implementation of the topic in a policy, strategy and action plan in rehabilitation?
The reports of these workshops were presented to and discussed in plenary session and it is hoped that they will give some guidance to FATO and other agencies with regards their future deliberations.



Isabelle Urseau
Chairperson of the Scientific Committee



Harold Shangali
Principal TATCOT



Chapal Khasnabis
Head of DAR, WHO



Joe Ubiedo
DAR, WHO



Masse Niang
President, FATO



Plenary Session

6th FATO CONGRESS in Arusha, Tanzania

Scientific Programme



Nicky Seymour
Motivation Africa, South Africa



Abdullah Munish
CCBRT, Tanzania



Esperance Uwizewe
CURE Clubfoot, Rwanda



Michiel Steenbeek
CBM, Netherlands



Claude Simonnot
HI, France



Walter Tuni
CCBRT, Tanzania

4. Arising from the previous Congress there were special sessions organized to provide further information on three topics. The sessions covered best practice procedures, devices and experiences in different countries and by different organizations. The topics covered were:

- Wheeled mobility devices, services and training which was organized and introduced by Nicky Seymour of Motivation Africa.
- Clubfoot treatment, training and service delivery which was organized and introduced by Michiel Steenbeek of CBM.
- Cerebral palsy management which was organized and introduced by Claude Simonnot of Handicap International.

5. There were 2 sessions of



Brenda Ephraim
OTARG



Violet T Mwaijande
TATCOT, Tanzania

open papers, that is papers offered by the participant rather than invited ones. These papers were peer reviewed before being accepted for presentation. Altogether there were 15 free papers presented.

Participants were asked to complete a questionnaire on all aspects of the Congress and it is hoped that this will give some guidance to the organizers of future Congresses.

The Scientific Programme Committee is extremely grateful to everyone who contributed to the programme.

Should you wish further details of the presentations and outcomes of the Congress they are planned to be published on the FATO webpage:

www.fatoafrique.org/site



Workshop

6th FATO CONGRESS in Arusha, Tanzania

Scientific Programme

TATCOT contributed to the scientific programme six presentations and Mr. H.G. Shangali was holding the chair of the session "The Cerebral Palsy Management".

The TATCOT papers were presented in different sessions.



Mr. Shangali: Session 2, Wheeled Mobility Devices, Service Delivery and Training.

Title: Evolution on Education and Training Related to Wheelchair Provision

Session 9, Community Based Rehabilitation

Title: Community Based Rehabilitation and Prosthetics and Orthotics Services in Tanzania

Session 10, Professional Development and Recognition

Title: Professional Development and Recognition (Mr. Shangali was Key Speaker of the Session)



COMMUNITY BASED REHABILITATION AND PROSTHETICS AND ORTHOTICS SERVICES IN TANZANIA



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & RECOGNITION



The system of health services which is in line with the implementation of Community Based Rehabilitation is the provision of Prosthetics & Orthotics Rehabilitation services by repating

- Rural Medical Aids
- Community Health Workers
- Assistant Nurses
 - Identify identifying neuromuscular skeletal disabilities
 - Adopting basic skills in enabling individuals to be mobile and attain a lower level degree of function
 - Carry out minor repairs
 - Promotes awareness in disabilities issues among the community

COMMUNITY BASED LEVEL
Identify, Repair & Refit Prosthetics & Orthotics Services

DISTRICT LEVEL
Basic Prosthetics & Orthotics Services

REGIONAL/ZONAL LEVEL
Prosthetics & Orthotics Services

CONSULTANT CENTRAL LEVEL
Complex Prosthetics & Orthotics Services



INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF TRAINING



There are different pathways as outlined by the International Society of Prosthetics and Orthotics for different Categories in different parts of the world:



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Scientific Programme



Ms. V. Mwaijande presented a TATCOT paper in the "Open Papers 1", Session 7.

Title: TATCOT's f2f Training Programmes on Different Levels, (Certificate, Diploma, Degree). Recognized by ISPO.



Tanzania Training Centre for Orthopaedic Technologists (TATCOT)



**TATCOT's
f2f Training Programs on
Different Levels, Recognized
by ISPO
and Research**



ISPO Recognized Training Centre All Training Programs are accredited

Mwaijande V – Tanzania Training Center of TATCOT



Need for Personnel for Prosthetics and Orthotics

By the year 2010 the combined population of Africa, Asia and Latin America will be approximately 6 billion.

The estimated number of people in need of prosthetic and orthotic devices will be 30 million.

The personnel estimated to provide services in prosthetics and orthotics would therefore be 180,000.

Approximately 40,000 trained Category I and II level personnel are estimated to be needed.



Guidelines for Training Personnel in Developing Countries for Prosthetics and Orthotic Services

Three-year Diploma Course in Orthopaedic Technology

Course description and objectives

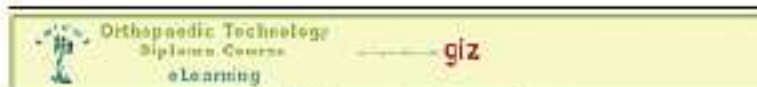
- Knowledge of the application of locally available materials and the adaptation of technology to suit different social and environmental conditions;
- The ability to operate and maintain the tools, machines and equipment used in a prosthetic/orthotic or technical orthopaedic department.
- An understanding of the principles of workshop management and supervision of staff.



Mr. W. Raab presented two TATCOT papers in Session 10, Professional Development and Recognition.

Title: Blended Learning a New Training Approach for Africa

Title: Blended Learning Course in Spinal Orthotics: TATCOT's Experience in the Implementation.



Welcome to the TATCOT Diploma Course in Orthopaedic Technology!

This Diploma programme combines four TATCOT certificate courses (LLFT / ULFT / ULPTOT and SO).

On the CD-ROM, you can find the training material for all four areas. It is integrated with the practical training at TATCOT in form of a blended learning process. The CD-ROM allows participants to engage in self-study and individual preparation for practical work as well as to the students.

	Lower Limb Prosthetics	Lower Limb Orthotics	Upper Limb Prosthetics & Orthotics	Spinal Orthotics
Module 1	Anatomy	Anatomy	Anatomy	Anatomy
Module 2	Pathology	Pathology	Pathology	Pathology
Module 3	Bio-mechanics	Bio-mechanics	Bio-mechanics	Bio-mechanics
Module 4	Material Technology	Material Technology	Material Technology	Material Technology
Module 5	Clinics	Clinics	Clinics	Radiological Interpretation
Module 6	Preparation for Practice	Preparation for Practice	Preparation for Practice	Clinics
Module 7			Preparation for Practice	Preparation for Practice

These eLearning modules were produced by the TATCOT trainers' team, with financial support from GIZ, German International Cooperation and in collaboration with common sense - eLearning & training consultants.



Blended Learning Course in Spinal Orthotics

TATCOT's experience with online training in Africa from 2007 to 2011 and over 40 participants from English speaking countries.



Tanzania Training Centre for Orthopaedic Technologists
eLearning @ TATCOT – Diploma Course in Orthopaedic Technology.

Scientific Programme



ISPO President Professor Jan Geertzen.

ISPO has dedicated itself for the past 10 years in supporting education and training, research, related to prosthetics and orthotics.

It has also granted sponsorship support through the Leahy War Victims fund/USAID for training and qualifying P&O professionals.

The current president of ISPO Professor Jan Geertzen attended the 6th FATO congress and enlightened the delegates on the activities of ISPO, which are mainly based on education and training and research and promotion of rehabilitation team approach.



FATO board members and Mr President Masse Niang



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Scientific Programme



Mrs S. Sexton, ISPO Grant Manager, presenting capacity and standards in rehabilitation



Dr. G. Mlisa, Director of human resource development of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare in Tanzania, speech during official opening ceremony



Mr. A. Zimbaldo, Manager CCBRT Kilimanjaro, Moshi, presenting community based rehabilitation approach



Mrs. I. Urseau, HI and Mr. C. Tardif, members of the FATO scientific committee



TATCOT Diploma students attending the plenary sessions



Former TATCOT student



6th FATO CONGRESS in Arusha, Tanzania

Open day at TATCOT, 200 delegates visited the Centre in Moshi



One of the highlights of the Congress was the visit of the Tanzania Training Centre for Orthopaedic Technologists (TATCOT). Over 200 Congress participants visited the Centre and were interested in the different training programmes.

Six 40 seater buses from Mauly Tours brought the large group from Arusha to the KCMC campus where the TATCOT is located.

The group under the leadership of the FATO President,

Mr. Masse Niang, went for refreshment and a light lunch to the TATCOT student hostel when they first arrived.

A 2 hours visit after the lunch organized by TATCOT professional and supporting staff, provided a comprehensive information about all courses conducted at the Centre.

Starting from Kibo Wing, which houses the 30 years old Diploma, participants were guided to the new areas for the Degree Course in P&O and Wheelchair Certificate

Course. The gait laboratory, as a highlight of the new development of TATCOT, received great attention where Mr. Joachim Mushi demonstrated a gait analysis on subjects. The resource centre for students and eLearning facilities was also subject to great interest by many participants.

The organization of the visit of such a big group was a great challenge for the responsible TATCOT Staff, who managed it very well.



FATO President, Mr Masse Niang (centre) welcomed by the Organizing Committee for the TATCOT visit



TATCOT Information Booth

6th FATO CONGRESS in Arusha, Tanzania

Open day at TATCOT, 200 delegates visited the Centre in



Exhibition of products of the Wheelchair Certificate Course



Explanation of alignment devices in the BSc clinical area



Group photo



**"HIGH QUALITY
OF TRAINING
PROVIDES HIGH
QUALITY OF
PROSTHETIC AND
ORTHOTIC
SERVICES"**



Lunch break at TATCOT student hostel

6th FATO CONGRESS in Arusha, Tanzania

Collaboration of TATCOT and GIZ



The theme of the Congress has been taken up by the Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). The Health Department in Dar es Salaam has developed a fact sheet in collaboration with TATCOT to emphasize the rights of people with disabilities.



The title of the information flier is: **DISABILITY & ENSURING ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE ORTHOPAEDIC AND REHABILITATION SERVICES—RIGHT TO QUALITY CARE**

Some 400 copies were packed in the Congress bags together with other information materials from the Tanzania German Programme to Support Health (TGPSH).

“DISABILITY & ENSURING ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE ORTHOPAEDIC AND REHABILITATION SERVICES”



TATCOT staff filling the congress bags with information materials



400 congress bags have been filled with information materials

Disability & Ensuring Access to Appropriate Orthopaedic and Rehabilitation Services – Right to Quality Care

Background

In Tanzania more than three million women, men and children or approximately 9% of the population live with a disability, according to the National Bureau of Statistics. In the rural areas the prevalence is even higher.

Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) are often affected by marginalization, stigmatization and discrimination. They are faced with serious social and economic disadvantages and are at a higher risk of health problems aggravated by existing cultural beliefs and practices like using body parts of albinos in order to become rich.

The Tanzanian-German Programme to Support Health (TGPSH) is implemented on behalf of the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development by GIZ and KfW and focuses on four complementary areas of support:

- Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and HIV&AIDS
- Health Financing and Social Health Protection
- Capacity Development and Human Resources
- Decentralised Subsidiary Public and Private Health Services.

Towards a human rights-based approach in the programme

In 2005, the GTZ (now GIZ) funded a workshop to push forward the implementation of the *National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty 2005 - 2010 or MKUKUTA*. To make PWD benefit equally from the strategy, the GTZ provided a platform for the establishment of the MKUKUTA Disability Network in Tanzania.

It aims at a conducive environment for the full inclusion and participation of disabled people in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the MKUKUTA towards a better quality of their lives.

In April 2010 Tanzania enacted the Disability Act. Section 26 of the act

"...provides for the right for every person with disability to enjoy the attainable standard of health care services without any discrimination and requires every health facility, whether public or private, to make available basic facilities essential for health and rehabilitation services needed in respective location".

TGPSH advocates for the effective implementation of the Act, the participation and empowerment of PWDs and their organisations in planning, delivering, and monitoring health and rehabilitation services. It has adopted a Human Rights-based approach in all its components.



One good example for the above mentioned endeavour is the Tanzania Training Centre for Orthopaedic Technology (TATCOT) which was founded already in 1981 with support from GIZ (formerly GTZ). Since then a total of 715 students graduated from the institute from TATCOT.

Mostly from East African countries and its primary mandate is to improve the availability of qualified staff in the region with the following aims:

- Providing the means for the optimal physical rehabilitation of disabled people and the improvement of their overall well-being.

TATCOT—giz fact sheet

- Improving the function, ability and wellbeing of physically disabled people through research, education and training in appropriate orthopaedic technology and the development of the prosthetics, orthotics and wheelchair services.

Human Rights framework

Human rights are 'basic rights and freedoms that all people are entitled to regardless of nationality, sex, national or ethnic origin, race, religion, language, or other status. The CRPD was adopted in 2006 and sets out rights of PWDs. It promotes, protects and ensures a full equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all PWDs and endorses respect for their inherent dignity including right to health. The general principles proclaimed by CRPD are non-discrimination, participation and inclusion, respect for difference and acceptance of persons with disabilities as part of human diversity and humanity; equality of equal opportunity, accessibility, equality between men and women, respect for evolving capacities of children with disability and their right to preserve their identities. Tanzania has ratified the CRPD and recently enacted The Persons With Disability Act 2010. The Constitution of Tanzania does not include the right to health as a fundamental right it generates concrete legal obligations. It mentions social welfare as a directive principle of State policy.

The strategies of TATCOT are:

- Improvement of sustainable high quality education and training in prosthetics, orthotics, wheelchairs and supportive seating.
 - Development of design and production methods of appropriate orthopaedic devices.
 - Pursuit of research in all aspects of prosthetics, orthotics, wheelchairs and supportive seating.
 - Continuing professional development of all members of staff.
 - Continuing professional development of all graduates of TATCOT.
- Participating in and advising on the improvement and development of technical orthopaedic services.

TATCOT is affiliated to a faith-based medical college and integrated in the national health system under the Directorate of Human Resource Development of the Tanzanian Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MoHSW) supported by several development partners, such as GIZ, CIDA, USAID, SDC, JICA, ITECH / CDC.



The Impact of TATCOT

1- Human Resource Development

Successful rehabilitation of physically disabled people depends greatly on an adequate professional attitude, knowledge and skills in adapting the technology to meet the requirements of local conditions as well as empowering physically disabled people to participate in the entire process of rehabilitation, evaluation and research.

- TATCOT recruited and qualified around 715 national and internationally recognised professionals from 1981 to 2010. There are PWD as peer group trainers employed for the training in the use of wheelchair and wheel chair repair.
- Expanded training opportunities and developed new courses in rehabilitation technology: a Diploma Course in Orthopaedic and one in Wheelchair Technology as well as a Degree Course in Orthopaedic Technology;

TATCOT—giz fact sheet

- The WHO Guideline on rehabilitation of people with physical disabilities estimates that one qualified orthopaedic technologist can provide services to 1000 people with a physical disability in one year. From 1984 when the first batch of 15 students graduated from TATCOT to date 56 Tanzanians graduated. PWDs are integrated into different training programmes as teachers with a part time employment. The private sector has employed PWDs e.g. in Shah Industry in Moshi, CCBRT at Kilimanjaro and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Breweries in Dar es Salaam, thus increasing the number of services provided in the country.

2. Expanding access to quality Rehabilitation Facilities:

- The number of rehabilitation facilities has increased not only in Tanzania but in most of the African and Asian countries. In Tanzania in 1981 there were only 3 rehabilitation centres, whereas today there are 20 government and private centres which is an increase of 85%.



- A Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) team approach has been established in at least 14 of the 20 centres whereby a physiotherapist, an occupational therapist, a surgeon, orthopaedic technologists, social workers, and PWDs work together to create more awareness

about early detection and intervention of disabilities and referral services.

- TATCOT facilitated a national stakeholders' conference in Dar es Salaam in July 2009 in which a WHO Wheelchair Guideline was inaugurated.

3. Improving the Quality of Life:

Through clinical placement of students from TATCOT's different courses, new technology has been made available to improve the rehabilitation of persons with congenital clubfoot, Spina Bifida, Cerebral Palsy and Spinal Deformities. This contributed to more awareness and less cost intensive rehab procedures. In the Kilimanjaro Region for example the Usa River and the Faraja, Sanja Juu, Lutheran Rehabilitation Centres offer comprehensive rehabilitation through the clinic team and TATCOT students which otherwise could only be provided by the Medical Staff at TATCOT.



The provision of wheelchair services, established through TATCOT's Wheelchair Technology Course, has a tremendous impact through the availability of appropriate wheelchairs made locally and adapted to the different environmental requirements in the country. This reduced the import of non appropriate, expensive chairs from abroad.

Improved quality of life for PWDs through organization, education and training of users is evident in different centres, e.g. the Kilimanjaro Association of Spinal Cord Injury (KASI) based in Moshi. It provides appropriate wheelchairs in order to improve the level of participation of the users.

A close collaboration has also been established with the national rehabilitation centres run by the MoHSW, Disabled People's Or-

TATCOT—giz fact sheet

ganisations (DPOs) and Non Governmental Organisations in the regions.

International Consultancy:

TATCOT is a WHO Collaboration Centre with a focus on strengthening the capacity of NGOs to render services to PWDs and run programmes such as preventing disabilities through awareness creation.

TATCOT is working hard to expand its advisory and consultancy role, particularly in English-speaking African countries e.g. by assisting key professionals in other countries in their negotiations with governments on education and training, service development and structure, recognition issues.

Challenges

Improving human resource capacity to inclusion- building capacity of all cadres of health, rehabilitation, education and vocational training and social service workers on disability.

Implementing policies: Achieving the inclusion of disability-related activities and Community-based Rehabilitation (CBR) into the plans and budgets of the MoHSW, Local Governments and NGO structures.

Patient services: Achieving the establishment of regional clinics with professional degree level posts by the MoHSW and Disabled Persons' Organisations as referral centres for difficult cases.

Financial viability: ensuring long-term financial viability through quality management, effective networking, public relations, and seizing opportunities for new funding sources.

Research: Expansion of research activities in collaboration with other institutions, particularly utilising the newly installed gait laboratory for the development/ testing of useful appliances.

Maintaining TATCOT's reputation by offering quality services and active networking at national and international level. Participating in the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO), collaborating with WHO, Strathclyde University Glasgow, Don Bosco University El Salvador, USAID and other academic, professional and donor institutions.

Conclusion

The creation of community awareness about the major disabilities, their prevention and treatment is the most successful approach to reduce the number of severely disabled persons and to allow the full inclusion of PWDs in the community.

Monitoring and Evaluation of services for PWDs is of vital importance for the continuous improvement of their quality of life, our main focus.



Promoting post-graduate training and continuing education to improve clinical services and the understanding of human rights as well as taking full advantage of new developments in science and technology.

Contact:

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6th FATO CONGRESS in Arusha, Tanzania

Social Programme

No Congress is complete without an enjoyable social programme. Some people say that more business get done during these events than during the Congress programme!

This FATO Congress was no different and the social activities came as a great counterbalance to the seriousness of the Scientific Programme.

On the Monday evening there was a Cocktail and Dinner event kindly hosted by CR Equipment. It proved to be a very popular and sociable event and allowed the participants to meet old friends and make new ones.

On Thursday evening Proteor hosted a dinner at the Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge. During the evening Proteor shared its vision of rehabilitation with their guests; it is based on the multidisciplinary team and the de-



velopment of business in the different countries. The theme, *Statute for the prosthetics and orthotics technolpgist*, was presented by Michel Pierron, the President and Chief Executive Officer of Proteor.

On Friday evening there was the President's reception hosted by Masse Niang and FATO. After a hard week's work everyone let their hair down and had a most enjoyable evening.

FATO and Prsident Masse Nisang are extremely grateful to everyone who contributed to these social events.



TATCOT

Tanzania Training Centre for Orthopaedic Technologists

Product/Service Information

The Tanzania Training Centre for Orthopaedic Technologists (TATCOT) was founded in Moshi with the material, financial and human resource support of the governments of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Federal Republic of Germany in June 1981. TATCOT is a supra-regional training centre providing courses in the field of orthopaedic technology in Africa and enrolls students from all English speaking African countries as well as other interested countries. The reason for establishing these courses was to educate the professionals who are required to provide technical services to people with amputations and other neuromuscular disorders such as poliomyelitis, paralysis, cerebral palsy, clubfoot and trauma. In order to do this the professionals are provided with the knowledge and skills to provide prostheses, orthoses, wheelchairs and supportive seating to people with disabilities.



Ministry of Health and Social Welfare

TATCOT is organised under the Directorate of Human Resource Development of the Tanzanian Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Dar es Salaam. It is situated in Moshi on the premises of Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC), which is an institution of the Good Samaritan Foundation of the Evangelic Lutheran Church of Tanzania.

University of Dar es Salaam

In 1986 the Muhimbili College of Health Sciences (MUCHS) of the University of Dar es Salaam accredited the Diploma Course in Orthopaedic Technology and supervises its academic conduct.

Tumaini University

In 1999 TATCOT took the initiative to introduce a BSc Degree Course in Prosthetics and Orthotics and was then incorporated as the Department of Prosthetics and Orthotics of the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine in Kilimanjaro Christian Medical College (KCM-College) which is one of the constituent colleges of Tumaini University.

Values

TATCOT is committed to the following values:

Respect for all disabled people

Needs and wellbeing of disabled people

Academic and professional excellence of its graduates

Delivery of high quality prosthetics, orthotics, wheelchair and supportive seating services

Development of the design of technical orthopaedic devices and components

Correct prescription of appropriate orthopaedic devices

Development of the clinic team approach in the rehabilitation of disabled people

Respect and trust between all staff involved in technical orthopaedics

Consciousness of cost and the efficient use of resources

Vision

TATCOT is established to provide the means for the optimal physical rehabilitation of disabled people and the improvement in their overall wellbeing.

Mission

TATCOT is devoted to improving the function, ability and wellbeing of physically disabled people through the relentless pursuit of research, education and training in appropriate orthopaedic technology and the development of the prosthetics, orthotics and wheelchairs services.



TATCOT

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