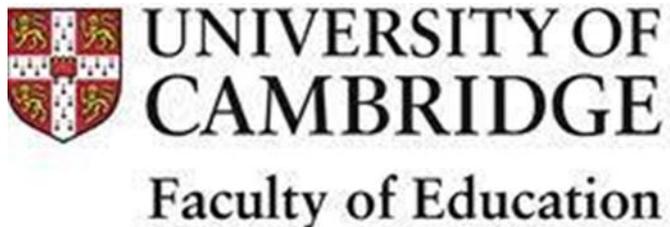


Primary Schooling for Children with Disabilities: A Review of African Scholarship

Nidhi Singal, Carrie Spencer, and Rafael Mitchell



Focus and parameters of the review

What patterns exist in publications on disability and education by researchers based in Sub-Saharan Africa?

What are the salient findings emerging from this body of research?

What are the implications for current policy, practice and research?

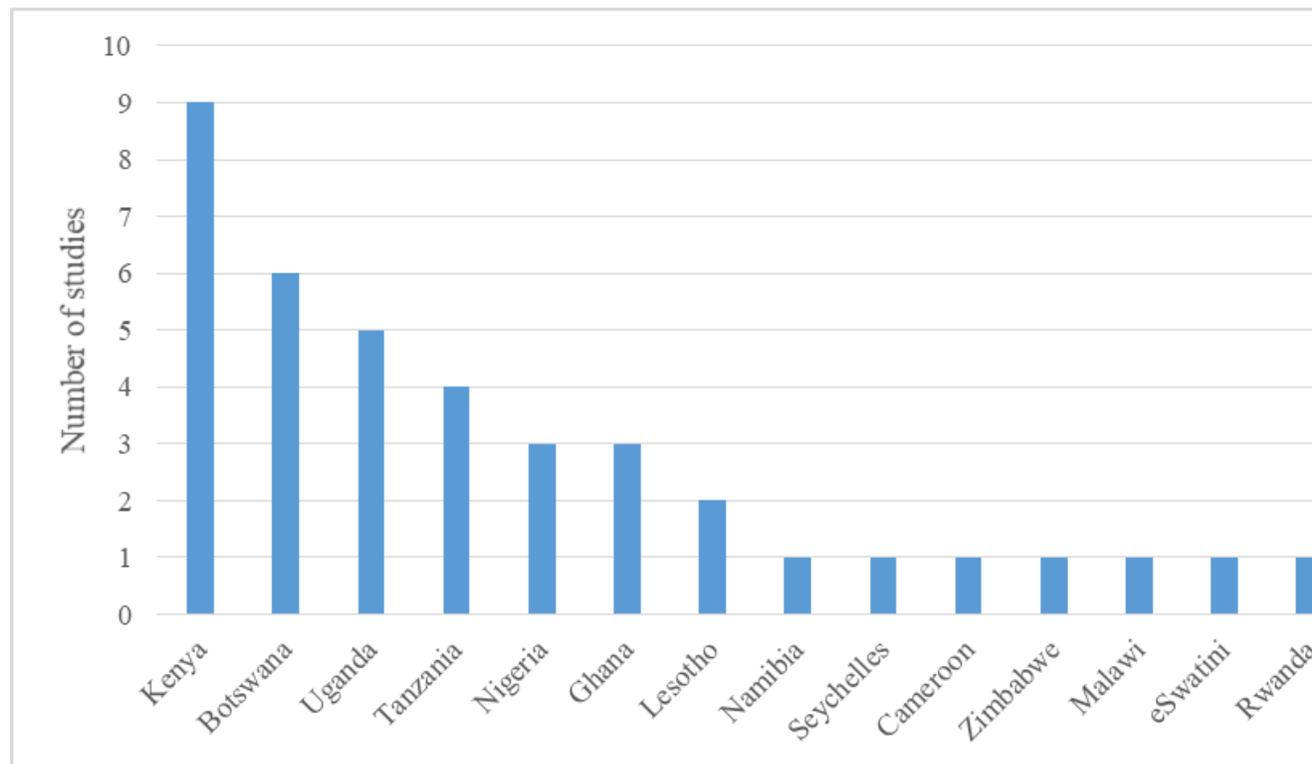
- African Education Research Database (AERD): written by at least one researcher based in the region
- 48 countries in the region, except for South Africa
- cataloged with the keyword “disability”
- english language articles only
- analysis took place in Jan 2020

Focus of articles

Of the 1,650 articles, 87 were catalogued with the keyword 'disability' (5.3%)

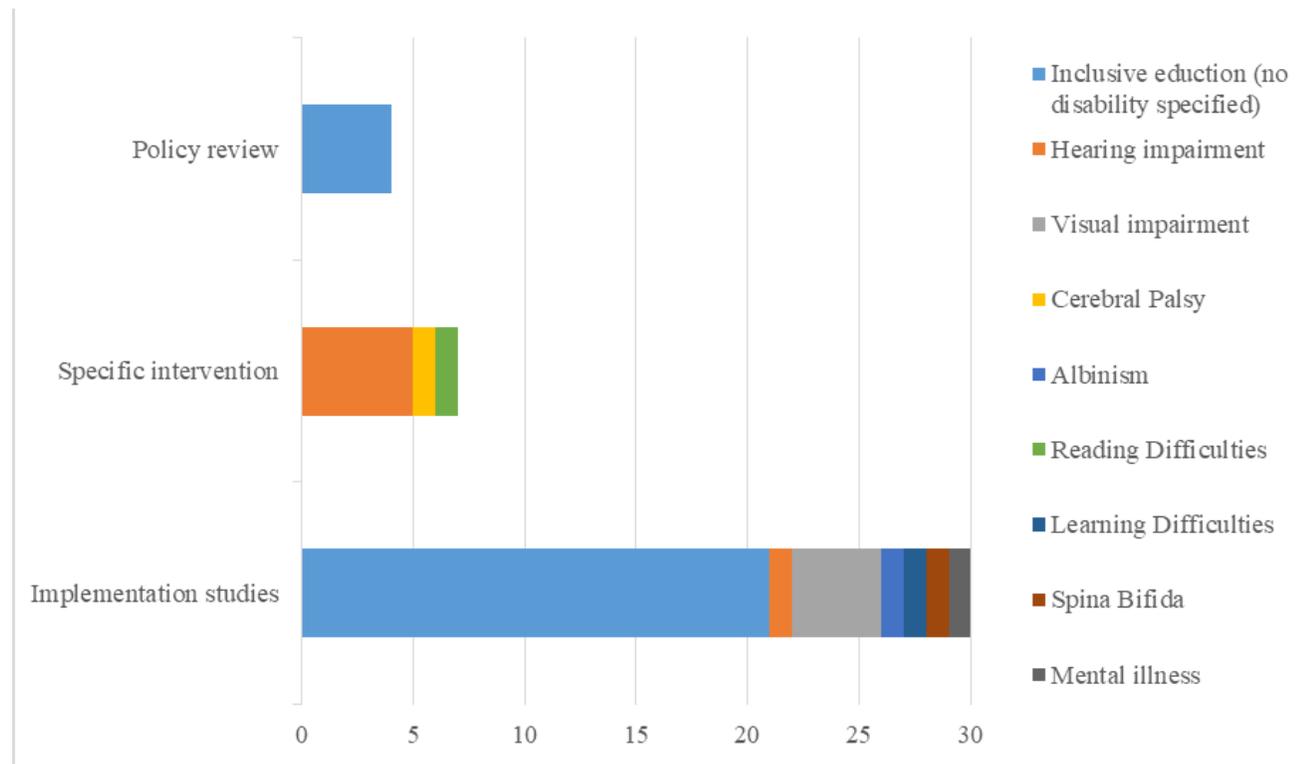
	# of studies	% of total
Early childhood education	7	8.0
Primary education	39	44.8
Secondary education	23	26.4
Higher education	19	21.8

Country wise distribution



- Research is concentrated in fewer nations; 7 countries- just one paper
- 14/39 written solely by SSA based authors: single authored (9) and collaborations within the region (5)

Type of research and disability focus



- Policy reviews (4)
- Testing the efficacy of specific interventions (6)
- Implementation of inclusive education (28)

Research focus, stake holder groups and methods

Implementation studies

- Large scale quantitative= 3
- Small scale quantitative = 5
- Qualitative methods= 19
- Mixed methods= 1

Attitudes, beliefs and
experiences (12)

Parents (2)

Family/community (3)

Teachers (5)

Children (2)

Teachers and teaching (15)

Teacher knowledge (3)

Teaching practice (10)

Teacher training (2)

Interactions between different stakeholder groups (5)

Outcomes
for CwD (1)

Moving forward: recurring themes

- Need to develop contextualized understandings of inclusive education
- Adopt systems level change
- Include voices of children with disabilities
- Identify and adopt local strategies

Questions we pose in the report

- Whose voice counts—both in relation to the focus of the research and within the research process itself?
- Where and how do partnerships (South-North; South-South) manifest?
- What are the theoretical and ethical underpinnings of current scholarship?