

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

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# 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?

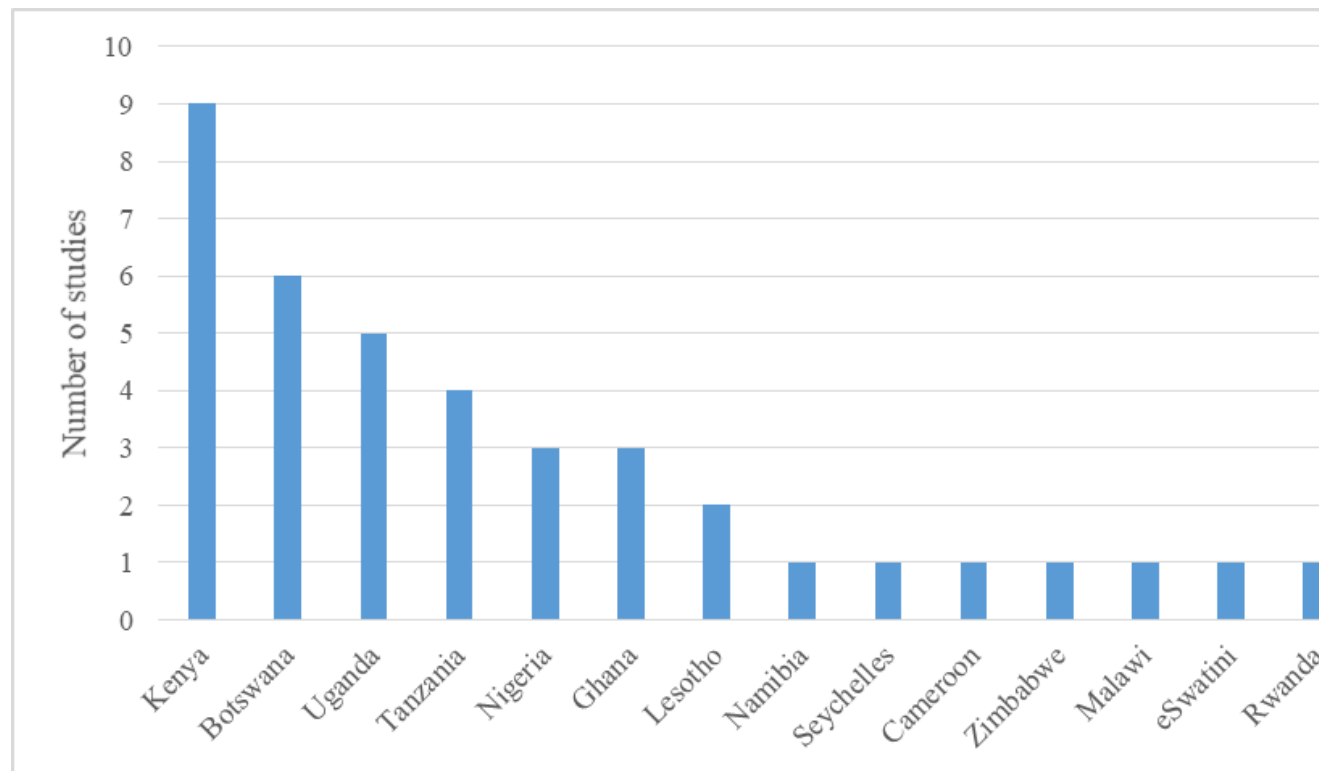
- African Education Research Database (AERD): written by at least one researcher based in the region
- 48 countries in the region, except for South Africa
- cataloged with the keyword “disability”
- english language articles only
- analysis took place in Jan 2020

# Focus of articles

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

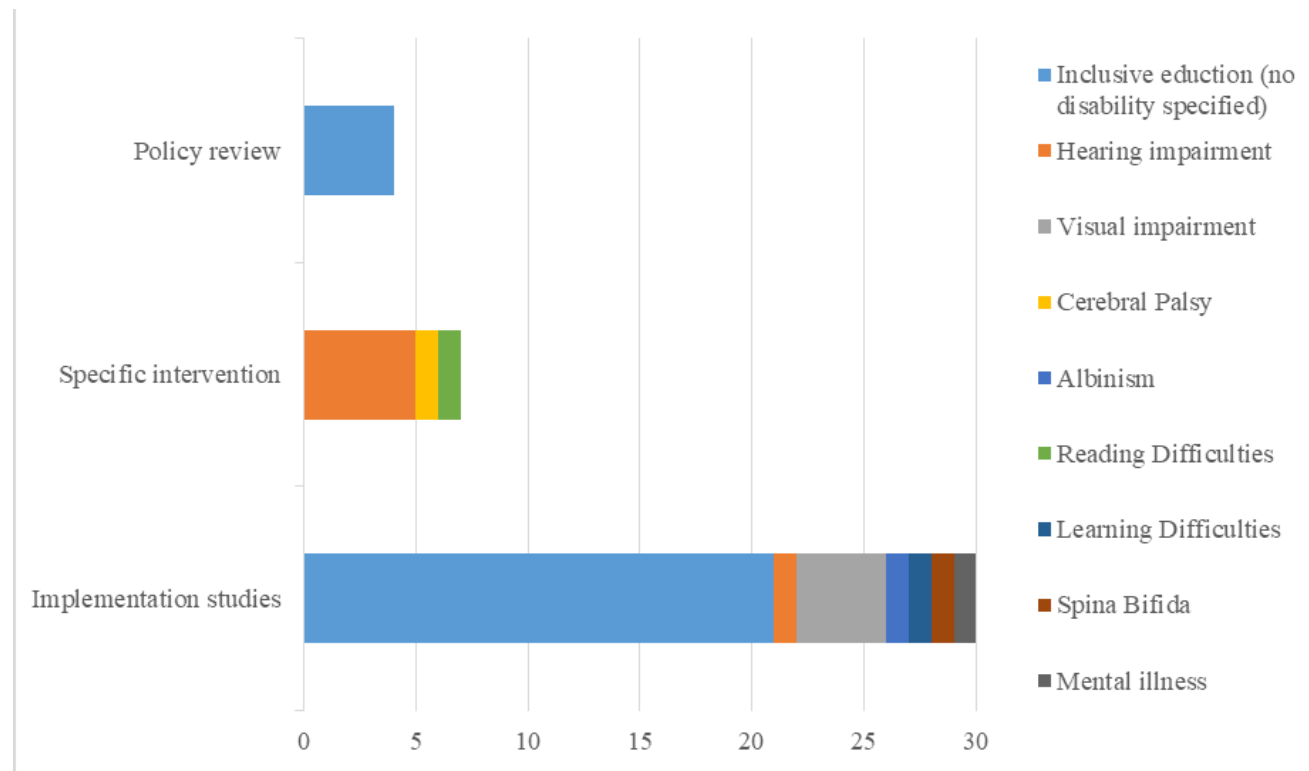
	# of studies	% of total
Early childhood education	7	8.0
Primary education	<b>39</b>	<b>44.8</b>
Secondary education	23	26.4
Higher education	19	21.8

# 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?