



## Washington Group Workgroups

The WG's mission and adopted work plan, decided upon by all WG members, is carried out by workgroups constituted to address specific tasks related to disability measurement, methodologies and implementation. Workgroup membership is voluntary and currently restricted to WG members.

Listed below are currently operating workgroups along with summaries of completed products and ongoing work. Also listed are workgroups that have completed their work. Several of the current and recently retired WG workgroups have evolved from workgroups established during the early years of the WG. In particular, workgroups on implementation and methodological issues have transitioned into the workgroups on specific tool development and analysis respectively. These Foundation Workgroups are acknowledged at the end of this document.

All WG members are grateful for the effort of workgroup members without whom the WG would not be able to function.

To find out more about these workgroups, please contact the WG Secretariat.

### Current WG Workgroups and Leaders;

#### Analysis Workgroup / United States

- Completed products
  - Documentation produced:
    - Determination of Disability Status Indicators for all WG tools - WG-SS, WG-SS Enhanced, WG-ES;
    - Associated analytic syntax to generate these indicators in SPSS, SAS, Stata and CSPro.
    - The documentation mentioned above for each WG tool and each software package is available at the Analysis dropdown menu on the WG Homepage: <http://www.washingtongroup-disability.com/>
    - Collaborated with UNICEF on the development of analytic guidelines for the CFM (see below).
- Ongoing work
  - Development of analytic products:
    - Guidance documents and analytic guidelines on generating disability identifiers based on more than a single cutoff (severity identifiers) and on developing indicators for reporting domain specific functioning and functioning across the multiplicity of domains.

### Child Functioning & Inclusive Education Workgroup / United States (previously Canada and Italy)

- Completed products
  - The Child Functioning Workgroup, in close collaboration with UNICEF, has developed the Child Functioning Module (CFM) for children 2-4 and 5-17 years of age. The CFM is available here: <https://www.wg.lldev.co.uk/question-sets/wgunicef-child-functioning-module-cfm/>
  - With the Analysis Workgroup, the Child Functioning Workgroup assisted in the production of documentation on determination of Disability Status Indicators for the CFM; and associated analytic syntax to generate these indicators [currently] in SPSS, Stata. These documents and guidelines are available here:
    - <https://www.wg.lldev.co.uk/analysis/wgunicef-child-functioning-module-cfm-2-4-syntax/>
    - <https://www.wg.lldev.co.uk/analysis/wgunicef-child-functioning-module-cfm-5-17-syntax/>
  - The Child Functioning Workgroup has also contributed to the production of guidelines and background documentation for successful implementation of the CFM. Available at: UNICEF/CFM link at external website: <https://data.unicef.org/topic/child-disability/module-on-child-functioning/>
- Ongoing work
  - The Child Functioning Workgroup is currently working to finalize a survey module on Inclusive Education for all children that, with the CFM for identification of disability status, will address environmental barriers to education. These may be physical barriers to access or barriers associated with school curriculum and learning, finances available for education or attitudes towards education. A separate sub-module will look at reasons that a child may be out of school.
  - The Child Functioning Workgroup is also collaborating with other partners [Humanity and Inclusion, World Bank, UNICEF and USAID] to adapt the CFM for use among teachers in classroom settings. It is anticipated that a Teacher Version of the CFM [CFM-TV] could eventually be incorporated into Education Management Information Systems [EMIS]

### Psychosocial Functioning and Mental Health Workgroup/ South Africa and Italy

- Ongoing work
  - The Psychosocial Functioning and Mental Health Workgroup is currently working on:
    - Testing selected questions to ensure inclusion of people with psychosocial disability in surveys.
    - Reviewing the cognitive testing protocol for further interviews including in languages other than English
    - Developing suggestions for a brief module of questions on psychosocial disability that can be included in surveys.
    - finalizing a review of the literature on activity limitations commonly associated with psychosocial disability/severe mental illness
- Completed products:
  - The Psychosocial Functioning and Mental Health Workgroup has developed an initial cognitive testing protocol for the selected questions and completed a first round of interviews in English in Cape Town, South Africa, and produced a report on this testing,

- Analysis of the Affect questions to determine optimal cutoff points (presented at the 16<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the WG)
- Conducted a literature review to determine which functioning domains are missing in the current SS and ES (presented at the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> annual meetings of the WG).

#### Administrative Data Workgroup / United States and South Africa

- Ongoing work
  - The Administrative Data Workgroup is currently completing the first draft of a harmonized framework for the collection of disability data across administrative data systems in South Africa. It is anticipated that the framework will be tested in South Africa by September/October 2020.

#### Environmental Factors and Participation Workgroup / Kenya (previously United States)

- Ongoing work
  - The Environmental Factors and Participation Workgroup is currently developing objectives, terms of reference and trying to figure out what to start with among the many issues under the environment and participation.

### **Retired WG Workgroups and Leaders;**

#### Workgroup on General Measures / United States

- Developed, tested and finalized a short modules for census and surveys:
  - WG Short Set on Functioning (WG-SS) <https://www.wg.lldev.co.uk/question-sets/wg-short-set-on-functioning-wg-ss/>

#### Workgroup on Extended Measures / Netherlands, South Africa and United States

- Developed, tested and finalized extended modules on functioning for surveys:
  - WG Extended Set on Functioning (WG-ES) <https://www.wg.lldev.co.uk/question-sets/wg-extended-set-on-functioning-wg-es/>
  - WG Short Set on Functioning – Enhanced (WG-SS Enhanced) <https://www.wg.lldev.co.uk/question-sets/wg-short-set-on-functioning-%e2%80%93-enhanced-wg-ss-enhanced/>

#### Disability Module for Labor Force Surveys Workgroup / United States

- In close collaboration with the International Labor Organization (ILO), the WG/ILO Labor Force Surveys Disability Module (LFS-DM) was developed, tested and finalized. <https://www.wg.lldev.co.uk/question-sets/wg-ilo-labor-force-survey-disability-module-lfs-dm/>

### **Foundation Workgroups and Leaders;**

The following workgroups were initiated in 2004 and made significant contributions during the early years of the Washington Group. With time, these workgroups have evolved into the groups described above. Their contributions laid the foundation for the Washington Group's products that followed:

- Workgroup on General Measures / United States
- Workgroup on Extended Measures / Netherlands
- Workgroup on Implementation / Kenya
- Workgroup on Methodological Issues / United Kingdom