

Global Reporting on Rehabilitation Indicators WHO Member States data collection and reporting

November 2026 – January 2027

Concept note

Background

In 2021, an estimated 2.6 billion individuals were living with a health condition that would benefit from rehabilitation, contributing to 310 million years of healthy life lost due to disability (YLD). This number has increased by 63% from 1990 to 2019¹. At least 2.5 billion people need assistive products and this is expected to increase to 3.5 billion by 2050². Many people, however, have limited access to the required rehabilitation services, in particular in low- and middle-income countries³.

In 2017, WHO launched Rehabilitation2030, a call for concerted action to address the profound unmet need for rehabilitation services. This initiative sets in stone 10 priority domains of action to strengthen health systems for rehabilitation. It was followed by the endorsement of the World Health Assembly (WHA) Resolution 76.6 “Strengthening rehabilitation in health systems” in May 2023, which urges countries “to expand rehabilitation to all levels of care, from primary to tertiary, and to ensure the availability and affordability of quality and timely rehabilitation services”⁴. The resolution also requests the Director-General of WHO to develop, with input from Member States, a baseline report with information on the capacity of Member States to respond to existing and foreseeable rehabilitation needs, to report on the implementation of the resolution at the World Health Assembly and to develop a feasible global health system rehabilitation target and indicator for effective coverage of rehabilitation services.

Global Rehabilitation Indicators

The WHO Rehabilitation Programme has conducted a Member State consultation from November 2024 till March 2025 for the development of a set of indicators for global reporting on rehabilitation, including for assistive products provision. The data collected and reported for these indicators will form the basis for developing the WHO global baseline report requested by WHA Resolution 76.6 and for reporting on the implementation of the Resolution. In an effort to maximize international

¹ Cieza A, Causey K, Kamenov K, et al. Global estimates of the need for rehabilitation based on the Global Burden of Disease study 2019: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019. *Lancet*. 2021; 396(10267):2006-17.

² Global report on assistive technology. World health Organization, Geneva. May 2022.

³ Kamenov K, Mills JA, Chatterji S, et al. Needs and unmet needs for rehabilitation services: a scoping review. *Disabil Rehabil*. 2019;41(10):1227-37.

⁴ <https://www.who.int/news/item/27-05-2023-landmark-resolution-on-strengthening-rehabilitation-in-health-systems>

comparability, this set of rehabilitation indicators is focusing on the reporting for core aspects of health system building blocks (Annex 1).

Mechanism for WHO Member States data collection and reporting

Member States, are invited to collect, report, and validate the data that are required to populate the Global Rehabilitation Indicators. The mechanism for WHO Member States data collection and reporting will include the following steps:

1/ Country readiness: regional webinars will be organized by WHO in *October 2026* to present about the Global Rehabilitation Indicators and the survey, timeline, the reporting infrastructure and available guidance (including a manual for reporting and follow-up clinics to provide closer guidance to countries where needed).

2/ Country data collection: country data collection for the rehabilitation indicators occurs from *November 2026 till January 2027*. Dependent on country requirements for data collection, WHO guidance can be made available.

3/ Country data reporting and validation: Ministries of Health are invited to access their corresponding country reporting form in Dataform. Following data submission *by latest January 2027*, data assessment and cleaning will be done by WHO. Data sources for verification will be requested. Validation happens by the Ministry of Health focal point following WHO's assessment and returning the submitted and cleaned data for validation.

Objectives

1. To explain the process of data collection and reporting for the Global Rehabilitation Indicators, and learn about country requirements
2. To support Member States with the data collection and reporting process
3. To validate reported data

Member State request

Member States, are invited to collect, report, and validate the data that are required to populate the Global Rehabilitation Indicators. WHO, through its corresponding regional and country offices, is kindly requesting Ministries of Health to assign a focal person *by latest September 2026*. This person would be responsible for reporting on the global rehabilitation survey and will be invited to a preparatory webinar in October 2026.