



Wheelchair Educators' Package: A Tool to Enhance Wheelchair Education Globally

August 30, 2022



Agenda

- Welcome and Introduction to Speakers
- Overview of Wheelchair Educators' Package (WEP)
- WEP Demonstration
- Brief note from speakers:
 - Samantha Shann, *WFOT President*
 - Claude Tardif, *ISPO President*
 - Eric Sorita, *Professor at the University of Bordeaux, France*
 - Samuel Pouplin, *Researcher at University of Versailles Saint Quentin, France*
 - Rosie Gowran, *Professor at University of Limerick, Ireland*
 - Lori Rosenberg, *Professor at Hebrew University, Israel*
- Official launch
- Q&A

ISWP Background: 2015 to Date



- **Mission:** Serve as a global resource for wheelchair service standards and provision through advocacy, education, standards, evidence-based practice, innovation and a platform for information exchange.
- **Vision:** All people who need wheeled mobility devices receive the appropriate products and services with dignity, enabling them to access education, employment and health care and to participate in their communities.
- **Funding:** ~\$6M USAID grant funded, housed at the University of Pittsburgh; some other grants and donations
- 5 active Working Groups and Subcommittees, 100s+ volunteers: Integration, Academic Training Partners, Educators' Package, Competency, Product Standards



Our Activities in a Nutshell



Overview of the WEP

Background

Sector Goal

By 2023, 10 countries have new or strengthened evidence-based, adequately-resourced, integrated wheelchair services supported by policies, **competent personnel**, and a range of appropriate wheelchairs.

Support Competency Development

Develop a **competent workforce** of multi-sectoral wheelchair service personnel through the establishment of regional training centers that utilize existing and newly developed resources.

Wheelchair Educators Package

- *Technical experts*
- *End-users*
- *Experts in assessing evidence*
- *A cross-section of professions from diverse settings.*

Wheelchair Stakeholders Meeting 2018



Sector Goal: By 2023, 10 countries will have new or strengthened evidence-based, adequately resourced, integrated services supported by policies, **competent personnel**, and a range of appropriate wheelchairs.

Priority Action Item: Support competency development



ISWP
WHEELCHAIR
EDUCATORS'
PACKAGE

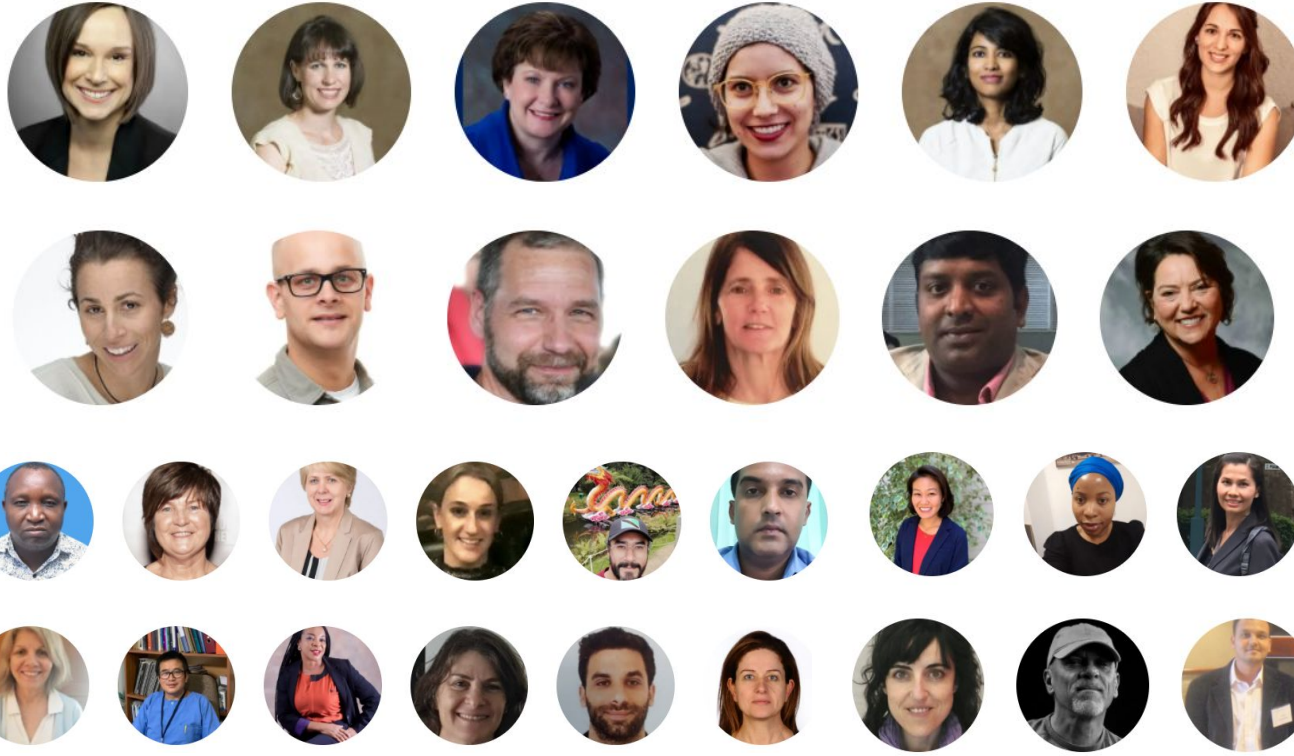
WEP Scope

Purpose: to guide the integration of wheelchair service provision education into professional rehabilitation academic programs and regional training centers as a sustainable wheelchair workforce development strategy.

Target audience: educators in academic & regional training centers from high-, medium- and low-income settings.

Focus: **'how to'** integrate wheelchair content and guidance on content itself.

WEP Development Team

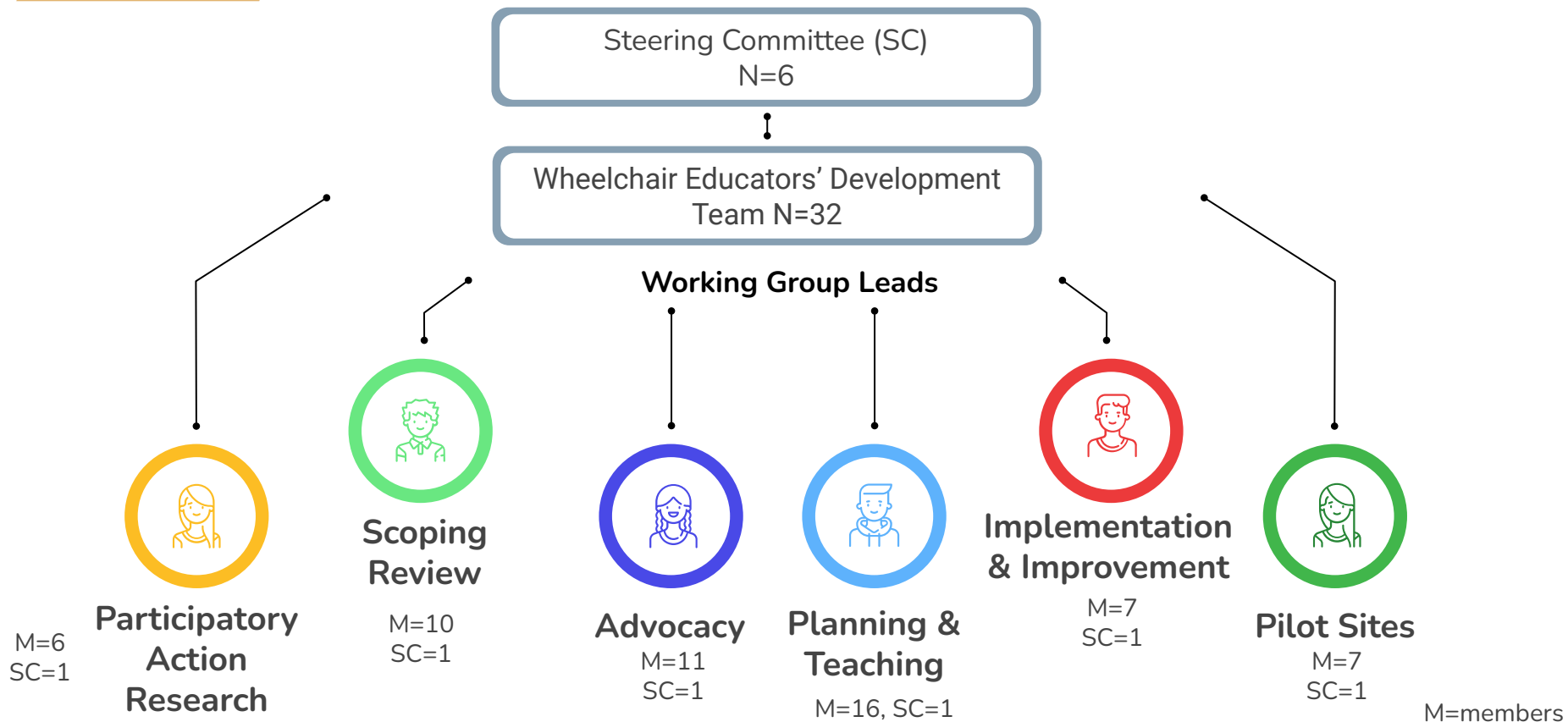


>70 responses - 32 members

>16 languages

9 professions (OT=15; PT=6; Education experts=4; P&O=4; Biomedical engineer=1; physiatrist=2; OT students=3; PT student=1; WCU=1; computer science & engineering=1)

Organizational Structure

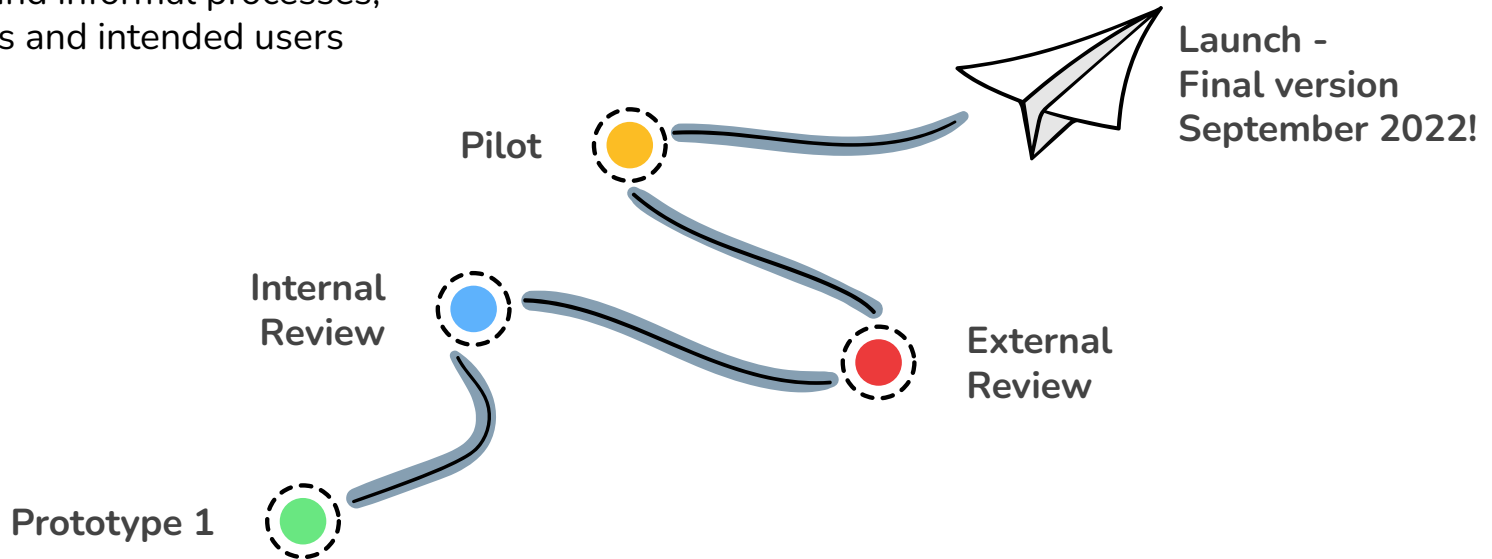


WEP Development Process

WEP refinements

Iterative process of collecting feedback from:

- Formal and informal processes,
- Members and intended users



WEP Impact

Inform the
wheelchair
sector

Support the
sector's goal
(2023)



Support
competency
development

Support good
practice

Message from ISWP's Leadership



Dr. Jon Pearlman (Associate Professor at University of Pittsburgh) and Dr. Mary Goldberg (Associate Professor at University of Pittsburgh)

WEP Demo