Support, Assistance Required, and Training Courses

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Who renders assistance? (1)

• Support for persons with disability (493) is mostly received from families

• Help from other sources includes:
  ▪ Neighbours (112 persons)
  ▪ Government Entities (112 persons)
  ▪ Church Organisations (43 persons)
  ▪ Non-governmental entities (36 persons), and
  ▪ Private Companies (24 persons).
Who renders assistance? (2)

- Only 70 respondents do not need help from family members,
- 408 respondents do not need assistance from private companies.
- 307 respondents do not need assistance from governmental entities
- 380 do not need assistance from NGOs
- 388 do not need assistance from Church organisations
Paid and unpaid assistance

• The majority (56%) received assistance which is not against payment

• 29.8% pay for the services out of their pockets, while the rest mentioned that the cost of services are shouldered by family members, government or other entities.
Willingness to pay for services, including at subsidized prices

- 55.5% are not ready to pay in order to have more personal assistance.
  - An almost equal number of respondents were undecided, and those who were willing to pay for more personal assistance services.

- At a subsidised price, lesser respondents were against paying for more personal assistance.
  - Lesser people were undecided on the issue (18.8%), and more respondents were willing to pay for more personal assistance services at subsidized prices (37.8%).
  - The majority were also against payment for more services at a subsidized price (43.3%).
Need for Assistive Equipment

- Availability of assistive equipment:
  - The highest (238 persons) have personal care assistive equipment.
  - 182 persons claim they have assistive equipment facilitating outdoor mobility.
  - The lowest (10 persons) have assistive equipment at the place of work.

- Need of assistive equipment:
  - The highest in demand was personal care equipment - 33 respondents.
  - This was followed by assistive equipment facilitating outdoor mobility - 29 respondents.
  - The lowest reported was on assistive technology to use at work - 7 respondents.

- Waiting lists: Very few respondents indicated that they were in waiting lists for assistive equipment.
Need for Assistive Equipment

• Personal care assistive equipment was the lowest, reported with just one respondent claiming as being on a waiting list.
• The highest reported were those on:
  ▪ outdoor mobility equipment (4),
  ▪ communicative equipment (4), and
  ▪ other equipment (4).

• Not in need: Figures were high in general, with the highest reported being for assistive equipment to be used at work (581).
• The lowest reported was for personal care assistive equipment (328).
Cost of Assistive Equipment

• 33% percent of respondents do not use any form of assistive equipment, while 42% of respondents paid for their own equipment.

• There were also respondents who mentioned that the equipment was free (13.5%) and that the equipment was subsidized (17.8%).
Training courses and payments for such courses (1)

• Most popular courses:
  - 57 claimed that they have learnt how to use the internet, and 66 claimed that they have learnt how to use a PC.
  - 68 respondents claimed that they need to learn how to use a PC, and 64 respondents claimed that they need to learn how to use internet.

• Orientation and mobility course:
  - Only 5 respondents claimed that they have attended such course
  - 20 respondents who felt the need for such course.
Training courses and payments for such courses (2)

- Alternative communication courses
  - Having attended such courses:
    - 3 respondents (Maltese Sign Language),
    - 5 respondents (lip-reading),
    - 10 respondents (Braille)
  - Need to attend such courses:
    - 8 respondents (Maltese Sign Language),
    - 10 respondents each (lip-reading and Braille).

- Payment of courses: 35 respondents claimed that they have paid for the course/s they attended, while 45 respondents claimed that the course was free/subsidized.
Alternative formats of information

- Most popular: Printed material in large font (84 respondents), followed by Easy-to-read information (67 respondents).

- Thirty respondents mentioned their preference to access material in electronic format.