

Link to the Innovation Community website: <https://cebe.ur.ac.rw/innovationcommunity>

1 Purpose of the East African Innovation Community (IC) in Digital Rehabilitation

- The IC is established to enhance the access to rehabilitation and increase the quality of rehabilitation via the use of technologies.
- In addition, the IC ensures that the East African community is involved in the work from the beginning, ensuring that all aspects are discussed, and solutions found together.
- The IC is a platform for connecting, collaborating, experience sharing, innovating, and learning.

2 The goals for the IC

- Main goal of the IC is to promote equitable access to rehabilitation services through digitalization of the industry.
- The IC aims to advocate, influence, and support the policymakers via sharing knowledge.
- The IC aims to enhance the level of knowledge on digital rehabilitation and support conjoined efforts to increase the amount of evidence-based information on digital rehabilitation by offering opportunities for co-creation, mentorships, networks, and research.

3 Ways of working in the IC

- The general meeting of the IC is held online once in two months. In addition, separate subgroup meetings (e.g., for research) can be held additionally. In case of urgent issues, additional general meetings can be held.
- The Innovation Community Advisory Board (ICAB) will meet monthly. The Advisory Board consists of stakeholders from different backgrounds and professions. All East African RADIC partners have appointed members for the ICAB.
- The IC WhatsApp Community is established to ensure a constant possibility for discussion, experience sharing and spreading information.
- The IC aims to collaborate with different institutions, such as research industries, businesses, government agencies and other advocacy organizations.
- The IC nourishes open discussions and advocates for collaboration and knowledge sharing between all members of the IC.
- The IC organizes regular events, such as online workshops and conferences. These can be included in the general meetings.
- The IC shares educational materials, scientific knowledge and disseminates research and development work results, with the aim promote the use digital solutions in rehabilitation.

The data for forming the purpose, goals and ways of working was gathered via crowdsourcing in IC general meeting held on the 10th of May 2024 and analyzed via thematic analysis to prepare the synthesis.