# THEME: EMPLOYMENT AND LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT

SUB-THEME: SKILLS AND TRAINING



PRESENTED TO:

UNITAR

### AREA OF FOCUS:

EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES IN AFRICA TO ACQUIRE MARKETABLE DIGITAL SKILLS, ENHANCING THEIR EMPLOYABILITY AND FOSTERING FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE.



**Executive Summary** 

Disabilities Statistics

Targeted Categories of Disabled

Importance of Empowering the Disabled Challenges faced by the Disabled in Acquiring Digital Skills

Addressing Barriers

Solutions for Bridging the Digital Skills for the Disabled

Conclusion

### CONTENTS

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

## Empowering Individuals with Disabilities for Equitable Employment



Identifying and providing essential abilities training



Offering necessary resources for employment Ensuring Financial Self-Reliance through Essential Abilities and Resources



Overcoming employment barriers



Achieving financial self-reliance through meaningful careers

### DISABILITY STATISTICS



1. 1.3 billion people experience significant disability (16% of world's population)



 Some persons with disabilities die up to
 years earlier



3. Official government statistics report 2–5% disability in Africa, but in some countries it is likely closer to 20–22%



4. About forty percent of Africa's population consists of people with disabilities, including 10–15 percent of school-age children



5. Traditional beliefs about the causes of disability remain prevalent across sub-Saharan Africa



80

million Africans, including those with mental health conditions and birth defects, are disabled Four Main Categories of Disabilities we

aim to serve



Behavioural or emotional disabilities



Physical disabilities



Sensory impaired disorders



Developmental disabilities





## EMPOWERING DISABLED INDIVIDUALS IN AFRICA: Why it is crucial



Human Rights and Dignity: Upholding fundamental rights, equal opportunities, and inclusivity



Economic
Development:
Contributing
to economic
growth
and prosperity



Education and Knowledge: Ensuring equal access to quality education



Legal and Policy Frameworks: Supporting legal protections and inclusive policies



Social Inclusion: Breaking down barriers and fostering inclusive communities



Health and Well-being: Improving access to healthcare and mental health support



Cultural and Attitudinal Shift: Challenging stereotypes and fostering acceptance



Alignment with Global Development Goals: Contributing to SDGs 4, 8, and 10

## CHALLENGES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES IN ACQUIRING DIGITAL SKILLS



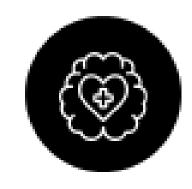
Accessibility: Online courses lack features for visual or hearing impairments



Physical Access: Mobility impairments limit access to training spaces and equipment



Technological Hurdles: Costly assistive technologies and compatibility issues



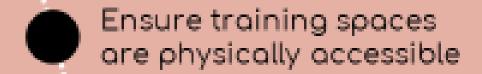
Social and Psychological Barriers: Stigma and discrimination hinder skill development



### ADDRESSING BARRIERS

Promoting Inclusivity in Education and Technology

Prioritize accessibility in digital content and platforms



Challenge stereotypes

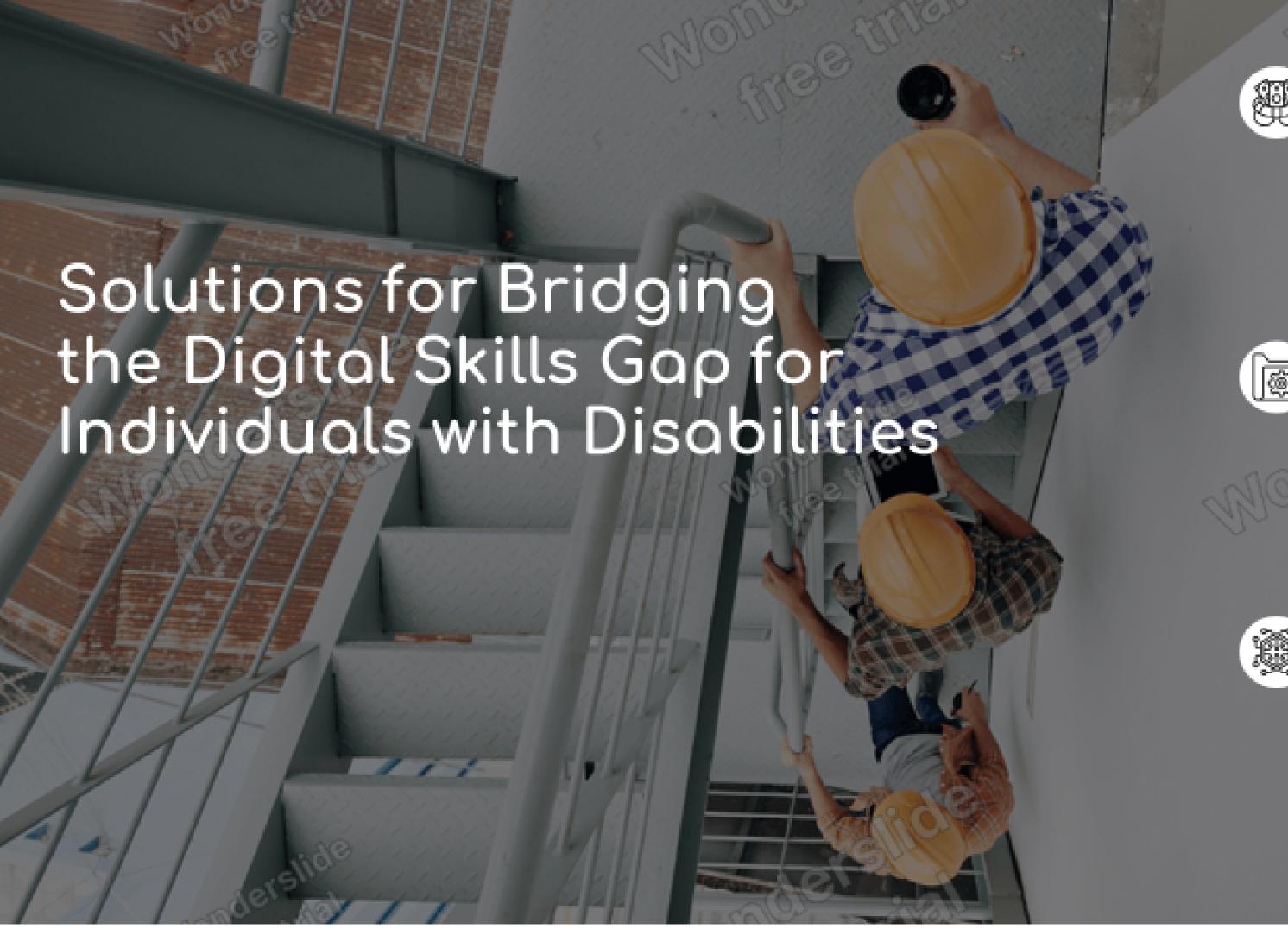
Offer remote learning options

Promote diversity

Provide resources for assistive technologies

Foster a supportive environment

Promote compatibility





Collaboration: **Stakeholders** collaborate to create accessible training programs, financial support, and mentorship



Inclusion Strategies: Design inclusive hiring practices and promote representation



Creating Inclusive Environments: Raise awareness and advocate for individuals with disabilities in the digital economy