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(Dis)Empowering research(ers) through co-creation? Reconfiguring Researcher Identity

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PROJECT AIM

'RED Framework – Cocreating Rights Enabled by Design [RED] for IoT in Intellectual Disability'

Addresses How 'The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities' (CRPD) can be integrated into *design practices* and the *Internet of Things* (IoT), focusing specifically on applications in *intellectual disability* (ID).

TEAM



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Project Collaborators:

i University College Cork, Queens University Belfast and 'Praxis Care'.

Why the 'RED FRAMEWORK' Project?

IoT is TRANSFORMATIONAL for People with Intellectual Disability yet...

Digital Technology Design for IoT overlooks People with Intellectual Disability

(Egard & Hansson, 2021)

Technology Designers lack Knowledge + Skillsets in integrating the 'CRPD' into design



OBJECTIVE

Help Researchers who Design Technologies for IoT to be Inclusive to People with ID

Methodology + Methods

Participatory Design

Co-Creation Workshops Involving:

Research Team: Co-Researchers with ID, STEM + Social Science Researchers.

Participants: STEM + Social Science Researchers.

Participants: People with ID.

Empowering research(ers) through Co-Creation?

Participatory Design Is Inclusive
"Users, designers, and researchers collaborate toward shared goals"

(Bødker et al., 2021. p.3)



Commitment to Democracy

Empowerment Concern

Emancipatory Practices

All humans Skilful & Resourceful

(Bødker et al., 2021)

Address Research(ers) Power Imbalances

Academic Cultural Shift: Researchers with ID contribute to be **abstract** tasks (e.g. theory building) along with practical.

(Stevenson (2014) in Di Lorito, et al., 2018)

Facilitating and empowering researchers with ID may be difficult as people with ID can be accustomed to cultures **unsupportive of their independent thinking**

(Di Lorito, et al., 2018)

To empower and accommodate co-researchers with ID, and benefit stakeholders, there is a need for **adequate infrastructure**

(Di Lorito et al, 2018)

Empowering co-researchers with ID surrounding their **control of the process of research and findings reporting** can be problematic. Complying with co-researcher **choices and interests** can be beneficial (e.g. research location, problems & participants).

(Cwirynkato et al., 2024)

A need for increased focus upon how **co-researchers with ID voices** can be heard within the context of formal academia.

(Strnadová and Walmsley, 2018)

Expected Outputs

Novel Framework
Mapping Inclusive Design Practice to 'CRPD'

Learning Module/Toolkit
Inclusive Design for IoT technology

Seal of Quality Tool
Designers self-assess their Practice

Methodological Innovation
In Co-Creation Methods

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