

# Disability Rights Fund & Disability Rights Advocacy Fund

DISABILITY RIGHTS FUND

DISABILITY RIGHTS ADVOCACY FUND

89 South Street, Suite 203  
Boston, MA 02111



Handcycle being used in Gulu, Northern Uganda.



## Advancing Rights for All



Australian Government  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



ANNUAL REPORT  
2013

“Most funding that goes to address disability, does so from a charity or a medical perspective, and is usually directed by international NGOs. The Disability Rights Fund turns that model on its head. We provide resources directly to disabled peoples organizations for rights advocacy work.”

—Diana Samarasan DRF Founding Executive Director

“DRF has played a commendable role with the DPOs (Disabled Persons Organizations), particularly vis-a-vis their capacity to articulate their demands and advocate for rights. The donor sector is hearing the views of organizations that never before would have had the confidence to speak at the national level. This is an excellent change for the country.”

—Donor in Bangladesh

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Photography is by Andy Isaacson, photographer/journalist.

**Cover Photo** Grantee CADRE (Centre for Action for Disabled Rights and Empwerment) members participate in a march for rights in Bhadrachalam in the Khamam District of Telangana, India.

## Advancing Rights: Disability Rights Fund and Disability Rights Advocacy Fund Annual Report 2013

This report celebrates the 2013 achievements of the Disability Rights Fund (DRF) and the Disability Rights Advocacy Fund (DRAF). As we reflect on the year, the DRF and DRAF Boards and staff applaud the collective work of our outstanding grantee organizations led by and for persons with disabilities—209 of them in all, spanning 29 countries around the globe!

Through funding that emphasizes those on the margins, our unique participatory grantmaking model—led by and for persons with disabilities—is changing the lives of people with disabilities, their communities and their governments around the world.

Just a few examples of our impact:

- When new regulations about domestic violence were developed in **Bangladesh**, women with disabilities were specifically included.
- The **Ugandan** government acknowledged that Little People are part of the community of people with disabilities—opening up their access to services and legal protections.
- In **Lebanon**, a 3% employment quota that was ignored is finally providing meaningful employment for people with disabilities.
- In one of our newest countries, **Haiti**, we catalyzed the formation of the very first organization of women with disabilities in Southern Haiti (Les Cayes).

- Lastly, indigenous leaders with disabilities formed a disability caucus at the **U.N. Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**, setting in motion their inclusion in global and national development planning in which they had previously been invisible.

Throughout this report, we share other examples of how our grantees are tapping the power of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Our structure, combining the skills of activists with disabilities and donors, allows DRF/DRAF to engage in efficient and informed grantmaking that has demonstrated tremendous impact—limited only by the resources we have available.

*We share our many successes with you here—knowing that we have so much more to accomplish. We thank all of those who have supported our work, and invite others to join us as we seek to extend our impact.*



Diana Samarasan  
Founding Executive  
Director



William Rowland  
Board Co-Chair



Catherine Townsend  
Board Co-Chair

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# Grantees Advancing Rights Around the World

## GLOBAL

### International Disability Alliance

DRAF Strategic Partnership Grant: To raise the voice of indigenous persons with disabilities globally by creating a caucus of indigenous persons with disabilities in the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; establishing a global network of indigenous persons with disabilities; and participating in the September 2013 High Level Meeting on Disability and Development and the 2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

## PERU

### Sociedad Peruana de Síndrome de Down

DRAF Small Grant: To improve the ability of self-advocates with intellectual disabilities to defend their right to legal capacity and to advocate for implementation of this right through changes in legislation.

## HAITI

### Reseau Association National pour l'Integration des Personnes Handicapees

DRF Mid-Level Coalition Grant: To promote implementation of inclusive education in the southern region of Haiti, as outlined in the new national Disability Act, and to establish an organization of women with disabilities to promote their rights in this region.

## NICARAGUA

### Federación Nicaragüense de Asociaciones de Personas con Discapacidad

DRAF National Coalition Grant: To ensure creation of the National Council on Disability, as mandated in the new national Disability Act, and to continue to advocate for the government to issue their State Report to the CRPD Committee.

## FIJI

### Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation

DRF Small Grant: To establish Fiji's first national organization for parents of persons with intellectual disabilities and persons with intellectual disabilities themselves to insure their inclusion in rights advocacy.

## SOLOMON ISLANDS

### Disabled Peoples' Association of Solomon Islands

DRAF Small Grant: To strengthen the capacity of self-help groups of people with disabilities at provincial level to participate in consultations on a draft Disability Rights Bill.

## PAPUA NEW GUINEA

### Gulf Province Disabled Persons Organisation

DRF Small Grant: To advance understanding of the CRPD and advocacy for its implementation among persons with disabilities in the Gulf Province, a very remote part of Papua New Guinea.

## INDONESIA

### Perhimpunan Jiwa Sehat

DRF Small Grant: To use the media to address stigma, which often leads to detention of people with psychosocial disabilities in horrible conditions.

## BANGLADESH

### Access Bangladesh Foundation

DRF National Coalition Grant: To lead advocacy for inclusion of persons with disabilities in governmental budgets at the divisional and district levels in Chittagong and Barisal.

## INDIA

### Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Centre

DRF National Coalition Grant: To strengthen the new national network of women with disabilities and support a submission, with other mainstream women's organizations, to CEDAW, noting rights violations against women with disabilities.

## UKRAINE

### Generation of Successful Action—Volyn Branch

DRF Small Grant: To identify gaps in accessibility in the Oblast transportation system and to establish the right of persons with disabilities, in particular persons with visual impairments, to access medical and social services.

## UGANDA

### Uganda Albinos Association

DRF Uganda Capacity Fund: To strengthen sustainability of this emergent organization of very marginalized PWDs by supporting development of their District-level offices as well as their financial and human resource policies

## GHANA

### Inclusion Ghana

DRF National Coalition Grant: To mainstream educational rights of persons with intellectual disabilities into the Ghana Inclusive Education Policy. The Policy will guide government implementation of education programs for children with disabilities. This Coalition project will also enhance partnerships between all organizations working with persons with intellectual disabilities in Ghana.

## RWANDA

### Rwanda National Union of the Deaf

DRF Small Grant: To build membership across Rwanda and strengthen members to use the CRPD to demand and defend their rights with district officials and police, including rights to life, justice, access to information, and freedom of movement.

## LEBANON

### Lebanese Association for Self Advocacy

DRF Small Grant: To produce videos of self-advocates with intellectual disabilities and their family members and the rights violations they experience.

# About the Disability Rights Fund

The Disability Rights Fund (DRF) is a grantmaking collaborative that empowers persons with disabilities to advocate for equal rights and full participation in society. Fueled by the momentum of the landmark 2008 U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), DRF supports organizations of people with disabilities in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, and the Pacific to advance their rights.

DRF pools funds from multiple public and private donors to support the participation of people with disabilities in grassroots and national advocacy to advance the CRPD. Small and medium sized grants ranging from \$5,000 to

\$50,000, enable organizations of people with disabilities to document rights violations, advocate for rights fulfillment, and expand visibility and inclusion in their community.

## Growing Global Impact:

In five years, DRF has grown to become the second largest donor addressing disability rights internationally (according to a 2012 report by the Foundation Center and the International Human Rights Funders Group). Today, DRF supports diverse organizations led by people with disabilities in 29 countries, while advocating with the global donor community for greater inclusion of disability in their portfolios.



**In 2013 alone, DRF granted over \$1.2 million to 64 organizations of people with disabilities. The majority of these were small grants to emergent and grassroots organizations.**

Meeting of members of Psychiatric Survivors Fiji—the only organization of people with psychosocial disabilities in the Pacific.

## Empowering those on the margins, building a unified movement:

By focusing on marginalized sectors within the disability community, DRF empowers a more diverse and collaborative disability movement. To ensure that the disability movement is inclusive of persons with all types of disabilities and is able to articulate joint advocacy demands, DRF takes a

movement-building approach. This is manifested both in two funding streams reserved for partnership/coalition projects, and through grantee convenings that bring grantees together every year in every country (or region) to build joint advocacy strategies.



**51% of grants supported organizations made up of marginalized sectors of the disability community—such as indigenous persons, women, Deafblind, Albino and others.**

Little person grantee representative in the Chittangong Hill Tracts in Bangladesh.

## New countries and areas of focus

This year, DRF channeled more resources to building grantee organizational and advocacy capacity; expanded our reach to Haiti and Rwanda where disability is inextricably linked with poverty, and focused on key trending issues, such as youth with disabilities and the effect of climate change on persons with disabilities.

### Featuring New 2013 Target Countries: Haiti and Rwanda

In 2013, DRF launched grantmaking in Haiti and Rwanda. Both countries' governments have ratified the CRPD and have growing disability movements that are demanding changes in laws and policies in line with the CRPD, but which need funding to support their work. Systemic poverty, social inequities, violence against women, and under-development in both countries are closely linked with human rights abuses against persons with disabilities.

Special challenges in Haiti include addressing the rights of over 300,000 people disabled by the 2012 earthquake. DRF grantee, *Federation Haitienne Des Associations Et Institutions Des Personnes Handicapees D'Haiti* has begun to collect data on rights gaps among persons with disabilities in various regions of Haiti. This data will be used in a report to the CRPD Committee in Geneva.

First grantee convening in Haiti with Program Officer for Latin America, Middle East/Northern Africa, Yolanda Munoz.



The Association Generale des Handicapes du Rwanda (AGHR) is working to promote the implementation of Article 9 (Accessibility) of the CRPD by conducting an accessibility audit of public buildings, government facilities, schools, sports and cultural centers, and health centers to ensure equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities. AGHR disseminated information about universal access and easy-to-read materials among persons with disabilities and decision makers, including government authorities, the Ministry of Education and construction enterprises, to raise awareness about accessibility as a human right. It is also expected that, due to the efforts of DRAF grantee AGHR and other partners, voting booths will be made accessible to ensure participation of persons with disabilities in the next general election to take place in 2015.

**In 2009, Port-au-Prince had only two schools that included children with disabilities and both collapsed in the earthquake. Most schools and public facilities that are being reconstructed with international funding are not physically accessible.**

## Building Organizational Capacity

DRF provides technical assistance to strengthen the rights advocacy work of organizations of people with disabilities for legislative reform and rights monitoring. Yet, many grantee organizations need additional capacity-building. In 2013, DRF launched the Uganda Capacity Fund (UCF), to support the organizational development of Disabled Persons Organizations (DPOs) in areas such as financial management, strategic planning, fundraising, communications, board and staff development, and monitoring and evaluation. The UCF also strengthens DPO capacity to collaborate with other human rights organizations addressing issues, such as reproductive rights, environmental rights, child rights and others. This support is essential for building a global disability rights movement that is inclusive, strong, and effective.

### Featuring Uganda Capacity Fund Grantee—Youth with Physical Disabilities Development Forum (YPDDF)

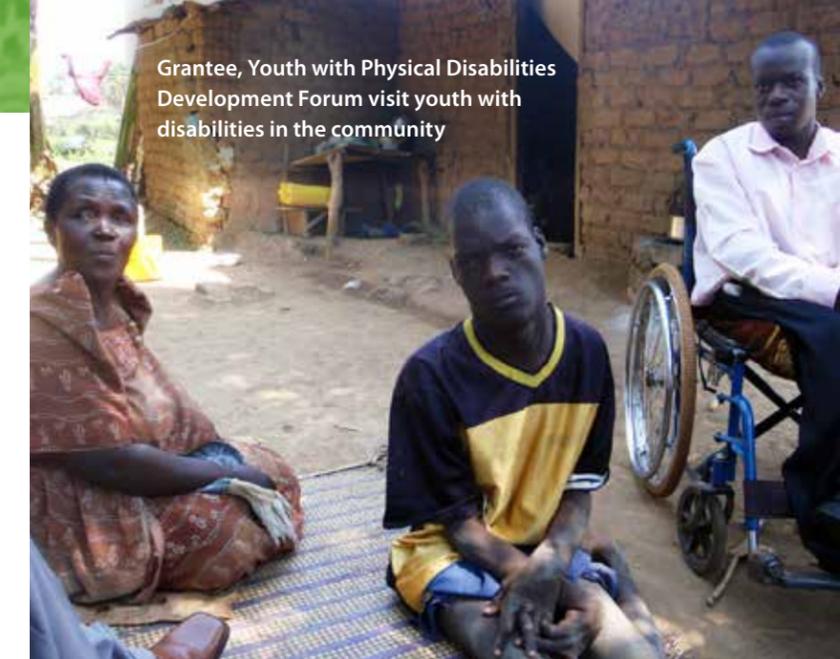
In Uganda, Youth with Physical Disabilities Development Forum (YPDDF) is advancing the rights of children with disabilities to inclusive education in line with Article 24 of the CRPD. With support from DRF over the past five years, YPDDF has successfully promoted the inclusion of children with disabilities—including children with intellectual disabilities—within mainstream schools in Mukono and Wakiso districts.

By using the CRPD as a tool for advocacy and awareness-raising with school authorities, teachers, parents and local officials, YPDDF helps to put inclusive education policies into practice. In 2013 alone, 30 children with disabilities were newly enrolled into 4 mainstream schools, and

### 2013 Uganda Capacity Fund Grantees

- Action for Youth with Disabilities Uganda
- National Association of the Deafblind in Uganda
- Spinal Injuries Association
- Uganda Albinos Association
- United Deaf Women's Organisation
- Youth with Physical Disabilities Development Forum

Grantee, Youth with Physical Disabilities Development Forum visit youth with disabilities in the community



“Our capacity to handle issues of rights of people with disabilities has remarkably improved compared to one year ago. As a young organisation for youth with disabilities, we have managed to position ourselves not only in the disability movement [of our country], but also in all national programs as a young and vibrant DPO for youth with disabilities.”

—YPDDF respondent in DRF 2013 Grantee Capacity Survey

another 17 applied for enrollment. YPDDF works with the schools to ensure that these children enjoy the same quality of education as other students, and with sub-county youth committees to advocate for improved delivery of other services to children with disabilities.

With a grant from the Uganda Capacity Fund, YPDDF developed an organizational strategic plan and a monitoring and evaluation system that will enable them to expand and track their impact. They also developed their capacity to work with other youth-focused organizations and donors outside the disability community to promote inclusive education.

**In 2013, the new Uganda Capacity Fund provided a total of \$115,000 to strengthen six organizations of people with disabilities in Uganda.**

## Addressing the impact of climate change on persons with disabilities

Many of the countries where DRF works are struggling to adapt to the effects of climate change. Rising sea level, increased force of cyclones, flooding, land erosion, salinity

“

*We are especially affected by climate change, as we are the first to suffer the effects of displacement. We also have less access to natural resources, and we are directly affected by the exposure to hazardous waste from the mining and agro-chemical disposal. We are vulnerable to natural disasters and armed conflict.*

—Ms. Ipul Powaseu

Papua New Guinea Assembly of Disabled Persons

intrusion, and shifting temperature patterns are disrupting communities and habitats, and threatening livelihoods. Persons with disabilities are among the most vulnerable, with limited abilities to see or hear early warning communications and limited mobility. Shelters are often inaccessible or unsafe, leaving displaced women with disabilities especially vulnerable to sexual violence. In some settings, the lack of information and assistive technology poses a challenge to effective disaster relief and sustainable development efforts.

DRF is working with DPOs like the Coastal DPO Alliance in Bangladesh to build their capacity to involve their members in local and national responses to climate change, natural disasters, and sustainable development more broadly.

## Featuring—the Coastal DPO Alliance, Bangladesh

The coastal belt of Bangladesh where the Coastal DPO Alliance works is particularly prone to flooding and cyclones. CDA mobilizes persons with disabilities in rural and remote areas to ensure that they are included in disaster preparedness planning. In villages at high risk of flooding and river erosion,

CDA is supporting village DPOs to identify persons with disabilities, many of whom are shut-in and isolated in remote areas, and to facilitate the production of accessible disaster guidance materials in local language.



Participant at a Bangladesh Grantee Convening.



“

*Persons with disabilities are especially vulnerable because they are often the poorest of the poor and are often illiterate. They are often hit hardest because of their badly constructed housing, inaccessible transportation and communication systems, and lack of accessible cyclone shelters.*

—Utpal Barua Coastal DPO Alliance

A young blind woman walks along a dike in coastal Bangladesh, where climate change is one of numerous challenges for persons with disabilities

## Addressing the link between disability, gender, poverty and human rights.

People with disabilities are more likely to experience poverty than those without disabilities, due to social exclusion, lack of access to education, and limited employment opportunities. Women and girls with disabilities are doubly disadvantaged, particularly where inequitable gender and social norms prevail. For example, in countries where girls' access to education is already limited, a girl child with a disability is at an even greater risk for a lifetime of poverty, sexual violence, and social exclusion.

DRF targets grantmaking to the least developed countries to advance a rights-based approach to the inclusion of people with disabilities in development. Although it is now widely recognized that disability is both an outcome and a cause of poverty, disability-inclusive development that goes beyond the charity approach is relatively new. By focusing on countries where progress on rights for persons with disabilities has been minimal, DRF links the advancement of rights to poverty alleviation and social equity.



In Bangladesh, participants in a training on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities hold a banner.

Photo of a young couple courtesy of Sociedad Peruana de Síndrome de Down.



## DRF GRANTEE LIST

### BANGLADESH

Access Bangladesh Foundation  
Coastal DPO Alliance  
Dishary Protibondhi Sangstha  
Federation of DPOs Sitakund  
Jatiyo Trinomul Protibandhi Sangstha \*  
National Council of Disabled Women  
Protibandhi Kallyan Songstha  
Society of the Deaf and Sign Language Users  
Women with Disabilities Development Foundation

### FIJI

Fiji Association of the Deaf  
Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation  
United Blind Persons of Fiji

### GHANA

Empowerment Through Community Volunteering  
Future Hope International  
Ghana Society of the Physically Disabled  
Inclusion Ghana  
Kekeli Foundation  
Lakeside Cross Disability Self-Help Group  
New Horizon Foundation of the Blind  
Voice of People with Disability Ghana

### HAITI

Federation Haitienne des Associations et Institutions des Personnes Handicapees d'Haiti \*  
Reseau Association National pour l'Integration des Personnes Handicapees  
Reseau Association National pour l'Integration des Personnes Handicapees (Les Cayes)

### INDIA

Chaitanya Vikalangula Hakkula Vedika  
Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Centre

### INDONESIA

Center for Improving Qualified Activity in Life  
Gerakan Untuk Kesejahteraan Tuna Rungu Indonesia  
Himpunan Wanita Penyandang Cacat Indonesia  
Perhimpunan Jiwa Sehat  
Persatuan Penyandang Cacat Indonesia  
Pusat Pemilihan Umum Akses Untuk Penyandang Cacat

### LEBANON

Lebanese Association for Self-Advocacy

### REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

Marshall Islands Disabled Persons Organization

### NAURU

Nauru Disabled Peoples Organization

### NICARAGUA

Federación Nicaragüense de Asociaciones de Personas con Discapacidad

### PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Gulf Province Disabled Persons Organisation

### RWANDA

National Union of Disabilities Organisations of Rwanda  
Rwanda National Union of the Deaf

### TONGA

Naunau 'o e 'Alamaite Tonga Association Incorporated

### TUVALU

Fusi Alofa, Inc.

### UGANDA

Action for Youth with Disabilities Uganda \*  
Elgon Foundation for Persons with Albinism  
Integrated Disabled Women Activities  
Legal Action for Persons with Disabilities Uganda  
Little People of Uganda  
National Association of the Deafblind in Uganda  
National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda \*  
Spinal Injuries Association \*  
Uganda Albinos Association  
Uganda Association for the Mentally Handicapped/Inclusion Uganda  
Uganda National Association of the Deaf  
United Deaf Women's Organisation \*  
Wakiso Action on Physical Disability  
Youth with Physical Disabilities Development Forum \*

### UKRAINE

Generation of Successful Action - Volyn Branch

### VANUATU

Disability Promotion and Advocacy Association

\*Received 2 Grants in 2013

## DRF Financials

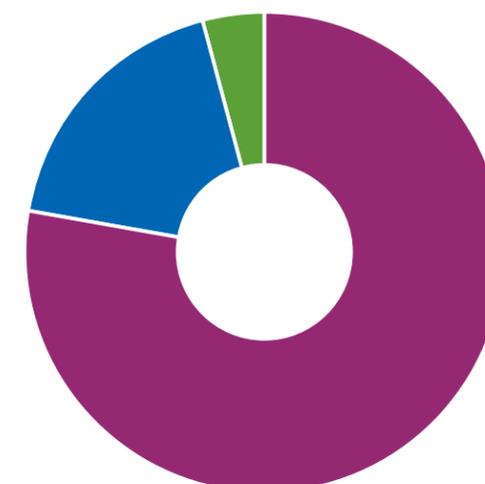
### DRF Revenue

Private Foundations	588,451 (25%)
Public Charitable Foundations	907,500 (38%)
Government	838,801 (36%)



### DRF Expenditures

Program/Re-granting	1,627,003 (78%)
Administration	373,527 (18%)
Fundraising	80,158 (4%)



# About the Disability Rights Advocacy Fund



**In 2013, the Disability Rights Advocacy Fund provided \$1,098,697 in grants to 37 organizations to strengthen advocacy by persons with disabilities for CRPD ratification and legal reform.**

DRAF cross-movement grantees face multiple layers of discrimination. Take the experience of indigenous people with disabilities, exemplified by Olga Montufar Contreras from Mexico. As a woman with disability of Mixtec and Nahua origin, she provided moving personal testimony to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. She explained that not only do indigenous women in her community face a high risk of sexual violence, but they have extremely limited access to lawyers, making it even more

difficult for them to seek justice. With support from DRAF, indigenous persons with disabilities are coming together to create an emergent global network to raise their voices in critical international human rights and development fora. In May, an expert report on conditions for indigenous persons with disabilities—funded by DRAF—was presented at the UNPFII, the beginning of recognition of this group.

The Disability Rights Advocacy Fund (DRAF) supports persons with disabilities in the developing world to advance legal frameworks to realize their rights. As the sister organization to DRF, DRAF is a 501(c)4 organization that focuses grantmaking on ratification campaigns and lobbying for changes in national and sub-national laws. DRAF also supports cross-movement work between different human rights movements, and networks of organizations of people with disabilities working at regional and international levels to advance rights. DRAF is supported by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

“We used to think that laws belong to members of parliament. But now the articles are at our fingertips.”

—Disability Rights Advocacy Fund Grantee



**Program Officer Yolanda Munoz Gozalez meets with Peruvian grantees in the Amazon during a site visit.**

**Building strategic partnerships.** The DRAF Strategic Partnership grant program supports strategic initiatives to promote cross movement collaboration and regional organization networking to advance the CRPD. These initiatives seek to include persons with disabilities in other social movements, including those of women, youth,

Indigenous Peoples, and to strengthen partnership among organizations of persons with disabilities regionally. Grants under this program in 2013 supported the work of international and regional networks such as the International Disability Alliance (IDA) and the African Youth with Disabilities Network.



Photo of Global Advisory Panel member, Setareki Macanawai, of the Pacific Disability Forum.

### Featuring Setareki S. Macanawai, CEO of the Pacific Disability Forum, and chair of the emergent Global Network of Indigenous Persons with Disabilities

Setareki Macanawai is an impassioned advocate for the rights of people with disabilities in the Pacific Island region. In 2012, he received the U.N. Asia-Pacific Disability Rights Champions Award, recognizing his leadership of the Pacific Disability Forum (PDF).

Born in Fiji and of indigenous descent, Mr. Macanawai lost his sight during his final year of high school. After teaching at the Fiji School for the Blind for over 20 years, he sought post graduate education to further his goal of addressing the unique situation of people with disabilities throughout the Pacific.

In 2004, Mr. Macanawai founded the Pacific Disability Forum, with the vision of *“an inclusive Pacific society that is responsive, culture sensitive and gender equitable that ensures the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities.”* PDF now has 30 DPO members from 18 Pacific Island countries and territories.

Through his work in the region and on the global development stage, Mr. Macanawai has emerged as a global champion for the rights of indigenous persons with disabilities everywhere. His leadership this past year at the U.N. Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues was instrumental in the founding of a global network of indigenous persons with disabilities that is amplifying the voice and visibility of indigenous persons with disabilities at global levels.

“Disability is an emerging issue in the region that has only been addressed in the last ten years...and the situation of indigenous people with disabilities in the Pacific is unique for several reasons—geography, climate, and cultural norms all limit access to services and education, and increase the vulnerability of disabled persons — many of whom are living in isolated rural areas, and are further isolated by family and society norms.”

—Setareki Macanawai CEO, Pacific Disability Forum

### Featuring COAMEX—the Mexican Coalition for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

In Mexico, DRAF support of COAMEX (the Mexican Coalition for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities—the *Coalicion Mexico por los Derechos de las Personas con Discapacidad*) enabled people with disabilities to develop an alternative report to submit to the CRPD Committee in Geneva. The COAMEX report highlighted major rights challenges for Mexican people with disabilities—access to justice, legal capacity, and multiple forms of discrimination, such as that faced by women and indigenous persons with disabilities.

Since submitting the alternative report in December 2012, COAMEX has been using it to lobby for legislative changes to bring Mexican laws into accordance with the CRPD. To date, they have succeeded in getting a prohibition of discrimination on the basis of disability into the General Labor Act, and in eliminating Mexico’s interpretative declaration on Article 12 of the CRPD regarding legal capacity.



Photo of Yogyakarta resident and founder of OHANA, Risna Utami.

“As a person with disability from Indonesia, I can feel a lot of change happening at the UN system at this moment. During the UN High Level Meeting on Disability and Development, I can see a lot of the UN bodies like WHO, UNICEF, UNDESA— they talk a lot about disability and development. For me, this is a new era when disability is included in the process of a global development agenda.”

—Risna Utami

Founder of OHANA & Chair of the Indonesian National Consortium for Disability Rights

**BANGLADESH**

Action on Disability and Development  
Society for Education and Inclusion of the Disabled

**FIJI**

Psychiatric Survivors Association

**GHANA**

Ghana Federation of the Disabled\*

**INDIA**

National Disability Network  
Network of Persons with Disabilities Organizations  
Socio Legal Information Centre

**INDONESIA**

Himpunan Wanita Penyandang Cacat Indonesia  
Perhimpunan Organisasi Handicap Nusantara  
Perkumpulan Orang Tua Anak Disabilitas Indonesia  
Persatuan Penyandang Cacat Indonesia  
Persatuan Penyandang Cacat Indonesia Provinsi Sulawesi Selatan  
Persatuan Tunanetra Indonesia

**LEBANON**

National Association for the Rights of Disabled People in Lebanon  
Palestinian Disability Forum  
Youth Association of the Blind

**MEXICO**

Coalición México por los Derechos de las Personas con Discapacidad

**FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA**

Pohnpei Consumer Organization

**NICARAGUA**

Federación Nicaragüense de Asociaciones de Personas con Discapacidad

**PALAU**

OMEKESANG

**PERU**

Asociacion de Usuarios de Servicios de Salud Mental  
Confederación Nacional de Discapacitados del Perú  
Federación Departamental de Personas con Discapacidad de Puno  
Sociedad Peruana de Síndrome de Down  
Sociedad y Discapacidad

**RWANDA**

Association Générale des Handicapés du Rwanda

**SOLOMON ISLANDS**

Disabled Peoples' Association of Solomon Islands

**SWITZERLAND**

Strategic Partnerships: International Disability Alliance

**UGANDA**

Mbarara District Association of the Deaf  
Uganda National Action on Physical Disability  
Uganda National Association of the Deaf  
United Deaf Women's Organisation  
Youth with Physical Disabilities Development Forum

**UKRAINE**

All Ukrainian NGO Coalition for People with Intellectual Disabilities \*  
Creavita

\*Received 2 Grants in 2013

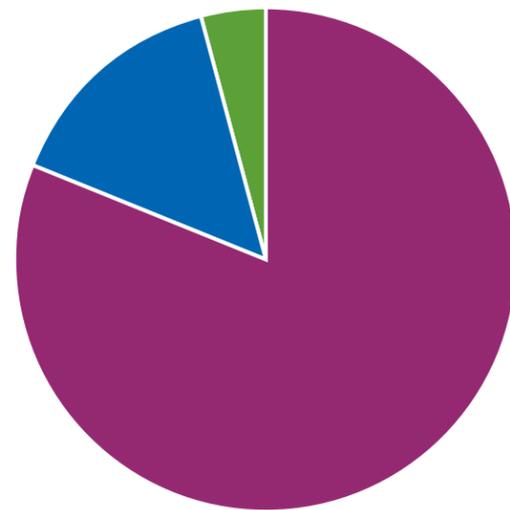


Grantee at Indonesia grantee convening stands in front of "About DRAF" Disability Rights Advocacy Fund poster.

**DRF Financials**

**DRAF Expenses**

Program/Re-granting	1,680,104 (82%)
Administration	298,978 (14%)
Fundraising	81,605 (4%)



Disability Rights Advocacy Fund grantees gather in Indonesia.

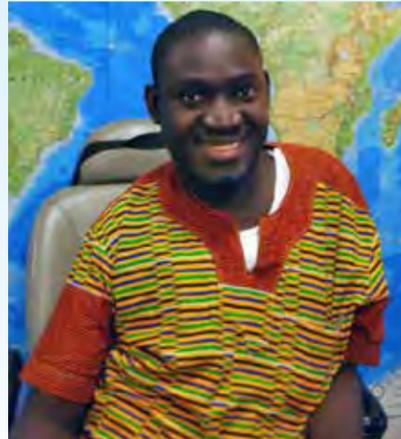
## Introducing DRF Program Officer, Medi Ssenooba

In 2013, DRF and DRAF welcomed Medi Ssenooba to the position of Program Officer for Africa. Through his journey from child polio survivor in Uganda to international human rights lawyer, Medi understands first-hand the challenges faced by the grantees that DRF works with in the region, especially those who seek equal educational opportunity.

Reflecting on the significance of a new Disability Policy at Makerere University in Uganda that DRF grantee, Association for Youth with Disabilities Uganda helped secure, Medi writes, "As a student, it was next to impossible to access basic university facilities that any other law student could freely access. There was not a single wheelchair-accessible toilet...and two of my four years of law school were taught in lecture theatres only accessible via a set of stairs. The discomfort of being carried up and down on a daily basis was no help to any student using a wheelchair, like me, to focus on their studies...the new Policy therefore is a fulfillment of Uganda's commitment to respect, promote and fulfill the right to education for all."

Medi received a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) degree from Makerere University and qualified for admission to the

Uganda Bar with a Diploma in Legal Practice from the Law Development Center in Kampala. With a scholarship from the Ford Foundation, he went on to receive a Masters of Laws degree from American University Washington College of Law, specializing in international human rights law. Before joining DRF, he co-founded and worked at Legal Action for Persons with Disabilities of Uganda, a DRF grantee that offers legal aid and mediation services to indigent persons with disabilities. As a Finberg Fellow at Human Rights Watch, Medi documented human rights abuses against persons with psychosocial disabilities in hospitals and in private religious institutions commonly known as prayer camps, in Ghana.



**Program Officer for Africa, Med Ssenooba.**

# Meet the DRF and DRAF Team

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ola Abu Al Ghaib, *Compliance Officer*  
Michael Haroz, *Compliance Officer*  
Emily Martinez  
Vinay Mehra, *Treasurer*  
Kristen Pratt  
William Rowland, *Co-Chair*  
Diana Samarasan, *ex-officio member*  
Catherine Hyde Townsend, *Co-Chair*

## GRANTMAKING COMMITTEE

Ola Abu Al Ghaib, *Former Advisor*  
Setareki Macanawai, *Advisor*  
Karina Chupina, *Advisor*  
Anne-Marie Robb, *Advisor*  
Mika Kontiainen, *Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australian Government*  
Jo Cooke, *Department for International Development, UK Government*  
Catherine Townsend  
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\*This list reflects current DRF and DRAF stakeholders. For a complete list of previous Global Advisory Panel and Grantmaking Committee members and staff with their biographies, please see the Disability Rights Fund website ([www.disabilityrightsfund.org](http://www.disabilityrightsfund.org)).



Group photograph of DRF and DRAF staff, Board of Directors and Global Advisory Panel members.

### Help DRF advance human rights:

At its core, DRF is a partnership between the global disability community and a widening circle of supporters. We are extremely grateful to the members of our board, other individuals, and the family foundations who have recently joined our core institutional donors. Their collective generosity sustains our operations, fuels our mission, and strengthens our work.

DRF must respond to increased demand from people with disabilities around the world for resources to advocate for inclusion. Please partner with DRF in continuing to build and run a robust grantmaking program for advancing rights. With your support, DRF will expand to new areas and seek new partnerships that enable people with disabilities to be leaders in the achievement of rights. *Please make your donation or pledge to DRF today!*

Thank you for your support.

