

Making Voices of Self-Advocates and their Families Count



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STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



I recently came across this adage: If you take out the team in teamwork, it's just work. Now who wants that? This captures the spirit of the past year: team work. Various regional teams – Eastern, Western and Southern- worked together to build a strong body of Inclusion Africa.

Inclusion Africa – Board and Secretariat – worked as one seamless organisation while appreciating that our roles are different but interrelated. The Board provides strategic direction, guides on policies, assesses risks and opportunities and indeed supports in resource mobilisation. The Secretariat executes the policies with the guidance of the Board.

In the past year, various regional forums were held in Abidjan (Western Africa forum), Maputo (Southern Africa forum) and Mombasa (Eastern Africa forum). The latter saw the participation of delegates from Eritrea, for the first time in Inclusion Africa history. During these meetings, delegates shared what their countries have realised in the implementation of the United Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities (UNCRPD). They also shared what their organisations – Inclusion Africa members – have been undertaking to bolster the realization of UNCRPD.

In the past year, Inclusion Africa deepened its collaborations with its key partners and supporters. These included Inclusion International and NFU – our strongest pillars of support. Other partners included the African Disability Forum (ADF), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), University of Pretoria, among other partners. On behalf of Inclusion Africa, I appreciate the support according to our organisation by all our partners. In addition, I appreciate Inclusion Africa members for being the 'infantry on the ground' and representing the organisation in their countries. Lastly, I express my gratitude to the Board and Staff of Inclusion Africa for their commitment to the cause.

We look forward to a great 2024.

Auberon Jeleel Odoom
Chairperson

SECRETARY GENERAL AND CHIEF EDITOR'S NOTE



One of the powerful maxims that I came across read as follows: “People think that stories are shaped by people. In fact, it’s the other way around.” Stories shape us. They fuel our collective purpose. It is for this reason that, when I was elected the Secretary General of Inclusion Africa and the Chairperson of the Resource Mobilisation Committee, I promised to support the organisation tell its stories.

I read somewhere that the power of a waterfall is just many drops working together. Inclusion Africa aspires to see a continent where persons with intellectual disabilities and their families equally participate in all aspects of life. The contributions of individual organisations add to our collective purpose – a mighty waterfall of impact. In this annual report, you will find stories of member organisations all ‘feeding into’ our vision.

In the report, you will read our news from across our three focal regions: Eastern, Western and Southern Africa. You will learn our self-advocates and their families are writing a new chapter of inclusion – breaking barriers that limit their participation in the society. Through their lenses, you will learn of the battles won and unwon in the human rights discourse and why a rising Africa cannot afford to leave anyone behind.

I thank my editorial team – Fatma, Peter and Mihret – for engaging closely with Inclusion Africa members as they shared their stories.

We hope you will enjoy reading the stories.

Viva Africa.

Simon Wachira
Secretary General

STATEMENT BY THE REGIONAL COORDINATOR



Year 2023 was an eventful one for Inclusion Africa. This is the year that the new Board elected in the last quarter of 2022 was settling in and rejuvenating the organisation. On behalf of the Secretariat, I express our gratitude for the support that came

from the Board. With their diverse skills, they stepped in to support the training of Inclusion Africa members and indeed strengthen systems of the organisation. A number of new policies were developed and/or strengthened such as partnership policies, whistleblowing, among others. All these were realised with the strategic leadership of the Board.

In the past year, Inclusion Africa also scaled its communication and storytelling arm. This was the year when our social media platforms were quite active and informative. Each of the events that Inclusion Africa held was well documented with a rich repository of content for posterity. In addition, the organisation rolled out a new informative website www.inclusioinafrica.africa. The website is not only interactive but a learning portal for members under the component resources. Through our website, members can access training materials, templates for governance, communication, programmes, among others. This again was an initiative supported by the Board under the Resource Mobilisation and Communications Committee.

At projects implementation level, the organisation scaled its outreach. Under the NFU project that seeks to enhance the social political and economic rights for persons with intellectual disabilities and their families in

Africa, Inclusion Africa organised sub-regional events in Maputo, Abidjan and Mombasa, giving Inclusion Africa members an opportunity to give their reports and indeed their countries' reports on the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals and the UNCRPD. In addition, under the Inclusive Education pillar of the project, exchange and learning visits were held. One success story emerged in Namibia where our member NACD boosted by Inclusion Africa Board shared a prime technical platform with senior ministry of education officials in the country.

Under the NFU project component of Inclusive Health, training modules for self-advocates were developed and shared. These will help standardize training of self-advocates for Inclusion Africa members.

Another project that kicked off well was the partnership of Inclusion Africa, Inclusion International and IDA in a project targeting Angola and Zambia and aimed at upholding the diversity and inclusion of all. Specifically, it seeks to advance universal social, economic and cultural rights to leave no person with disabilities behind in a world challenged by crises. Supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, the project targets Angola and Zambia. Several activities were undertaken under the project spearheaded by self-advocate Mark Mapemba.

I thank the Board of Inclusion Africa for its strategic support and guidance through out 2023. I also thank the Secretariat for their commitment to the organisation's mission. I finally thank our partners for their support through out the year.

Fatma Wangare
Regional Coordinator

ZACALD MAKING THE VOICES OF PERSONS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES COUNT

Zambia Association Of Children And Adults With Learning Disabilities (ZACALD) is A Zambian Non-Governmental NGO registered under the persons with disabilities enacted in 1996 Act No. 33 of the Laws Of Zambia Section 14 (B).

The Association is affiliated to Inclusion Africa, Inclusion International, Africa Network for Developmental Disabilities (ANDD) and the Zambian Federation of the Disabled (ZAFOD) of which it is a bona-fide constituent member.

Formed in 1981 by parents of children with learning disabilities, was initially a service provider organisation but changed its focus to a right model championing for the rights of persons of intellectual disabilities.

Through its advocacy, sensitization and awareness works, ZACALD has been championing for inclusive policies for persons with intellectual disabilities and their families. A case in point is a current intervention where ZACALD has been championing for inclusion in the health and education sectors while working closely with the Zambia's ministries of education and health.

At the local level, ZACALD has a permanent seat at the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) committees where it ensures the voices of persons with intellectual disabilities and their families are heard in the approval of grants to support various projects such as schools, skills training, support to persons with disabilities, among others.

ZACALD also sits in the District Child Protection Committee (DCPC) which comprises of the police (Victim Support Unity), a number of NGOs, Faith-Based Organisations, the wider community, health, education, social welfare and other related thematic areas to protect the wellbeing of children. Some of the areas covered are sexuality, early pregnancies, drug abuse, HIV and sexually transmitted affections interventions, among others.

The organisation also has safe - houses for persons with disabilities - with special attention to persons with intellectual disabilities and their families- who are victims of abuse.

Other Success stories:

1. ZACALD together with other organisations of Persons With Disabilities (OPDs) lobbied the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) to deploy persons with disabilities during general elections as electoral monitors. This is now the norm in elections.
2. ZACALD has been acknowledged by the Zambian government for championing inclusive education in the country - even though more awareness need to be bolstered to address stigma. The organisation has also lobbied for enrichment of the teachers training curriculum with inclusive education content in teachers training colleges.
3. ZACALD was part of the OPDs involved in lobbying for a seat in the Constitution Review Commission (CRC) which drafted the current constitution of Zambia.

Celebrating Self-Advocates of Zambia

BRAVO to:

1. HELLEN LUNGU who is now a secondary school teacher, farmer and tailor in Zambia. She is an inspiration to many ladies with intellectual disabilities and their families.
2. SUZYO MPANDE ventured into farming and poultry rearing and he now has a thriving agribusiness venture.

FACTS ZONE

1. Zambia ratified Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities into 2006 and reports annually on its implementation.
2. Zambia enacted the Persons With Disabilities Act 2012 and the law is also mainstreamed in various Zambian laws.

ZAPDD: A SHINING STAR IN THE ISLAND

Zanzibar Association of People With Developmental Disabilities (ZAPDD) was formed to foster the inclusion of persons with intellectual disabilities and their families in Zanzibar. Established in 1999, ZAPDD currently has a total of 3,000 members distributed in 60 family groups: 30 in Pemba and 30 in Unguja Island. Target groups are children, youths and adults with intellectual disabilities and their families.

ZAPDD envisions an inclusive society which is responsive to the rights of persons with intellectual disabilities and their families.

ZAPDD has four thematic areas:

- i. Lobbying and advocacy
- ii. Awareness Creation
- iii. Mobilization and Empowerment
- iv. Networking

What are the major challenges facing persons with intellectual disabilities in Zanzibar?

(a) Lack of meaningful inclusion in the enacted laws and formulated policies:

Despite boasting of rich laws and policies, the specific needs of persons with intellectual disabilities remain unaddressed since they are 'lumped together' with other persons with disabilities.

(b) Limited involvement of the representatives of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities and their Families in laws and policy formulation processes:

The experience shows that OPDs are usually involved in the final stages of law and policy formulation. As a result, the laws and policies fail to adequately capture,

mainstream, accommodate and address the specific needs of persons with intellectual disabilities and their families.

(c) Limited awareness of the disability challenges and readiness to address them:

The community members and the disability actors at various levels in public and private sectors are either unaware of or deliberately ignore the rights of persons with intellectual disabilities. This infringes on their rights.

ZAPDD Interventions

- i. Engaging key stakeholders including duty bearers in both public and private sectors to advocate for improved access to disability rights and opportunities for persons with intellectual disabilities and their families.
- ii. Mobilising resources to carry out empowerment programmes to enable persons with intellectual disabilities and their families to take lead in changing their own lives.
- iii. Liaising with other OPDs nationally and internationally through networking to advance the rights of persons with intellectual disabilities via international platforms to influence reforms and promote inclusion.
- iv. Offering social and emotional support to persons with intellectual disabilities and their families to improve their mental health and wellbeing.

Success Stories: Outcomes of different interventions

(a) Enactment of the new laws with elements of accommodation. E.g the Evidence Act 2016. The law has improved access to justice for persons with intellectual disabilities especially in the cases related to sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment.

(b) Formulation of inclusive policies in Zanzibar such as the Zanzibar Education Policy. The policy has been an enabling factor, creating access for persons with intellectual disabilities to be enrolled in the education institutions and access knowledge and skills alongside their peers.

(c) Over 40 youths with intellectual disabilities have graduated in vocational training over the past 4 years, paving the way for their employment in formal and informal sectors.

(d) There is a considerable decline in the number of sexual violence and harassment related crimes perpetrated against persons with intellectual disabilities. This can be attributed to youth empowerment programs carried out by ZAPDD including Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) education, self-advocacy, and enactment of the inclusive Evidence Act.

Lessons learned

The followings are the lessons learned:

+ Despite the difficulties in promoting attitudinal shift towards PWIDs, with relentless efforts and strategies, social reforms and changing peoples' perceptions and perspectives toward PWIDs are possible.

+ Legal and policy reforms may only become effective tools in promoting inclusion and combating stigma when key actors (duty bearers) become central in the

reform process (attitudinal shift).

+ Availability of resources (physical and fiscal) is paramount for achieving advocacy objectives.



Self-advocates in a graduation ceremony after pursuing studies in house-keeping and gardening in a vocational training project being implemented by ZAPDD in collaboration with FAIDD - Finland.

FACTS ZONE:

Tanzania (includes Zanzibar) signed the CRPD optional protocol to the Convention on September 29, 2008, and ratified it on November 10, 2009. Zanzibar disability rights and interests are safeguarded by Act No. 8 of 2022 which provides for the rights and interests of all persons with disabilities.

The Persons with Disabilities Act 2006 established a National Advisory Council and the Zanzibar National Disability Council to protect the rights of persons with disabilities. These Councils are tasked to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Disability Act and the CRPD. The disability councils include representatives from the village, ward, district, regional and national levels, civil society organizations (CSOs), Local Government Authorities (LGAs), OPDs, the Attorney General's office, ministries, the Association of Tanzania Employers, and the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance.

Another key disability steering document is the Zanzibar Policy for People with Disabilities (2018).

FENAIID: A DEPENDABLE PILLAR IN ETHIOPIA

Fikir Ethiopia National Association on Intellectual Disabilities (FENAIID) is an indigenous non-profit, non-political and non-religious association established in 1987 by parents of children with intellectual disabilities and other interested individuals in Ethiopia.

Fikir Ethiopia National Association on Intellectual Disabilities is re-registered by the Civil Society Organizations Agency of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. FENAIID has 17 branches in 8 regions and 15,000 members. The main objective of the Association is to support persons with intellectual disabilities in vocational and technical training, benefiting families' of intellectual disabilities and their care givers through creating participatory programs, change attitude of the society's about Intellectual disabilities, facilitate inclusive education for children with Intellectual disabilities, improving the lives of parents who are poor because of their children's intellectual disabilities through income-generating activities. (FENAIID) is a member of Ethiopian National Disability Action Network (ENDAN), CCRDA (consortium of Christian relief association) and Inclusion International.

FACTS ZONE

Based on the World Report on Disability jointly issued by the World Bank and World Health Organization (WHO), there are an estimated 15 million children, adults and elderly persons with disabilities in Ethiopia, representing 17.6 per cent of the population.

Ethiopia ratified the UNCRPD in 2010. Furthermore, a National Plan of Action (NPA) of Persons with Disabilities was adopted for the period 2012-2021, under the leadership of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in consultation with civil society and UN organizations. The project aimed to leverage this favorable institutional context to advance CRPD implementation.

It sought to foster collaboration among different actors and maximize the impact of their work through capacity-building on a rights-based approach to disability inclusion at federal and regional levels. Moreover, the project endeavored to support organizations of persons with disabilities to shift cultural norms around disability through community-based radio programmes and other platforms.

Ethiopia is one of the 166 States that have ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and so is required to submit regular reports to the Committee on how it is implementing the Convention.

The Government of Ethiopia has adopted and implemented a number of laws, policies and standards pertaining to people with disabilities, including their right to productive and decent work. The main ones are:

- **Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia**, adopted in 1995. Article 41(5) of the Constitution sets out the State's responsibility for the provision of necessary rehabilitation and support services for people with disabilities.
- **Proclamation concerning the Rights to Employment for Persons with Disabilities, No. 568/2008**, makes null and void any law, practice, custom, attitude and other discriminatory situations that limit equal opportunities for persons with disabilities. It also requires employers to provide appropriate working and training conditions; take all reasonable accommodation measures and affirm active actions, particularly when employing women with disabilities; and assign an assistant to enable a person with disability to perform their work or follow training.

- **The Federal Civil Servant Proclamation No. 515/2007**, provides for special preference in the recruitment, promotion, and deployment, among others, of qualified candidates with disabilities. This provision is applicable to government offices only.

- **Labour Proclamation, No. 377/2003, amended by Labour Proclamation No. 494/2006**, makes it unlawful for an employer to discriminate against workers on the basis of nationality, sex, religion, political outlook or on any other conditions.

- **Proclamation on Definition of Powers of Duties of the Executive Organs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, No. 691/2010**, provides for conditions of equal opportunities and full participation of persons with disabilities and those living with HIV/AIDS.

- **Building Proclamation, No. 624/2009**, provides for accessibility in the design and construction of any building to ensure suitability for physically impaired persons.

- **Proclamation No. 676/2010 on the Ratification of the “UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities” (UN CRPD) by Ethiopia.**

- **Framework Document 2009**, provides for Special Needs Education (SNE) in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

- **Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) 2010-2015**, establishes disability as a cross-cutting sector of development where focus is given to preventing disability and to providing education and training, rehabilitation and equal access and opportunities to persons with disabilities.

- **National Plan of Action of Persons with Disabilities (2012-2021)** aims at making Ethiopia an inclusive society.

Interventions

For the last 29 years, **Challenges faced by Persons With Intellectual Disabilities and their Families in Ethiopia**

(i) Poverty – persons with intellectual disabilities in Ethiopia and their families grapple with poverty. They faced difficulties accessing economic opportunities such as jobs, business opportunities among others.

(ii) Negative Attitudes and Stigma – Persons with intellectual disabilities and their families grapple with discrimination, taboos, labelling among others. There is need for enhanced awareness to address this.

(iii) Harmful Traditional Practices – Some communities have traditional practices that view persons with intellectual disabilities and their families as cursed. This inhibits their full integration.

(iv) Disasters and Instability – Periods of political instability in Ethiopia as well as climate change-induced disasters such as drought have affected persons with intellectual disabilities and their families the most.

FENAID: A PILLAR OF HOPE

In the last 29 years, FENAID have been implemented projects focusing on Intellectual disabilities and different vulnerable community groups with collaboration governmental and non-governmental partners, amongst which are Inclusive Education Project, Abilis Foundation, humanity Inclusion, inclusion Africa.

Other interventions have included care and supports, livelihoods promotion, inclusive education, HIV/AIDS campaigns. FENAID has been implementing the TOFI project while collaborating with NFU in the area of human rights advocacy, inclusive education and economic empowerment to enhance ability of people with disabilities to claim their rights, participation in decision making, and social, economic and political participation.

FENAID has also been implementing an inclusive education project to enhance access to quality inclusive pre-primary, primary and secondary education for girls and boys with disabilities, fostering participation of girls and boys with disabilities in pre-primary, primary and secondary education and awareness raising provided to families and caregivers of children with disabilities on their rights to education and how to support their children.

Lastly FENAID has also been implementing an economic empowerment project targeting people with intellectual disabilities and families building their capacity to generate income and manage resources.

Mrs Bizunesh: FENAID was My Saving Grace

Mrs. Bizunesh is a single mother of a child with intellectual disability. She lives in a rented house. However, she has faced discrimination in its rawest form. She has faced discrimination from neighbours – some even discouraging landlords from renting out their house to her. Government agencies have not been helpful either.

Fortunately, through FENAID under the TOFI project implemented in collaboration with the NFU, she received human rights awareness training related to intellectual disabilities and a sufficient understanding of the UN-CRPD. A woman informed is a women empowered. Having understood her rights, she petitioned the government sharing how she had suffered discrimination

as a mother of a child with intellectual disability. The government provided house to her and her child. She and her children are now free from social and economic housing problems thanks to the TOFI project.

FENAID LESSONS:

FENAID has learnt that advocacy interventions on the rights of persons with intellectual disabilities and their families will be hinged on sustained awareness creation. In addition, building a strong FENAID brand will give the organisation access to spaces where it can influence decision makers and shape policy. That is why communication is such a strong pillar for the organisation.



Mothers of Persons With Intellectual Disabilities benefiting from a livelihood project courtesy of FENAID



World Downsyndrom Day 2022



World Downsyndrom Day 2022



Self-advocates human rights and UNCRPD training

DISABILITY INCLUSION RWANDA(DIR)

Disability Inclusion Youth Association (DIA) was formed in 2012 by youth with intellectual disabilities. It was formed to foster self-psychological protection. In January 2020, families and some organisations fostering inclusion in Rwanda joined DIA enabling it to become a national disability organisation. With this development, the organisation changed its name to to become **DISABILITY INCLUSION RWANDA (DIR)**

Vision:

All forms of discrimination toward persons with intellectual disabilities and neuro-developmental challenges are abolished in Rwanda.

Mission:

To advocate for the promotion of inclusive legal, inclusive political and social status of persons with intellectual disabilities and neuro developmental challenges and reinforce the capacity of parents and member organizations of DISABILITY INCLUSION RWANDA.

FACTS ZONE:

Rwanda ratified the UNCRPD in 2008. However, persons with disabilities particularly those with intellectual disabilities continue to be discriminated, marginalised and excluded from social participation. Many face challenges in accessing government services and programs aimed at alleviating poverty and empowering citizens. A comprehensive approach that engages all sectors of society is needed to eradicate the many ways in which persons with disabilities are excluded from development.

The 2007 Disability Law is not strong enough. In Rwanda, persons with intellectual disabilities, are denied the right to vote or being elected. This law is, however, under amendment. In May 2022, the Rwandan cabinet

adopted the disability policy. The disability law, policy and other related protocols are monitored and reinforced by National Council of Persons with Disabilities (NCPD) under the Ministry of Administration and Local Government (MINALOC).

The challenges faced by persons with intellectual disabilities

The persons with intellectual disabilities are facing different challenges:

1. Social Exclusion: The actual Rwanda context, persons with intellectual disabilities are excluded at family and societal level.

2. Education: In Rwanda there is an education for all policy. However, children with intellectual disabilities are denied opportunities in public and private regular schools. This education exclusion is based on education system that is not flexible and transformed to facilitate children with intellectual disabilities to study with other children without disabilities in the same class. Children with intellectual disabilities are sent in segregation centers and special schools that are not well equipped to empower children with intellectual disabilities to be skilled;

3. Limited Economic Opportunities: Persons with intellectual disabilities are denied job and trading opportunities.

4. Stigmatization: There is self-stigmatization and external stigmatization. This can only be addressed through awareness creation and advocacy.

Interventions

Disability Inclusion Rwanda works in the areas of:

1. Health,
2. Education,

3. Advocacy
4. Socioeconomic development

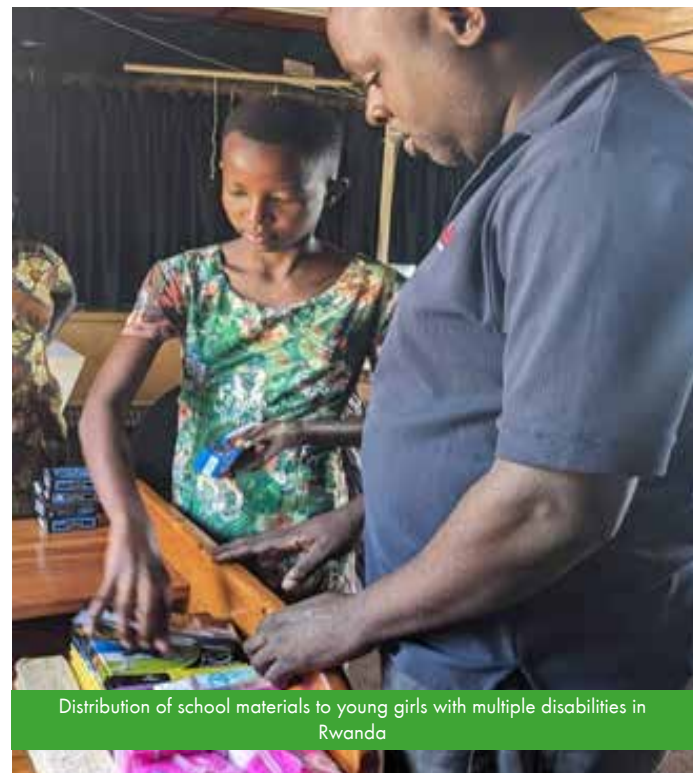
Health

Disability Inclusion Rwanda (DIR) conducts training sessions to self-advocates, parents, local leaders and community health workers on CRPD focusing on right to life and health. DIR intervenes to contribute in payment of health insurance to poorest families with children with intellectual disabilities.



Education

The dream of inclusive education is far from being won. DIR is fighting for inclusive education by training parents on the model and also carrying along the regular schools teachers and sector education officials. This is aimed at ensuring that there is a critical mass that understand the model and ready to support DIR in pushing for its implementation.



Advocacy

The self-advocates and parents are empowered on CRPD, CRC and self-advocacy and are involved directly in advocacy drives.



"Empower me to empower others"! Self-Advocates during a Self-Advocacy training.

Socioeconomic development

DIR collaborates with other actors to train self-advocates on vacation trainings (tailoring, gardening, culinary arts) so that they can be employed and/or self-employed. We also empower families of self-advocates on Income Generating Activities (IGAs) to secure the family economy by training parents on creation of small businesses and parents' self-help groups.

Projects

DIR is currently implementing two projects:

Family Based Psychotherapy program (FBSP):

Where parents of children with intellectual disabilities come together in a parents/ sibling's groups to discuss different challenges and seek solutions to them. We call this project "**Visit a Family to Save a Child (VIFASAC)**" project.

Most Significant Stories

Disability Inclusion Rwanda (DIR) is an organization mainly founded by Self Advocates and some parents. Self-Advocates are in decision positions (in Board of Directors and in different committees); **Nsengiyumva Innocent** (Self-Advocate) is Vice chairperson of DIR, **Uwiduhaye Protogene, Iradukunda Shemsa, Irafasha Patience** and **Shyaka Emmanuel** (all self-advocates) are Advisors in the Board of DIR.

Following DIR empowerment of self-advocates for self-reliance, **Bitwayiki Jean Claude** is a self-advocate who now works as a Community Home guard security.

Mugirasoni Pelagie, Uwiduhaye Protogene, Innocent Nsengiyumva and **Yvonne Mweretsende** are self-advocates that got jobs, now they are supporting financially their families. The family members respect, trust and dignify these self-advocates!

BROTHERS OF CHARITY IN RWANDA

Introduction

In 1997, the Brothers of Charity congregation in Rwanda started a day care center in 1997 known as "HVP Gatagara/ HUMURA". This later became a special school for children and youth with intellectual disabilities.

Mission

The mission of HVP-HUMURA is to improve the quality of lives of children and youth with intellectual disabilities and to develop their inner talents according to the category of disability respectively by offering the advanced medical services (physiotherapy) and special quality education in collaboration with their parents via home visits and trainings.

Vision

The vision of HVP-HUMURA is to enhance the inclusive and sustainable socioeconomic development of persons with intellectual disabilities and acceptance in their related families and in Rwandan society in general.

HVP HUMURA INTERVENTIONS

Humura interventions are mainly in the areas of special education, health and economic development. Humura Special School has 62 children with intellectual disabilities placed under special education and 35 children in physiotherapy service.

Humura trains self-advocates in vocational training to increase their working capacities and skills. Humura also equips families – parents – of persons with intellectual disabilities with income generating skills.

The organisation has over the years also imparted self-advocates with vocational skills such as agro-husbandry skills, culinary arts, music and tailoring skills to improve their quality of life.

Success stories

Due to the work of HVP Humura, self-advocates joined and boosted the Disability Inclusion Rwanda organization. These self-advocates are occupying decision-making positions in this Disability inclusion Rwanda organisation.

Some Self advocates got jobs due to the advocacy done by HVP Humura and some self-advocates created their own families; they married and have children.



Workshop in Benin: Commitment to Scale Inclusive Education Campaign across the Continent

Delegates at the Inclusive Education workshop at Cotonou, Benin hosted by La Chrysalide with support from NFU committed to aggressively engage their governments to make inclusive education for persons with intellectual disabilities a reality.

Participants at the workshop were also trained on advocacy and communication as they developed advocacy messages for inclusive education for various audiences in their countries.

The meeting started with a robust dance and song from self-advocates from Benin and an impassioned speech by Chantelle, the Self-Advocate Representative at Inclusion International Council who challenged West African countries to live to their national and global commitments on inclusive education so that they include persons with intellectual disabilities and their families in the education sector. "Education is our only fighting chance as persons with intellectual disabilities from the chains of poverty. You can't deny us this right. No excuses are enough to deny us learning opportunities," said Chantelle.

Namibia: Inclusion Africa Meets Senior Government Officials on Inclusive Education

Senior Ministry of Education officials from Benin shared the country's experience in implementing inclusive education and called on organisations of and for persons with disabilities to partner with the ministry to enrich the implementation process.

Inclusion Africa held a very successful Inclusive Education workshop in the second week of January. The team from Inclusion Africa visited senior Ministries of Education and Social Welfare officials in Windhoek and Okahandja towns respectively where elaborate discussions on the modalities of the inclusion of persons with disabilities and their families in the education sector in Namibia were discussed.

The officials of the two ministries requested for technical input from the organisation so as to effectively include persons with intellectual disabilities in the education sector in the country.

The workshop was also addressed by senior officials of the country. The officials were led by Ms Lizette Beukes, a Senior Ministry of Education Official who shared the country's experience in implementing inclusive education.

The Inclusion Africa team visited various schools to learn the country's best practices in implementing inclusive education.

At the end of the workshop, a declaration challenging the Southern African countries was shared by the delegates.

REGIONAL FORUMS WATCH

Maputo, Mozambique: Southern Region Forum



Mombasa, Kenya: Eastern Africa Forum



Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire: Western Africa Forum





INCLUSION AFRICA ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Statement of income and expenditure

	2023	2023	2022	2022
	KSHS	USD	KSHS	USD
INCOME				
Grants	28,503,302	197,145	34,284,410	286,832
Total income	28,503,302	197,145	34,284,410	286,832
EXPENDITURE				
Direct project expenses	26,206,487	187,283	24,526,267	208,145
Administrative expenses	7,609,544	57,161	7,727,181	65,569
Total expenditure	33,816,031	244,444	32,253,448	273,714
Deficit)/Surplus for the year	(5,312,731)	(47,299)	2,030,962	13,118

THANK YOU OUR SUPPORTERS



Vision:

An African continent where persons with intellectual disabilities and their families equally participate in all aspects of life

Mission Statement:

To advocate for the equal rights and inclusion of persons with intellectual disabilities and their families in Africa

Values:

We the board, staff, and members of Inclusion Africa hold the following values to be the foundation of our identity as a community. We pledge ourselves to act, in the totality of our life together, respect for the general principles of human rights, in accordance with these values:

- Equal participation and inclusion
- Respect for human diversity, inherent dignity, and individual autonomy including the freedom of choice and independence
- Belief in the potential of persons with disabilities
- Transparency and accountability
- Families and self-advocates led
- Collaborative partnerships and respect for autonomy

INCLUSION AFRICA BOARD MEMBERS



AUBERON JELEEL ODOOM
Chairperson



SIMON WACHIRA
Secretary General



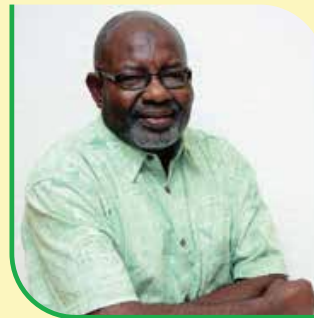
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Regional Representative



PAMELA SOMSES
Board Member, South Africa
Regional Representative



TAMRINI ALLY SAID
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Regional Representative



SAMUEL DELALI ANKU
Vice Chair



JENIPHER AKINYI
Self-Advocate Representative

STAFF MEMBERS



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INCLUSION AFRICA ANNUAL REPORT

2023

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