

ACCESS FOR ACTION UGANDA



A Project proposal for the promotion of Equal Human Right and Elimination of All Forms of Barriers against PWDs in Uganda

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8. Description of the organisation:

HISTORY OF ACFA UGANDA

ACFA-Uganda is a not-for-profit Non-Government Organisation founded by a group of disabled and non-disabled Community Development Workers to bring about practical inclusive development through promoting inclusive policies and practices. ACFA Uganda emerged as a result of informal discussions and sharing of experiences between disabled and non-disabled community development workers who then were attending a training course at the Institute of Adult and Community Education, Makerere University in 2009. The disabled participants testified to the extent the development effort had failed to respond to the development needs of the disabled community. One of the reasons for the lack of disability programming was attributed to lack of appreciation of the role and impact that this distinct vulnerable population—people with disabilities and their families—had on advancing the development process. It was observed that development partners in Uganda required support for including the marginalized communities in decision making, strengthening management capacity, and accessing current information on disability and development trends and best practice. It was further noted that given the opportunity, development partners could advance an inclusive development process by providing the marginalized groups and their communities with the opportunity to participate and be engaged as leaders in the development process. This opportunity had yet to be offered to the majority of communities in Uganda.

In February 2009, a defining moment in the structuring of the ACFA Uganda was the establishment of the Working Group composed of representative members from the marginalised groups. Since the original initiative, ACFA Uganda has evolved into a legally registered Non-governmental organisation under the Non-governmental organisation's Registration Statute 1989. And it is incorporated under the companies Act, Cap. 110 as a company limited by Guarantee; to combat the social and economic exclusion and impoverishment of the marginalised groups in Uganda

14. Description of the key activities of the organisation:

The work of ACFA Uganda is divided into seven complementary and mutually supportive goals related to the primary means of action: capacity building, knowledge sharing, research, networking, health, education and training, agricultural improvement, and environmental protection.

GOAL 1 – CAPACITY BUILDING

Build the capacity of all stakeholders to promote, guide, and facilitate the inclusion of disability issues and the participation of people with disabilities in national and community-level development policies and programmes

OBJECTIVE 1.1 – NATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING

Facilitate and contribute to the drafting and implementation of national disability framework agreements and other macro instruments to advance the inclusion of people with disabilities in mainstream programmes.

Activity 1.1.1

Facilitate the drafting and/or implementation of a disability framework agreement to generate and/or implement the national disability policy involving a variety of actors in various initiatives, both at the local and at the national level, within a collaborative paradigm where local people with disabilities and their representative organization play a decisive role.

Activity 1.1.2

Facilitate and support the inclusion of disability criteria in Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) according to a participatory approach where local people with disabilities and their representative organizations play a decisive role.

Activity 1.1.3

Facilitate and support advocacy activities aimed to include disability as a component of the Country Assistance Strategy Paper (CAS) in cooperation with all stakeholders, particularly local people with disabilities and their representative organizations.

Activity 1.1.4

Facilitate and support activities aimed to integrate disability equality in Sector Wide Approaches (SWAPs) in key areas for disability and development in cooperation with all stakeholders, particularly local people with disabilities and their representative organizations.

Expected Outcomes for Objective 1.1:

- Disability is included in analytical work relevant to national-instruments.
- National-instruments include disability criteria.
- National-instruments agreed upon are reflected in programmes, projects and activities that are included in the national budget.
- Coordination between the disability components of national instruments and other related specific or mainstreamed activities in country is evident.

- DPOs interact with governmental officials and donors within national-instruments framework processes.
- Disability awareness among development partners, government, and other stakeholders interacting in the development and implementation of the macro-instrument is increased.

OBJECTIVE 1.2 – ORGANIZATIONAL & INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUILDING

Facilitate and contribute to the capacity building of development partners and decision-makers in the realm of disability and development

Activity 1.2.1:

Organize, facilitate, and/or support training and other capacity building processes and products related to the inclusion of people with disabilities (in general or by thematic areas) for decision-makers and all stakeholder organizations.

Activity 1.2.2

Facilitate, and/or support training and other capacity building processes and products for DPOs and NGOs related to strengthening organizational assets (human) and capabilities including management, finance, governance, leadership, negotiation, and technical expertise.

Expected Outcomes for Objective 1.2:

- Decision-makers and organizations demonstrate capacity to design, manage, and implement development programs that include people with disabilities, and deliver better services.
- DPOs and NGOs have the capacity to increase inclusion of people with disabilities in development programmes and advocate for services and inclusion.
- Organizational assets and capabilities of DPOs and NGOs are strengthened.

OBJECTIVE 1.3 – ACFA UGANDA CAPACITY BUILDING

Develop the organizational capacity of ACFA Uganda

Activity 1.3.1

Draft, adopt and put in place the necessary documents

Activity 1.3.2

Develop an operations manual that clearly defines the financial activities and funding guidelines for ACFA Uganda

Activity 1.3.3

Expand ACFA Uganda membership base

Activity 1.3.4

Create and maintain a database of ACFA Uganda members

Activity 1.3.5

Expand and diversify ACFA Uganda funding base

Activity 1.3.6

Increase ACFA Uganda Secretariat Staff

Activity 1.3.7

Identify and provide the necessary equipments to facilitate effective participation of staff and members with disabilities in Organisation's activities

Expected Outcomes for Objective 1.3:

- ACFA Uganda necessary documents put in place
- ACFA Uganda operations manual is created
- ACFA Uganda Membership base is expanded
- ACFA Uganda Membership database is created and maintained
- New Donors are indentified and recruited
- Administrative and Programmatic staff for ACFA Uganda is recruited
- ACFA Uganda available funding is augmented
- Necessary equipment identified and provided

GOAL 2 RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE CREATION

Facilitate research and knowledge creation that is useful to the equalization of opportunities and full participation of the marginalised groups in Uganda.

OBJECTIVE 2.1 RESEARCH

Facilitate research on the social and economic situations of the marginalised groups and the effectiveness of responses to these situations from different stakeholders in Uganda.

Activity 2.1.1

Use expertise of staff, members and partners to facilitate and support research on the situation of marginalised groups in Uganda

Activity 2.1.2

Use expertise of members and partners to facilitate and support research on disability and inclusive development with an emphasis on design, implementation and evaluation of systems and processes

Activity 2.1.3

Use expertise of staff, members and partners to facilitate and support research that improves the quality, quantity and comparability of disability data

Activity 2.1.4:

Use expertise of staff, members and partners to measure the impact of the social and economic exclusion of people with disabilities on the overall society and the social and economic return of inclusion.

Expected Outcomes for Objective 2.1:

- Research activities are commissioned or conducted
- Valuable data that document the situation of marginalised groups in Uganda is provided
- Knowledge foundation to make the case for the social and economic inclusion of people with disabilities is provided

OBJECTIVE 2.2 KNOWLEDGE CREATION

Facilitate and/or support the production of practical and culturally appropriate resources that enable the marginalised groups to participate in and contribute to social and economic activities

Activity 2.2.1

Support the creation of new resources on topics and/or in formats that are accessible

Expected Outcomes for Objective 2.2

- Marginalised groups in Uganda have access to tools to take the lead in their own social and economic development
- Marginalised groups with little or no formal education can understand, apply and share useful information for their social and economic development as it is presented simply and appropriately

GOAL 3 KNOWLEDGE SHARING THROUGH NETWORKING

Serve as a resource bank that provides opportunities and the necessary expertise for inclusive design, implementation and monitoring of disability specific and mainstreamed policies and programmes

OBJECTIVE 3.1 RESOURCE BANK

Create and manage a mechanism for Resource Bank operations

Activity 3.1.1

Map the expertise of ACFA Uganda staff, partners and members related to different areas and skills needed for inclusive design, implementation and monitoring of disability specific and mainstreamed policies and programmes

Activity 3.1.2

Build and manage a Repository of intellectual output of ACFA Uganda and its members and partners on disability and development.

Activity 3.1.3:

Provide the links to expertise that bridge the operational gap between the human capital of academic research, DPOs, etc., and development work.

Expected Outcomes for Objective 3.1

- Development Partners are provided with the necessary expertise to successfully include disability in their programs, evaluate disability specific and mainstreamed programmes and find solutions
- The Community/ies of Practice offer the capability to interact, share, and collaborate around collective knowledge creation and sharing
- Mapping exercise is completed
- Repository is established

OBJECTIVE 3.2 PARTNERSHIPS

Facilitate partnerships that enhance the design and implementation of development projects including persons with disabilities at the national level and engage diverse partners in development

Activity 3.2.1:

Link and foster other types of partnerships focused on gender and other marginalized groups

Expected Outcomes for Objective 3.2

- Innovative partnerships for the inclusion of the needs of persons with disabilities in mainstream development and poverty alleviation projects are supported
- Partnerships that focus on gender and marginalized groups are identified and supported

OBJECTIVE 3.3 EXCHANGES

Facilitate the exchanges between ACFA Uganda with national and international networks that exert influence on key decision-making processes impacting disability and development

Activity 3.3.1

Produce ACFA Uganda newsletter

Activity 3.3.2

Participate in conferences, forums, other networks, etc.

Expected Outcomes for Objective 3.3:

- ACFA Uganda partners and members are kept updated about the activities of ACFA Uganda and the general agenda in disability and development
- ACFA Uganda contributes to raise awareness on disability and development issues in different forums, conferences, networks, etc.

GOAL 4 PROMOTE ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES

Increase access to appropriate health information, knowledge, learning materials and facilities, to address the basic health needs of the disabled and other marginalised groups

OBJECTIVE 4.1 SENSITISATION ON HIV/AIDS

Facilitate the design and implementation of Projects to sensitize the Youth with and without disabilities about issues on HIV/AIDS and reproductive health

Activity 4.1.1

Use expertise and resources of staff, members and partners to design and implement projects to address HIV/AIDS and reproductive health issues targeting Youth with, and without disabilities

Activity 4.1.2

Sensitize communities on HIV/AIDS and reproductive health issues with particular focus on the sexual health needs of people with disabilities

Activity 4.1.3

Provide psycho-social support and any material support to the Youth with, and without disabilities, and their families affected and infected with HIV/AIDS

Activity 4.1.4

Identify and refer for medical attention, children and youth with, and without disabilities infected with HIV/AIDS and other venerable diseases

Expected outcomes for objective 4.1:

- Projects on HIV/AIDS and reproductive Health designed and implemented targeting Youth with, and without disabilities
- Communities sensitized on HIV/AIDS and reproductive health, with particular focus on Youth with and without disabilities
- Psycho-social support and any material support provided to Youth with, and without disabilities and their families infected and affected by HIV/AIDS
- Children and Youth with, and without disabilities infected with HIV/AIDS identified and referred for further treatment

OBJECTIVE 4.2 IMPLEMENT A CBR PROGRAMME

Design and implement a CBR Programme to provide appropriate community interventions to address challenges of disability and development

Activity 4.2.1

Supplement and use local resources, services and facilities to sensitize communities on common causes of disabilities and appropriate strategies of prevention

Activity 4.2.2

Assess and provide appropriate interventions for the physical rehabilitation and habilitation of people with disabilities

Activity 4.2.3

Use expertise of staff, members and partners to identify, produce, and provide necessary assistive devices to facilitate social integration of people with disabilities

Activity 4.2.4

Assess and refer clients for further interventions and management

Activity 4.2.5

Use expertise of staff, members and partners to facilitate the identification/management of Income Generating Activities (IGAs) for persons with disabilities for their socio-economic empowerment

Expected outcomes for objective 4.2:

- Communities sensitized on common causes of disabilities and prevention strategies
- Clients assessed and appropriate interventions provided
- Necessary assistive devices identified, produced and provided to clients
- Clients assessed and referred for further intervention and management
- Identification and management of IGAs for clients facilitated

GOAL 5 EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Provide educational and training opportunities to the Children, Youth, and young adults with or without disabilities and those under difficult circumstances to give them knowledge and skills for self-sustenance.

OBJECTIVE 5.1 EDUCATION

Develop and facilitate a child-sponsorship programme to give chance to children from disadvantaged families to attend school. Convert into open educational resources and disseminate material information considered important for improving livelihoods of the marginalised groups.

Activity 5.1.1

Use expertise of staff, members and partners to identify and mobilize financial and material resources for educational needs of disadvantaged children

Activity 5.1.2

Identify and recruit disadvantaged children to benefit by the project

Activity 5.1.3

Follow up children's academic performance and provide the necessary guidance

Activity 5.1.4

Work with partners to identify and convert material information into open educational resources and disseminate through accessible channels

Expected outcome for objective 5.1:

- Financial and material resources identified and mobilized for educational needs of disadvantaged children
- Disadvantaged children to benefit by the project identified and recruited
- Children followed up for academic performance and necessary guidance provided
- Material information identified and converted into open educational resources

OBJECTIVE 5.2 TRAINING

Facilitate the training of Youth, and young adults with or without disabilities and those under difficult circumstances to give them skills for self-sustenance.

Activity 5.2.1

Establish a vocational training centre to provide training in employable local skills

Activity 5.2.2

Identify, assess and recruit beneficiaries for training

Expected outcomes for objective 5.2

- Vocational training centre established
- Beneficiaries identified, assessed and trained

GOAL 6 IMPROVED AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

Use expertise of members and partners to facilitate adoption and use of modern techniques of production to improve on the productivity of agricultural activities

OBJECTIVE 6.1 IMPROVE ON AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

Facilitate learning opportunities for target communities on improved agricultural practices

Activity 6.1.1

Identify better agricultural practices

Activity 6.1.2

Identify target beneficiaries

Activity 6.1.3

Facilitate training of target groups on better agricultural practices

Activity 6.1.4

Work with partners to identify useful agricultural knowledge and materials for conversion into Open Educational Resources that could easily be accessible to the target groups.

Expected outcomes for objective 6.1

- Better agricultural practices identified

- Target beneficiaries identified and mobilized
- Training on better agricultural practices conducted
- Agricultural materials converted into Open Educational Resources.

GOAL 7 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Mobilize the necessary resources to facilitate the participation of the marginalised groups in global/national/local efforts to conserve the environment.

OBJECTIVE 7.1 PARTICIPATE IN ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION CAMPAIGNS

Facilitate the marginalized groups to take part in the on going efforts to protect and conserve the environment

Activity 7.1.1

Work with relevant development partners to involve the marginalized groups in the on going environmental campaigns

Activity 7.1.2

Design specific projects to sensitize the marginalised groups on issue related to environmental education

Expected outcomes for objective 7.1

Marginalized groups involved

B. Information on the Proposed Project

Promotion of Equal Human Rights and Elimination of All Forms of Barriers against People with Disabilities in Uganda

Background

The 2002 Population and Housing Census indicate that at least 4 out of every 25, or 16 per cent of the population, are disabled. Applying this estimate to today's Ugandan population (approximately 35 million), while at the same time considering the political insurgencies that occurred in some regions, would indicate that there may be some 6 million or more disabled people in the country. Uganda is one of the few countries in the region that boast of comprehensive legal provisions for inclusion of people with disabilities in the country's development process. The main framework for this is the 1995 Uganda Constitution which enshrined in it specific provisions on disability. The Constitution emphasizes achievement of:

- (a) Fair representation of marginalised groups (including disabled persons), and
- (b) Recognition of the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities.

These aspirations are further articulated by article 35 where it is specified that persons with disabilities have a right to respect and human dignity and that the state and society shall take appropriate measures to ensure that they realize their full mental and physical potential. Similarly, Parliament is charged with the responsibility of enacting laws appropriate for the protection of persons with disabilities.

According to Article 21 of the Constitution, all persons are equal before and under the law in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life in every other aspect and shall enjoy equal rights. The Constitution further stipulates that a person shall not be discriminated against on the ground of sex, race, colour, ethnic origin, tribe, birth, creed or religion, or social economic standing, political opinion or disability. On the other hand Article 32 further stipulates that the state shall take affirmative action in favour of groups marginalised on the basis of gender, age, disability or any other reason created by history, tradition or custom, for the purpose of redressing imbalances which exist against them, and that Parliament shall make relevant laws, including laws for the establishment of an equal opportunities commission, for the purpose of giving full effect to the above objective. Here below is the synopsis of the additional disability legal framework.

The Persons with Disabilities Act, 2006, makes provisions for the elimination of all forms of discriminations against people with disabilities and towards equal opportunities. The Local Government Act, 1997, Parliamentary Elections Statute, 1996, and the Movement Act, 1998. These laws aim to increase the representation of disabled people in the public sphere. Traffic and Road Safety Act, 1998, prohibits denial of a driving permit on the basis of disability. Uganda Communications Act, 1998, provides for the promotion of research into the development and use of new communications techniques and technologies in favor of persons with disabilities. Workers' Compensation Act, 2000, provides compensation to workers who are injured or disabled through industrial accidents. The National Council for Disability Act (No. 14), 2003, monitors and evaluates the rights of persons with disabilities as set out in international conventions and legal instruments, the Constitution and other laws. The Business, Technical, Vocational Education and Training (BTVET) Act, No. 12, 2008, promotes equitable access to education and training for all disadvantaged groups, including disabled people. National Policy on Disabilities, 2006, provides a human rights-based framework for responding to the needs of persons with disabilities. The Equal Opportunity Act, 2006, and the Employment Act (No. 6), 2006, both prohibit discrimination of persons in employment based on disability. The Universal Primary Education Act makes it financially possible for families to send their disabled children to school by providing free

primary education to four children in every family, including disabled children. The Uganda Vision 2025 and the Poverty Eradication Action Program (PEAP), provide a long-term development framework and initiatives aimed at sustaining rapid economic growth and tackling poverty.

In addition to the above; Uganda, on 25th September, 2008 ratified the UN convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities whose purpose, according to Article 1 of the Convention, “... *is to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities, and to promote respect for their inherent dignity*”.

All the above attest to the government’s will and some degree of commitment to improving the quality of life for the disabled community in Uganda. Therefore, it could be argued that there are no deliberate efforts to frustrate the participation of disabled people in social, political and economic mainstream community programmes.

The Disability Situation in Uganda

According to the Joint Study entitled “Chronic Poverty and Disability in Uganda”, carried out for Action on Disability and Development, and ACFA Uganda, exclusion of people with disabilities in Uganda was noted to happen in three different ways: economic, social and political.

Economically, exclusion centered around obstacles to participation in livelihood activities, especially those of an income generation nature. Access to financial resources was noted to be a major factor in this regard. While there was no evidence of official policy by financial institutions to exclude disabled people from accessing loans, most disabled people were on record for having been denied credit facilities in nearly all such financial institutions “simply because managers thought they had no ability to pay back”. People with disabilities were also excluded from joining credit groups by able-bodied group members. In such instances members of the groups feared that if allowed, disabled people would never be able to pay back their loans. In certain instances it was clear that able-bodied community members “sympathized with the condition of disabled persons” to the extent that they “pitifully excluded” them. Evidence that came from Nkokonjeru Providence Home in Mukono revealed that community members who live around the home complained of disabled children being involved in agriculture as part of their routine schedules. To the majority of such people disabled children should never, in the first place, have been “subjected to hard tasks” such as agriculture. The story from the disabled children themselves was however quite different:

“By participating in agriculture we have shown the world that we are able to do things by ourselves”

- Disabled Children at Nkokonjeru Providence Home

“Growing crops and doing work towards personal livelihood has been an empowering process for us.

- Disabled Children at Nkokonjeru Providence Home

Social exclusion: evidence on this took different forms. Disabled children, it was noted, were rarely given an opportunity to go to school; hence their socialization was limited at an early stage. Reasons for this varied considerably. In a few instances, some parents “felt ashamed” to show their disabled children. In

other instances children taken to schools also found little or nothing to do there as schools lacked trained teachers, appropriate equipment or the disabled children even met with outright negative reactions from teachers and other children. This discouraged them (the disabled children) from participating in school activities.

Failure to benefit from educational opportunities condemned disabled children to perpetual poverty. To many parents of disabled children, therefore, their children's disability was quite expensive. The architecture in most schools continues to be a major physical barrier to participation of disabled children in education. In Wandegeya Muslim School, for example, disabled children supported by Salvation Army cannot be promoted to higher forms simply because upper classes are physically located "upstairs". Similarly, deaf and blind children are sometimes excluded from enrolling in UPE Schools because teachers lack the necessary skills to teach.

Disabled teenagers on the other hand, especially as they explore and discover their sexuality, find it extremely difficult to find boyfriends or girlfriends, which in turn makes them vulnerable to "any willing sexual partners", sometimes carrying with them the risk of HIV/AIDS. Several reports, however, also mention men who only want to "explore" the sexuality of a disabled person but have no intention of entering into long-term relationships. Adult disabled persons, also, neither have genuine friendships nor fully participated in social activities. Exclusion from health services was noted to be a widespread problem in nearly all the research districts. This problem aside, disabled people even when they turned up at local dispensaries with certain ailments were automatically referred to bigger hospitals as at the lower levels staff were unsure how to handle disabled persons. Most disabled women were observed to be particularly vulnerable because:

- They lack permanent marriage partners
- They are unable to defend themselves in case they are attacked sometimes raped.
- They may themselves be seeking to have a child at any cost and with anybody able and willing to father the child.
- They are unable to make firm decisions on matters of sexuality due to powerlessness resulting from various forms of social discrimination
- Many are made to believe that they are "simply being helped to satisfy their sexual desires".
- Communication materials that are prepared on important health messages such as HIV/AIDS are either inaccessible or the mode in which they are transmitted unfriendly.
- They lack sensitization on reproductive issues

The implications of social exclusion range from missed opportunities in education, to seclusion and non-participation in development activities. Many disabled persons also miss out on development-oriented information in health, governance, etc. which further marginalize them from participation in mainstream activities.

Political exclusion took on a slightly different dimension during the Study. Disabled respondents from Bwaise, Mbarara and Iganga complained that they are rarely invited to community meetings, and on a few occasions when they are invited, their views are not taken into consideration. But there was also insufficient organisation of disabled people at Village, Parish and Sub-County levels, with the consequence that no discussed agenda were ever developed in a bottom-up manner. Indeed many of the disabled people that the Study team talked to bemoaned the top-heavy nature of the National Union for

Disabled Persons of Uganda (NUDIPU), arguing that its much acclaimed national profile was not matched with results on the ground.

Given the now much acclaimed affirmative action for disabled people it was assumed that articulation of disabled people's needs in existing governance structures through disabled people's representatives had now taken root, and was beginning to yield positive results. The reality on the ground is rather different. In nearly all sites that the study team visited, disabled councilors were unclear about the role that they were supposed to play. For many preoccupation was with what appeared like "peripheral issues" in disability, such as obtaining some mobility appliances for members (Gamba, Mukono and Ibanda, Mbarara), or having some money voted for supporting disabled persons in undertaking their livelihood (income generation) activities (Iganga). Once a vote was created in the Local Council's budget, any disabled councilor trying to raise an issue regarding the welfare of their constituents would be quickly rebuffed with such words as: "your budget already exists - use that". Sadly, too, even when votes have been created there is little evidence to suggest that such monies are ever realized. The limited focus by disabled people's councilors, has led to budgeting for resources at the local level to continue to be carried out in traditional fashion. Focus has been on the same old priorities, the only difference now being that some monies are voted for disability. The missed opportunity at the political level therefore, is for issues of disabled people to be mainstreamed into all aspects of planning and budgeting, regardless of whether a vote on disability exists or not. An important aspect of exclusion for disabled people was noted to be in the justice system. While the law does not deliberately exclude disabled people, in practice many are excluded from having a fair hearing.

Despite having a very pro-disabled National Constitution and affirmative action for people with disabilities (for example the Local Government Act (1997) and the Tertiary Institutions Act), many of the existing laws in the country still failed to protect the rights of people with disabilities. Worse still, through legislation, some barriers were said to be created that prevent people with disabilities from accessing equal opportunities. An example of this was said to be provisions in the Traffic Act. Although there has, since enactment of the national constitution in 1995, been some effort to include people with disabilities in mainstream political activity, only a few real attempts have been made to identify and eliminate discriminatory legislation from the country's statute books. Many aspects of past discriminatory legislation remain. In addition, some new laws and amendments contain sections, which directly or indirectly lead to discrimination against people with disabilities. As a result, large sections of the legislative framework in Uganda still fail to meet international human rights standards and principles with regard to the rights of people with disabilities. One reason why legislative discrimination continues to take place is that discrimination is not always obvious merely from reading a statute. Problems often arise when the law or statute is applied. Such problems may include:

- the way regulations governing specific Acts are drawn up;
- the way Acts and/or their regulations are administered;
- inappropriate and or ignorant interpretation of the law and
- poor monitoring of the law.

Problem Statement

Despite the government's will and some degree of commitment to improve the situation facing People with disabilities; manifested in the legal frameworks in place, instances of institutional and cultural exclusion appear to be pervasive in Uganda. The policies, legal and institutional frameworks while being supportive of disabled people, have not been operationalised to be of practical benefit. Majority of our communities are ignorant about them and this informs their practice (including PWDs and cannot therefore demand for their rights). People with Disabilities face extreme conditions of poverty, have limited opportunities for accessing education, health, suitable housing and employment opportunities. Experience has clearly demonstrated that disabled people continue to be excluded from society, are largely an invisible and silent population, and consequently lack capacity to cope, communicate, and contribute.

It is not unusual to have programme implementers suggest that time, energy and resources should first be devoted to non-disabled populations, with the assumption that disabled populations will receive attention as soon as the problems with the non-disabled population are solved. This is unacceptable. The lives of individuals with disability are no less valuable than the lives of those who are not disabled: there is no reason why the millions who live with a disability should delay or deny their needs and wait for an unspecified point in the future. This is not only a human rights issue. This situation violates the human rights of the disabled people and frustrates their efforts to participate in democratic processes. If conditions surrounding PWDs are to practically change, communities must be sensitized on international and local laws and policies that embody the fundamental human rights for PWDs. Poverty alleviation in Uganda and the genuine progress toward achievement of the Millennium Development Goals will never be realised unless disabled people are actively and effectively participating in mainstream community, national, and international economic and social development efforts.

Goals & Objectives (Solution = Output):

Project Goal

To create awareness among communities about the Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities and the National laws, Acts, and Policies Specific to the rights of People with Disabilities in Uganda.

Project Objectives

1. Public awareness raised of the Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities and the National laws, Acts, and Policies through media, publications and events throughout the project period.

Activity 1.1

Identify and Form task force to document and translate policies and legal frameworks.

Activity 1.2

Provide basic training to the taskforce.

Activity 1.3

Create and manage Database on Disability related International and local legal instruments.

Activity 1.4

Raise awareness of the discriminative practices against PWDs & promote benefits of diversity

Activity 1.5

Develop, produce and place media support materials

Activity 1.6

Conduct Radio Programs on disability & human rights Issues

Activity 1.7

Celebrate Disability International and National days

Expected outcomes/output for objective1

- Task force formed to document and translate legal provisions
 - Task force trained
 - Database created and managed
 - Awareness raised of discriminative practices against PWDs
 - Media support materials developed and produced
 - Radio programmes conducted
 - International and National disability days celebrated
2. Advocacy capacities built and sensitization carried out, of government officials, teachers, community leaders, police, health workers, and other change agents on disability rights within project time frame.

Activity 2.1

Analyze policy gaps related to effective participation of people with disabilities and prepare policy briefs

Activity 2.2

Organize sensitization workshops for target communities groups

Activity 2.3

Advocate and lobby for integration of disability interests into mainstream community programmes

Expected outcomes/outputs for objective 2

- Policies and legal provisions analyzed for gaps and Policy briefs prepared
 - Sensitization workshops organized for target groups
 - Advocacy and lobbying for integration of disability concerns done.
3. Awareness raising carried out by project team to reduce cultural resistances and obstacles to PWDs' effective participation in socio-economic and political mainstream community programmes throughout the project period.

Activity 3.1

Sensitize communities on socio-economic and political barriers faced by PWDs

Activity 3.2

Identify, strengthen and promote inclusive and democratic practices

Activity 3.3

Facilitate and promote collaborative initiatives.

Expected outcome/output for objective 3

- Communities sensitized on socio-economic barriers faced by PWDs
 - Inclusive and democratic practices identified, strengthened and promoted
 - Collaborative initiatives facilitated
4. At least 1000 PWDs sensitized and empowered to assert their rights and actively participate in political and socio-economic transformation processes by the end of the project.

Activity 4.1

Empower PWDs with information and knowledge, and build their capacity to claim their rights.

Activity 4.2

Strengthen and promote collaborative linkages with other DPOs

Activity 4.3

Liaise with local and community leaders to promote community engagement

Activity 4.4

Facilitate gender mainstreaming of women with disabilities.

Expected outcome/output for objective 4

- 1000 PWDs empowered to assert and actively participate in mainstream democratic processes
- Collaborative linkages with DPOs strengthened
- Links with local community leaders created and maintained
- Gender mainstreaming facilitated

Beneficiaries (Target Group):

- People with Disabilities

People with Disabilities are the main target beneficiary group but project will reach out to:

- Policy makers
- Teachers
- Community leaders
- Police
- CSO and/or DPOs
- Communities

experience which could be harnessed throughout the project period. This fits in well with our Self-Advocacy Strategy. We have just completed a project on promotion of sexual reproductive health needs and rights of persons with disabilities supported by IPPF and the Global partners in action.

Description of the approach: how the project intends to create changes, what methods Would be utilised, how different social groups and interests would be taken into consideration.

The project ideally aims at sensitization of communities about the human rights and the legal provisions that guarantee the participation of people with disabilities in socio-economic and political mainstream programmes in Uganda. Throughout the project, persons with disabilities will be used to champion their cause (Self-advocacy) thereby empowering and building capacity of this marginalised group to challenge discriminative practices among communities. While the project intends to spread the campaign to the general public through radio programmes, special target will be made to focus on: law enforcement agents, teachers, community leaders, development workers, and policy makers.

Risks.

People with Disabilities may lack enough confidence to effectively play their role of Self-advocacy.

Inputs.

Human Resources, Financial Resources, Equipments, Materials, time, etc.

Description of the personnel involved (Procurement of new personnel).

A project Management Committee will be headed by Mr. Kasule Ronald. Ronald is an Administrator of ACFA Uganda. He is a candidate for a master's degree in Educational Planning, Economics, and International Development (MA. EPEID), of the Institute of Education, London University. He holds a diploma in Community-Based Rehabilitation of Kyambogo University, Department of Community Disability Studies, and a degree in Adult and Community Education of Makerere University. He is a PWD himself, with vast experience in disability issues. There will be two field officers, an accountant, and a few support staff that will occasionally be called up to give a hand. Except for the accountant that will be contracted by the project, the rest of the project team are already available volunteers of the organisation. The Executive Director will be working hand in hand with the project committee to ensure that everything happened according to the plan.

Description of salaries and other benefits

The project may not afford to pay full salaries to the project team members but allowances will be provided to the members in order for them to effectively pursue project activities.

Monitoring arrangements (Reporting schedule).

Basically, the monitoring system will be inbuilt where diversions will be identified as soon as they occur. Monitoring tools such as reporting, monthly meetings, project visits and advisory meetings will be held regularly and information will be channelized to review the progress of the project with all stakeholders including the primary beneficiaries and the donor. Further, a deliberate effort will made to make reports every month about the progress of the project, and these will be shared among project stakeholders especially the Finnish embassy and other supporters.

BIENNIAL BUDGET A			
A. BUDGET BY ACTIVITY			
Activity ID	Activity Title	Activity Description	Amount in US\$
Create Information Database			
Activity 1		Create and manage Disability Information database	10445
Activity 1		Identify & form task force	834
Activity 1		Provide basic training	1389
Activity 1		Identify and document disability related Acts	1945
Activity 1		Facilities & administration	4184
Subtotal			18797
Awareness Raising			
Activity 2		Raise awareness of the discriminative practices against PWDs	5556
Activity 2		Develop, produce and place media support materials	1584
Activity 2		Conduct Radio Programms on disability Issues	12000
Activity 2		Organize sensitization workshops	11112
Activity 2		Celebrate Disability International and National days	5556
Activity 2		Facilities & administration	4184
Subtotal			39992
Advocate for Inclusive Policies			
Activity 3		Analyze policy gaps	13889
Activity 3		Identify, strengthen and promote inclusive and democratic practices	13334
Activity 3		Advocacy and lobbying	8334
Activity 3		Facilitate and promote collaborative initiatives	13889
Activity 3		Facilities & administration	4184
Sub-total			53630
Capacity Building			
Activity 4		Empower and build capacity of PWDs	16667
Activity 4		Strengthen and promote collaborative linkages with other DPOs	13889
Activity 4		Liaise with local and community leaders	11112
Activity 4		Facilitate gender mainstreaming,	8889
Activity 4		Facilities & administration	4184
Sub-total			54741
Coordination			
Activity 5		Employee costs for a project manager, 2 Field officers, an accountant, 2 support staff, and fees for consultants	108968
Activity 5		4X4 Vehicle	35000
Activity 5		Facilities & administration	134666
Sub-total			278634
Activity 5	Audit	Internal & External	2500
Sub-total			2500
Total Project Cost			448294
Monitoring & Evaluation			19829
Total Requested Grant Amount			468123

BIENNIAL BUDGET B				
B. BUDGET BY INPUT				
NO.	Type of Input	Description	Amount in US\$	
1	Salaries	This will include salaries for a project manager, 2 Field officers, an accountant, 2 support staff, and fees for consultants.	108968	
2	Travel	Includes funds required to cover costs for transport by project team, hotel, per diem, Vehicle hire, and meals.	59904	
3	Workshops	Workshops will be held to discuss activity specific issues & cross-cutting issues affecting implementation of project. Payments include rental of premises, refreshments, resources, travel, hotel, meals, sign language interpreters,	31602	
4	Meetings & Seminars	Meetings & Seminars will be held from time to time with different stakeholders for purposes of lobbying & advocacy, planning, evaluation, & implementation of specific activities. Payments include rental of premises, refreshments, interpretation, travel, meals, public address system, & resources.	29380	
5	Project Equipment	Funds will be required to purchase a 4x4 WD vehicle to facilitate movement to monitor project activities & implementation of some field activities. Some computers will be purchased: one laptop, a desktop & a printer will be assigned to project manager's office, one laptop, a desktop, printer, scanner, & digital camera will be provided for data-base management. One desktop will be allocated to the accountant's office.	45445	
6	Outreach	This will include funds for printed materials containing information translated into simpler language forms for local communities. Part of the funds will be required for running a series of radio programmes to discuss project issues regarded important for communities.	19096	
7	Miscellaneous	This includes funds for facilities & project administration: communication, fuel, insurance, utilities, rentals, courier, postage, and some contingencies.	151399	
8	Audit	External & Annual audits	2500	
	Total Project Cost		448294	
9	Monitoring & Evaluation		19829	
	Total Requested Grant Amount		468123	

Auditing arrangements.

An external specialist will be contracted to audit the project books of accounts and the results will be integrated in the reports and then shared with project stakeholders.