



Reference for Integrated Disabled Women Activities of Iganga (IDIWA)

April 9, 2018

UN Trust Fund for Ending Violence Against Women and Girls

To Whom It May Concern:

I am delighted to send you this reference for IDIWA, an organization of women with disabilities in Iganga District in Uganda and a repeat grantee of the Disability Rights Fund (DRF) and the Disability Rights Advocacy Fund (DRAF).

IDIWA is a highly effective organization – run by Elizabeth Kayanga – a pioneer in the disability movement in Uganda – at District level. With funding from DRAF, IDIWA lobbied successfully – over a number of years - for [passage in 2017 of a District Ordinance](#) to increase access of persons with disabilities to health, education, finance and other public services. Alongside this, IDIWA has worked, with DRF funding, [to address gaps in access to sexual and reproductive health services](#) among women with disabilities, as part of a longer-term effort to improve their socio-economic status.

Through their projects, IDIWA has not only gained increased district-level policy and financial commitments to persons with disabilities, but also physical changes to health facilities and attitudinal and behavioral changes among health personnel – enabling more women with disabilities to access SRH services. In addition, they have successfully rallied women with disabilities in their organization and the wider district to know and demand their rights.

These successes and their networks are a critical foundation for further work on gender-based violence among women with disabilities at district level in Uganda.

I highly recommend IDIWA to the UN Trust Fund for Ending Violence Against Women and Girls.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "DS" with a flourish.

Diana Samarasan
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