



PRESS RELEASE

Disability Rights Fund Releases First 2012 Request for Proposals: Addressing India, Indonesia, Lebanon, Mexico, and Ukraine

February 9, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Diana Samarasan, Director

Telephone: +1-617-261-4593

Email: dsamarasan@disabilityrightsfund.org

BOSTON, MA – The Disability Rights Fund (DRF)—a grantmaking collaborative between donors and the global disability community which supports the human rights of persons with disabilities—today announced its first 2012 grants round, “Implementing Our Rights.” Grantmaking in this round will be targeted to disabled persons’ organizations (DPOs) in India, Indonesia, Lebanon, Mexico, and Ukraine.

The broad objective of the Fund—which was officially launched in March 2008—is to empower DPOs in the developing world, the Middle East, and Eastern Europe/former Soviet Union to participate in ratification, implementation and monitoring of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

In the first round of 2012 grantmaking, applicant organizations from Indonesia, Lebanon and Mexico may apply for grants. Organizations from India and Ukraine may apply by invitation only. Applicant organizations from eligible countries may apply as: a) single organizations or partnerships for 12-month Small Grants and/or b) national DPO-led coalitions for 24-month National Coalition Grants. Grants to single organizations will range from USD 5,000 to 20,000 and will support efforts to build CRPD skills and to develop rights-based advocacy and monitoring on the CRPD. Grants to national DPO-led coalitions will range from USD 30,000 to 50,000 per year (60,000 – 100,000 over 24 months) and will support advocacy toward ratification of the CRPD, passage of specific legislation to accord with the CRPD, or the production of alternative/parallel reports to UN monitoring mechanisms.

Interested organizations are urged to review the full eligibility criteria and application details posted at the Fund’s website, <http://www.disabilityrightsfund.org/grantmaking>. Any questions on the proposal process should be directed to info@disabilityrightsfund.org. The deadline for applications is March 15, 2012.

In 2011, the Fund made 111 grants to organizations in 18 countries (Bangladesh, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kiribati, Lebanon, Mexico, Nicaragua, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Solomon Islands, Uganda, Ukraine, and Vanuatu), totaling USD 2,046,895. Grants ranged from USD 5000 - 100,000 and supported CRPD skills-building, local rights advocacy, and national-level CRPD promotion, implementation and monitoring by DPO-led coalitions.

DRF's donors include the American Jewish World Service, the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), the Leir Foundation, the Open Society Foundations, The Sigrid Rausing Trust, and the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID).

####