The annual survey of the organizations who had a grant from Disability Rights Fund

What the words mean

This is Disability Rights Fund’s big plan for their work in future. It explains what they will do, where they will do it and who will be involved.

About the annual grantee survey

In February to March 2023 Disability Rights Fund did the annual survey of the organizations of people with disabilities who had received a grant.

131 organizations run by people with disabilities took part. This was almost 80% of the organizations who had a grant.

The 2023 survey was shorter. It also asked questions about what the organizations thought about Disability Rights Fund’s new strategic plan for future work.
The main strengths of Disability Rights Fund

The main strengths were:

- Helping organizations to grow and have a stronger voice
- Focusing on organizations run for and by people with disabilities
- Focusing on younger and smaller organizations
- Supporting organizations that include marginalized groups within the community of persons with disabilities
- How the grants are given and managed
- The focus on the Convention of Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Having experienced staff
- Trust and equal partnerships
- Communication
- Being flexible
- Thinking of new and different ways of working
- Long term support of projects and organizations
The organizations who had grants from other funders as well as **Disability Rights Fund**, said the **Disability Rights Fund** were very different in the way they worked from other funders. They helped organizations to get stronger and have more voice. They especially helped small and new organizations. They have good communication and give funding for a longer time.

The organizations were asked if they thought **Disability Rights Fund** should speak up about the rights of persons with disabilities. About ¾ of organizations said yes. Almost all of the organizations in Haiti said yes. Organizations think **Disability Rights Fund** should speak up for persons with disabilities to UN agencies and to people who donate money.

The organizations thought that **Disability Rights Fund** could help more with advocacy support for them to participate in government meetings, regional networks etc. They also thought that there should be help with checking on how well a project or service is doing. And with training on specific topics, capacity building and safeguarding.
The most important thing that organizations get from **Disability Rights Fund** is their grant. Other help was important too like technical help and safeguarding support.

The organizations were asked if they have been supporting persons with disabilities who are less well heard. Most organizations said yes.

Deaf persons are now being included more. And also people from these groups:

- Persons who are blind and partially sighted
- Persons with albinism
- Persons with psychosocial disability
- Persons with hearing difficulties
- Persons with deaf-blindness
- Persons with intellectual disability
- Family carers of persons with a disability
- Persons with multiple disabilities
- Little people
- Persons with epilepsy
- Persons with autism

There are a lot of differences between regions.
There was more participation by women and girls. And also by:

- Youth with disabilities
- Indigenous persons with disabilities
- LGBTI persons with disabilities
- Persons with disabilities living with HIV and AIDS
- Persons with disabilities from ethnic or racial minorities
- Refugees with disabilities.

The survey showed that Disability Rights Fund offers help in many ways, not just a single service. Disability Rights Fund helps each group depending on what help and support they need, and the opportunities they have.

Disability Rights Fund has many things in common with other organizations who give grants. What makes Disability Rights Fund different are its strengths (see above). Disability Rights Fund should build on this in the future.
The survey showed that *Disability Rights Fund* should build on its strengths and differences with other funders. They must put in the **strategic plan** that they should continue to support local organizations run for and by persons with disabilities.

The organizations said that the annual survey should help everyone learn, and find out what has worked well. And how it has made a difference to the lives of persons with disabilities. *The Disability Rights Fund* must also communicate the **strategic plan** to all the organizations, and share how it is making a difference.

When the new **strategic plan** is finished, *The Disability Rights Fund* need to think about how the annual survey can help check on how things develop, and what can be learned.