



Nigeria

How the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act became Law

What was happening?



In 2011 and in 2015, The National Assembly of Nigeria said there should be a law to stop people with disabilities being treated unfairly.



The President in power at the time would not sign it and make it law.

Who made this happen?



This was led by the Nigerian umbrella organization of persons with disabilities called **JONAPWD**.

What was done 2018 to 2022



In 2018 lawyers from **ALDIN** used the Freedom of Information Act to ask when the Act would be signed and become law. They worked with **JONAPWD** and **CBM** and told everyone in Nigeria how important the law was.



Before the 2019 General Election lots of people started asking the President why the law wasn't signed yet.



In 2019 the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria finally signed the bill, which became the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities Act 2019



It says people with disabilities have rights and should be treated fairly. People who break this law can now be punished.

Why is this important



The Act helps organizations of persons with disabilities to speak up for disability - inclusive policies and programmes.



Lots of organizations worked really hard together to make sure The National Disability Act was signed. It shows the power of working together.

How did DRF and DRAF help?



They helped by hiring a communication specialist to support public awareness campaigns.

The groups involved

ALDIN - Association of Lawyers with Disabilities in Nigeria

CBM - Christian Blind Mission International

JONAPWD - Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities
a Nigerian organization of persons with disabilities
