



## **BOLDLINE ACCELERATOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM**

### **1 Name of Organization**

Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities International, Inc (State of Texas, United States of America Incorporation); (aka) Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities Initiative (ERPWDI) (Nigerian Corporate Affairs Commission Incorporation)

### **2 Full address and postal code**

2410 South Kirkwood Road, Suite 260, Houston, Texas 77077, USA (Head Office) **AND**

Archippus Compound, Okpuno Umuota Village, P.O. Box 797, Obosi, Idemili North LGA, Anambra State, Nigeria

Email Address [erpdi@yahoo.com](mailto:erpdi@yahoo.com)

### **3 For-profit or not-for-profit status**

Non- Profit Organization (Organization for Persons with Disabilities (OPD)

### **4 Industry affiliation (e.g., health care, aviation, energy)**

Advocators and Educators on Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); Disability-Inclusive Developments, Innovation and Technology under the SDGs, 2030 Agenda, especially, SDGs 1-5.

### **5 Links to biographies of the participants or LinkedIn profiles (preferable) that will be shared with the other participants**

A team of Participants will be selected from the Public-Private Partners (P3) of Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities International, Inc, Plateau, Benue and Anambra States of Nigeria. Please visit:

- a. **PLATEAU STATE GOVERNMENT:** <http://www.plateaustate.gov.ng/>
- b. **BENUE STATE GOVERNMENT:** <https://benuestate.gov.ng/>
- c. **ANAMBRA STATE GOVERNMENT:** <http://www.anambrastate.gov.ng/>
- d. Equal Rights website is still under construction

Please see two copies of our Public-Private Partnership Agreements with the Plateau and Anambra State Governments attached.



On November 20, 2017, we held a very successful diplomatic meeting with the UNDP-Nigeria's Country Director, "To discuss our Request and Possible Areas of Partnership", in regards to implementation of the UNDP South-South Cooperation team in the Development Impact Group, Bureau for Policy and Program Support (BPPS), global project titled "Saemaul Initiative Towards Sustainable and Inclusive New Communities (ISNC)" and the Republic of Korea's KOICA, A New Rural Development Paradigm and the Inclusion and Sustainable New Community Model Inspired by the Saemaul Undong (SMU), and also to approve our years of research and development team on inaugurations of its "Country project steering committee who will be in charge of leading approving country level work plans and monitoring progress" in Anambra and Plateau states, all the 36 states of Nigeria including Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Africa's Lake Chad basin nations (Republic du Niger, Chad, Cameroun and Nigeria), led by Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities International Inc. (ERPDI), and Allies, as mandated by the UNDP established rules and regulations for the project. Letter reference Number: ADM/1441/31/10/2017. We held our first inaugural meeting of the 'Country project steering committee, on August 15-18, 2018 at Jos Plateau State.

Equal Rights true history is on, Advocacy and negotiation for Nigeria to sign and ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and its accompanying Optional Protocol, on March 30, 2007 and September 24, 2010, respectively, its implementation and that of Disability-Inclusive Developments, Innovation and Technology and the SDGs, 2030 Agenda, especially, SDGs 1-5. We also, held multiple successful meetings on, June 12, 2017, with the UN DSPD/DESA and Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the UN, and also, June 14, 2017, Side-Event, TITLE: "Nigerian/African Diasporas and Coalition Breaks a Decade Permanent Barriers, placed on the CRPD, Disability-Inclusive Developments/SDGs," led by Chief Eric Ndubueze Ufom, Mrs. Ngozi Pauline Ikebuaku, Mrs. Patricia Ovuoke John-Oseh, Mrs. Oluwakemi Okufuwa, Iyom Lady Ifeoma B. Oni-Orisan, Comr. Tom Chidi Iwotor, Her Excellency Mrs. Regina Bako Lalong of Plateau State, Hon. Mrs. Felicia Yakzum, Senior Special Adviser to the Governor of Plateau State on Women Affairs and Social Developments, Hon. Arc. Michael Okonkwo, Anambra State Commissioner for Environment; Hon. Mrs. Dorcas Ukpe, Special Assistant to the Governor of Benue State on Food and Nutrition; Barrister Chuks Ezewuzie, Senior Special Assistant to the Governor of Anambra State on Disability Matters, represented Anambra State Government and her First Lady and others. We successfully, started massive high-level actions, advocating and negotiating for their true implementations, including, Nigeria's implementations of all that we discussed and agreed upon in regards to implementation of the CRPD, Disability-Inclusive Development/National Annual Budgets and SDGs, 2030 Agenda, especially SDGs, 1-5 for women and girls.

On the part of Anambra State, Valid, arguable and verifiable, Nigeria's, America's and World's records/Achieves, showed that the People of Anambra State, Igbo ethnic group



of Nigeria, led by Nri Ancient Kingdom, who has been equally the champions of this P3, for Centuries ago till present day, were known and recognized, as direct champions of, Nigeria's disability-inclusive, economic development and Markets, trade and industry, entrepreneurship and self-employment, health and education, true democracy and governance, peace and unity, who will help to teach others how to live in harmony.

Plateau and Benue States are known for their food production and supply in the country, but due to endemic crisis, and religious violence, farmers were displaced and food crops were destroyed. Please refer to their website for other features.

**6 Has your organization ever partnered with the U.S. government? Describe.**

YES. As professional Disability-Inclusive Advocators and Educators, we on several occasions, traveled to Washington, DC, where we successfully negotiated with the Department of States, Office for the international Disability Rights and the USAID-Headquarters, to allocate funds to 27million Nigerians with disabilities through the USAID-Nigeria and US Mission to Nigeria, and gave several grants to the Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities of Nigerian (JONAPWD), Disability Rights Advocates Corporation (DRAC) and others. We also on several occasions, were invited by the the U.S. Department of State Secretary's Office of Global Partnerships , Concordia, and the University of Virginia Darden School Institute for Business in Society, to apply for the P3 Impact Award, which we always responded timely to, with the exception of the 2017 application, which we lost due to the following valid reasons and barriers.

- a. Lack of True Collaborations
- b. Lack of Cooperation
- c. Impatience
- d. Lack of True Networking and Working Together
- e. Lack of respect for Intellectual Property
- f. Selfishness
- g. Lack of Transparency
- h. Lack of Accountability
- i. Lack of keeping proper, accurate records that will support P3 programs
- j. Lack of Time management
- k. Afraid of taking risk
- l. Lack of peace and unity
- m. Lack of Knowledge of the concept of Public-Private Partnership (P3), which always denies them access to International Organized Networking.
- n. Religious believe in embracing Scientific Innovation and Technology, **STEM** Education
- o. Failure to form and put together appropriate Stakeholders for P3
- p. Lack of true Democracy and Governance



We also officially presented our P3 agreements to the UN DSPD/DESA, which directly, contributed and resulted into the following UN Events for, “The 11th session of the Conference of States Parties (COSP) to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities which took place from Tuesday 12 to Thursday 14 June 2018 at UN Headquarters in New York. On Monday 11 June, a Civil Society CRPD Forum was held to complement the Conference; “The overarching theme of the Conference is “Leaving no one behind through the full implementation of the CRPD”. Three round tables addressed the following themes; • “Roundtable One: National fiscal space, public-private partnerships and international cooperation for strengthening the implementation of the CRPD; • Roundtable Two: Women and girls with disabilities; • Roundtable Three: Political participation and equal recognition before the law.

**7 What stage is your partnership business plan (new idea, existing program going to scale)?**

We are in early stages of the following two different Public-Private Partnership (P3) Agreements. Please see the attached copies of two different P3 Agreements with the Plateau and Anambra State Governments for details.

- a. Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities International, and the First Lady of Plateau State, Office of the Special Adviser to the Plateau State Government on Women Affairs and social developments; the Plateau State Government, etc..., The **“Collaboration”**, are desirous of engaging the continuity of leading and Championing services of the Plateau State Government First Lady, Office of the Special Adviser to the Governor of Plateau State on Women Affairs and Social Development and the Plateau State Government and Support Women Initiative to Transform Children Foundation (SWITCH) in acting as the **“GOVERNMENT/PRIVATE PARTNER/COLLABORATOR”** for the **“Collaboration”** in undertaking the implementations in Plateau State, throughout the 6 Geographical Zones of Nigeria and Africa’s Lake Chad Basin Nations (Republic du Niger, Cameroon, Chad and Nigeria), of the, (a) Republic of Korea’s KOICA, UNDP and Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)’s, **“Saemaul Initiative Towards Sustainable and Inclusive New Communities (ISNC) and A New Rural Development Paradigm and the Inclusion and Sustainable New Community Model Inspired by the Saemaul Undong.”** Please see copy of P3 agreement
- (a) Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities International, Inc and Awka Capital Territory Development Authority (ACTDA) (Ministry of Environment), and Anambra State Government; The **“Collaboration”**, are desirous of engaging the continuity of leading and Championing services of Awka Capital Territory Development Authority (ACTDA), in acting as the **“GOVERNMENT PARTNER/COLLABORATOR”** for the **“Collaboration”** in undertaking the implementations in Anambra State, throughout the 6 Geographical Zones of



Nigeria and Africa's Lake Chad Basin Nations (Republic du Niger, Cameroon, Chad and Nigeria), of the Willie Obiano's Silicon Valley (Innovation & Technology Village (ITV)/Smart City of Anambra State, to be established on initial one hundred and fifty (150) Hectares of Land allocated to it; and its first Projects, (a) Republic of Korea's KOICA, UNDP and Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)'s, **"Saemaul Initiative Towards Sustainable and Inclusive New Communities (ISNC) and A New Rural Development Paradigm and the Inclusion and Sustainable New Community Model Inspired by the Saemaul Undong;"** (b) Disability-Inclusive and Accessible Sustainable Urban Development; (c) Implementing the UN Convention on the Rights for Persons with Disabilities, Disability-Inclusive Developments, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 2030 Agenda, especially SDGs, Goals 1-5 for women and girls; (d) In building of Culturally Sensitive, accessible, Disability-Inclusive Community-Based Institute for Rehabilitation and Centers for Independent Living Housing, and also Post-Polio Syndrome Clinics and Centers for Diagnostic and Clinical Managements of the late effects of Polio Virus Infection, called, Post-Polio Syndrome, Employment Developments, Work Readiness and Skills Training, Job Training and Placements, Therapeutic Recreations, Wellness and Fitness Centers, for Micro Enterprise Development, Healthcare's, sports, social engagements, capacity building and management, with its headquarters at the Enugwu-Ukwu General Hospital; as approved by the, **"Collaboration."**

- (b) UNDP South-South Cooperation team in the Development Impact Group, Bureau for Policy and Program Support (BPPS), Country project steering committee in charge of leading approving country level work plans & monitoring progress in Nigeria and Africa's Lake Chad Basin Nations, Republic du Niger, Cameroon and Chad, under the Islamic Boko Haram Terrorist insurgency and Headsmen/farmers conflicts.

- 8 Signed commitment statement to participate in the full three-day accelerator program in or around Washington, D.C.

Please see the attached signed commitment and P3 agreements between Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities International, Plateau and Anambra State Governments.

### Proposal Information:

**Problem Statement** (250 words max): *Describe the problem you are trying to solve and any relevant background information. Address the impact and innovation potential of your idea given the status quo.*

The ongoing religious crises in Nigeria has brought, massive killings of innocent civilians especially children, women and girls, conflicts, huge unemployment, especially of the youths, suicide bombing, kidnapping, torture, burning down of houses, Boko Haram insurgency and the attack of Fulani Herdsmen which, have led to loss of trillion naira worth of properties that were





either completely burnt down or damaged during the violent crises and also resulted into greater percentage of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). When the victims are not dead, they suffer from serious complex progressive life threatening physical and psychological disabilities called Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), which keeps on increasing the already huge 27million population of Nigerians with disabilities who in the history of Nigeria, have never been included in the annual budget resulting to no continuity and sustainability of all kinds of projects and services for Nigerians with Disabilities, including programs on our public-private partnership agreements with partners, geared towards achieving the UN Convention on the rights of Persons with disabilities (CRPD) mandate; Disability-Inclusive economic developments, National Annual budgets and SDGs, 2030 Agenda, especially, SDGs 1-5 for women and girls, without Nigeria engaging in true Implementation of the UN CRPD, by signing into law, Nigerians with Disabilities Rights Bill, with an essential, independent, implementation Commission, which will guarantee, Disability-Inclusive National annual Budgets for continuity and sustainability. They know they will include religion, so they do not want to sign the Disability Rights Law, because Religious Groups are not good for Disability Community.

**Idea** (250 words max): *What is the core concept for the partnership; what would it look like? How will working in a partnership obtain the outcome that is required? How does this advance religious freedom in a way that aligns with U.S. interests?*

The first inaugural meeting of the 'Country project steering committee, was held on August 15-18, 2018, at Jos Plateau State. We resolved that a women convention will be organized in February 2019 to be championed by the First Ladies of Plateau, Anambra and Benue States, including Minister for Women Affairs, where, who is who women in these states, 36 states in Nigeria including African Lake Chad Basin Nations will be involved. The convention will be extended to the Local Level, because women are the victims and mostly killed with their children in this endemic violence, but have not been given the opportunity to handle the issue. Women are also in direct contact with their children, so are in better position to advice them, to say NO to violence. Note that men have been in the fore page and achieved little or nothing. Therefore it is time the women raised their voices to be heard globally as they narrate their stories and their impact being felt in the country, for they are the gender that can use their natural powers to resolve crises and bring Peace and Unity to the society. We also agreed to extend invitation to The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Patrick Mary Mmuo and Imam Abdullahi Abubaka who saved over 300 lives in Plateau State violence of June 2018, to be used in training people to change their mind set and have the spirit of cooperation to embrace all men irrespective of religious differences.

**Resource Requirements** (250 words max): *Describe what is needed to implement your idea (resources, stakeholder buy-in, legal requirements, etc.). Address the feasibility of your idea.*

We are planning to revisit the UNDP-Nigeria. We are also planning to go to Silicon Valley and visit the Republic of Korea's KOICA. Then organize training the trainers for Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education, to empower the youths. We have



no money for the implementation. Therefore, we need help from international donor agencies which will invariably create solutions to our funding and resource constraints.

**Best Potential Partners** (250 words max): *Describe ideal partners (from 2-10) or types of partners that would make for a successful partnership.*

Ideal Partners MUST have to be ready to understand and implement the following;

- a. True Collaborations
- b. Cooperation
- c. Patience
- d. True Networking and Working Together
- e. Respect for Intellectual Property
- f. Not to be Selfish
- g. Transparency
- h. Accountability
- i. Keeping proper, accurate records that will support P3 programs
- j. Time management
- k. Afraid of taking risk
- l. Peace and Unity, freedom of worship regardless of your religious or ethnic background or believes.
- m. Have Knowledge of the concept of Public-Private Partnership (P3).
- n. Put aside his/her religious believe and embrace the 21<sup>st</sup> Century's Scientific Innovation and Technology, **STEM** Education, under the SDGs, 2030 Agenda.
- o. Form and put together appropriate Stakeholders for the P3
- p. Ready to practice true Democracy and Governance.

**Ideal End State** (150 words max): *Describe what success will look like with the implementation of your idea. Address the impact of your idea and its innovation potential*

Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities Initiative (ERPWDI) in collaboration with her Public-Private Partners, is committed, willing, and interested in the UNDP, Rep. of Korea's Seamaul Undong or Village Movement INSTITUTE, Disability-Inclusive Nigeria's Silicon Valley Innovation and Technology Village, which is the proper solution for moving the country forward in creating positive #CHANGES, which if built and well implemented, will bring REAL Sustainable Development #CHANGES, Peace and Unity, Security, Economic Progress, True Democracy and Governance, Electoral and Political stabilities in the country. Strategies to prevent urban poverty and promote social and economic inclusion with entrepreneurship, skill acquisition, job opportunities and youth empowerment that will help them to be occupied and become useful citizens will be created and guaranteed.