



## Chance for Childhood's Innovation Fund 2018 Round Inclusion Challenge

How might we effectively reduce stigma amongst teachers/parents/children and community members towards children with disabilities?

### Background to the Challenge

People with disabilities represent the world's largest minority, with around 15% of the world's population living with disabilities, of whom a disproportionate 80% live in poverty. Because they are often unjustly seen as a burden and lacking the ability to contribute later in life, children and adolescents with disabilities are most likely to be denied their rights, as they face multiple barriers to learn, participate and develop their full potential.

Whilst progress is slowly being made towards tackling the physical barriers to disability inclusion, ranging from affordable assistive devices to greater consideration for inclusive buildings, schools and cities, Chance for Childhood believes that it is often the invisible barriers and negative attitudes that continue to hold back children with disabilities.

For example, negative cultural beliefs and lack of understanding around disability make them, especially girls with disabilities, three times more likely to be victims of sexual violence. There is also growing evidence that it is not the distance to schools, but shame or fear of bullying and mistreatment, that is deterring parents from supporting the education of a child with a disability. Teachers in schools and NGO frontline workers in countries where Chance for Childhood operate also report a lack of understanding and resources to support the greatest inclusion of children with disabilities both inside and outside the classroom.

The social exclusion and marginalisation that results from experienced or anticipated stigma has long-term negative consequences on children's sense of self-worth, the skills and agency needed to use their voices and demand respect, dignity and choice, which in turn affects their future prospects in life.

### **Rebuilding young lives for a better future**

Westmead House, Westmead, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 7LP

**Tel:** 01483 230250 **Email:** [info@chanceforchildhood.org](mailto:info@chanceforchildhood.org) **Web:** [www.chanceforchildhood.org](http://www.chanceforchildhood.org)

**Registered Charity Number:** 1013587 **Registered Company Number:** 2735643

Chance for Childhood believes that complex and protracted issues affecting children and young people we support require urgent strides to achieve impact and realise the promise of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Through this dedicated Inclusion Round, Chance for Childhood aims to enable strategic investment into early-stage ideas and innovative approaches. We are calling all activists, visionary changemakers, organisations and social entrepreneurs, **working in Uganda and/or Rwanda**, to submit ideas that have the potential to generate new evidence on successful strategies to tackle stigma, and ensure **children with disabilities are not forgotten**.

### Investment Opportunities

Chance for Childhood is looking to make between 4 to 6 investments, in the following areas:

- **Identification and information:** solutions improving the identification or screening of disability by parents, teachers or caregivers, and improving tailored information and advice to support inclusion. Examples of solutions we would fund include user-friendly disability screening tools for caregivers or innovative ways to provide disability education (for example through arts, media or technology).
- **Participation:** inspiring ideas enabling children with disabilities to fully participate in education, family life or community activities. Example of solutions we would invest in range from accessible educational materials or games that promote inclusion, to toolboxes or resources enabling a wide range of communication methods for easier interaction. We are particularly interested in ideas that might benefit children with communication disabilities.
- **Accessibility:** initiatives improving access for children with disabilities to critical and quality social services, including education and justice, in particular those tackling negative attitudes or lack of knowledge amongst professionals. Examples of ideas we would fund include tools and resources equipping teachers or frontline workers to deliver inclusive services to children with disabilities, or children themselves to access prompt, child-friendly assistance where needed.

**Cross-cutting issues:** We recognise that disabilities are diverse and, moreover, interact with several factors such as geography (rural/urban), gender, age, circumstances (children on the move or in emergencies). We are particularly interested in ideas that would benefit children with disabilities that take into account and respond to multiple marginalisation factors.

### Eligibility and Evaluation Criteria

Through this inaugural round of the Innovation Fund, we will fund:

- Ideas that are new or in early stages of development, i.e. we will not be funding the ongoing costs of an existing project
- Solutions designed to be implemented in Rwanda or in Uganda (or both)
- Ideas put forward by an organisation, entrepreneur or group that is registered in some way in at least one of the two target countries
- Initiatives that will be implemented and able to demonstrate impact within a 12 months period

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Although not compulsory, solutions that have the potential to be brought to market and executed under a viable business model, will be considered favourably to be granted social investment.

### **Process and Timeline for the Challenge**

The round will open for applications on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2018, and will close at midnight (GMT+1) on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October.

Applications should be submit online via our Google Form or through downloading the application form and sending it to [challengefund@chanceforchildhood.org](mailto:challengefund@chanceforchildhood.org), inserting INCLUSION ROUND in the subject line.

Winning ideas will be announced by the 26<sup>th</sup> of October, with funding disbursed before of the year.

### **Useful Background Readings**

[Unicef Situation Analysis on the Rights of Children with Disabilities in Uganda, 2014](#)

[Examples of innovative ideas submitted to Open Ideo's open challenge on tackling stigma and improving opportunities for people with disabilities](#)

[Bond's Briefing on Stigma, disability and development](#)

[Interventions to reduce stigma and discrimination: the state of the art](#)

[Breaking barriers to inclusion – Centre for Education Innovations](#)

[Creating Change: Innovations in the World of Disability, Ashoka](#)

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