



Refugee Law Project

*School of Law, Makerere University
A Centre for Justice and Forced Migrants*



‘Not all disabilities are visible’.

TV talk show in commemoration of the International Day for Persons with Disabilities 3rd December 2021

Concept note

The annual observance of the International Day for Persons with disabilities was proclaimed in 1992, by the United Nations General Assembly resolution 47/3. It aims to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society and development, and to increase awareness of the situation of persons with disabilities in all aspects including political, social, economic and cultural life.

The Refugee Law Project joins Uganda and the global community to mark the international Day for Persons with Disabilities 2021. The day is being observed under the theme: **‘Not all disabilities are visible’**. The forced migration experience makes refugee children with special needs susceptible to trauma, stigma and discrimination, and utter exclusion due to social, economic, and cultural barriers. This limits their full participation on an equal basis with others, and exacerbates their already existing vulnerabilities.

Objectives of the TV Talk show:

1. To raise awareness on barriers that hinder access to quality inclusive education for refugee children with special needs.
2. To mobilize support from the various stakeholders towards the inclusion, equality and participation of refugee children with special needs in economic, social and political spheres of life.
3. To build effective and sustainable networks that facilitate the Refugee Law Project in implementation of activities aimed at promoting disability inclusive programming.

Panelists:

1. Mr. Rujumba, Principal Inspector and focal person Education in Emergencies, Ministry of Education and Sports
2. Dolorence Weere, Executive Director Uganda Society for the Disabled Children (USDC)
3. Suubi Akula Anderson; Psychosocial Counsellor-Refugee Law Project

Talking points

| Discussion questions | Panelist |
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| 1. Please tell us about the International Day for Persons with disabilities and why it is observed in Uganda and globally | Suubi Akula Anderson-RLP |
| 2. In your concept, you highlight the theme of the International Day for Persons with Disabilities: ‘ Not all disabilities are visible ’. Tells about this especially in the context refugee children with special needs. | Dolorence Weere - USDC |
| 3. What challenges do Refugee Children with Special Needs face in accessing quality inclusive education? How has COVID-19 exacerbated such challenges? | Rujumba – Ministry of Education & Sports |
| 4. In the context of forced migration, how may traumatic experiences affect access to quality inclusive education for refugee children with special needs? | Suubi Akula Anderson - RLP |
| 5. What is RLP doing to respond to these needs? | Suubi Akula Anderson - RLP |
| 6. How prepared are stakeholders in the Education sector to support refugee children with disabilities as schools set to reopen early next year? | Rujumba – Ministry of Education & Sports |
| 7. In the hindsight of COVID-19, what do you think can be done to ensure children with special needs do not delay or drop out? | All panelists |
| 8. As we mark this day, what can be done to create more inclusive schools that support meaningful participation for all children with disabilities and special needs. | Dolorence Weere –USDC |
| 9. What key message do you want the viewers of this show to take? | All panelists |

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