

Trickle Up Honored with InterAction 2014 Disability Inclusion Award

June 12, 2014

Trickle Up has been selected as the recipient of the InterAction 2014 Disability Inclusion Award, recognizing its long commitment to serving people with disabilities as part of the organization's work helping the poorest and most vulnerable take the first steps out of extreme poverty.

Trickle Up also received the Disability Inclusion Award in 2009, making it the only InterAction member to win it twice. Other recent recipients include World Vision, Habitat for Humanity, International Rescue Committee, and the International Federation for Electoral Standards. InterAction represents more than 180 US-based development and relief organizations.

"We are proud to recognize Trickle Up as this year's recipient of InterAction's Disability Inclusion Award. The award honors InterAction members striving to ensure that everyone - including individuals with disabilities - has the opportunity to build a better future for themselves and their families," said Samuel A. Worthington, President and CEO of InterAction.

"Working with families affected with disabilities is a core part of our commitment to support people who are marginalized and live in extreme poverty to develop the skills and confidence to become active and informed drivers of their own development," said Bill Abrams, President of Trickle Up. "It is a great honor to be selected by our peer international organizations for the Disability Inclusion Award." The award will be presented at the InterAction Forum on June 11-13 in Washington, D.C.

Founded in 1979, Trickle Up is focused on the "ultrapoor," people who live below the \$1.25/day consumption standard established by the UN as a threshold for extreme poverty. Trickle Up provides a system of business training, seed capital grants and savings programs to help families increase their income, build assets and save for the future, and develop planning skills and confidence that will help them start on a sustainable path out of poverty. Approximately 15% of Trickle Up's participants have a disability or live in a family directly affected by disability. Trickle Up operates programs in Central America, West Africa and India, as well as a technical assistance program in Egypt, Costa Rica and Ecuador.

In 2013, TU completed a three-year USAID-funded project in Guatemala serving people with disabilities, as well as helping four community-based poverty agencies and a municipal government program extend services to people with disabilities. As part of the project, Trickle Up published [Disability, Poverty and Livelihoods](#), a guide to lessons learned during the project and suggestions for effectively incorporating people with disabilities in livelihood development programs. This is available in English and Spanish and has been shared with disability networks and economic development networks. Trickle Up has also led a major disability program in Mali, funded by USAID.

To help promote inclusive programming to other organizations, Trickle Up will host [No Limits: An Expert Panel on Global Poverty and Disability](#) in New York in June 2014, featuring Judith Heumann, Special Advisor for Disability Rights at the U.S. Department of State, Charlotte McClain-Nhlapo, Coordinator for Disability and Inclusive Development at USAID and Jo Sanson, Trickle Up's Director of Monitoring, Evaluation and Research.