

The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology

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ARVO.org

## **ARVO International Advocacy Toolkit: Nigeria**

1. Which organization(s) are significant sources of research funding? (e.g., national/local governments; private funding/foundations/charity groups; large non-governmental organizations (NGOs); industry/pharmaceutical companies)

#### **Private Foundations:**

Individuals (out of pocket)

#### Industry/pharmaceutical companies:

In recent years, Ireland has become one of the leading and most attractive locations in the world for the pharmaceutical industry. As such, an increasing number of industry and biotechnologies are now investing in ophthalmology research in Ireland, particularly in common retinal disease such as age-related macular degeneration (AMD) and diabetic retinopathy. In parallel to supporting ophthalmologic research and the development of therapeutic indications, larger pharmaceutical companies are also investing in real world evidence research.

#### Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Charities:

- Sight Savers. <u>https://www.sightsavers.org/where-we-work/nigeria/</u>
- Christoffel Blinden Mission aka Christian Blind Mission (CBM). https://www.cbm.org/

# 2. What does the normal science funding/policy decision-making process look like?

Which group/committee/person within the funding/policy organization makes the decisions?

Institution-based appointees or committees

What are the criteria the funding/policy organization(s) use to make their decisions?

It is based on need, area of interest and impact of the research to the community.

### 3. Which patient advocacy groups, if any, are active in the area?

None



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**4.** Are there existing national/regional organizations that work towards improving research funding/policy?

NGOs

**5.** How do scientists currently contribute to the existing funding/policymaking/advocacy process, if at all?

None

6. When are science funding/policy decisions made?

At the discretion of the funding party, usually after review and acceptance of qualified research proposals based on the organization's criteria.

**7.** What kinds of opportunities exist for scientists to interact with funders and policymakers?

Only in scientific/professional conferences.

Can scientists invite decision makers to their lab/institution to see their work firsthand?

No

Do the funding/policy organizations hold open meetings or solicit comments from the public that researchers can participate in?

No

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