

# STRENGTHENING FEMINIST MOVEMENTS



Women's Fund Asia

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS 2018-19**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2018



Women's Fund Asia

## CALL FOR APPLICATION 2018-19

Strengthening Feminist Movements

**THIS CALL IS OPEN  
TO GROUPS BASED IN  
BANGLADESH, NEPAL,  
INDIA, PAKISTAN AND  
SRI LANKA ONLY.**

**Please note:** Applications for the Leading from the South program will be accepted in October 2018. This call will be open to all 18 countries in Asia. Look out on our website and social media for updates on the next call in October 2018!

Women's Fund Asia (WFA) is pleased to announce the call for applications 2018-19 under our grant making programme, Strengthening Feminist Movements.

Women's Fund Asia is a regional women's fund, committed to supporting women and trans\* people to enhance and strengthen their access to human rights. Established in 2004 as South Asia Women's Fund, the fund was created to address the lack of resources for smaller grassroots organisations in South Asia. In March 2018, SAWF transformed into Women's Fund Asia, with a bigger mandate to fund rights-based work across 18 countries<sup>1</sup> in Asia.

### OUR VISION

Realising the human rights of women and trans\* people in Asia.

### OUR MISSION

Women's Fund Asia works to nurture and lead feminist philanthropy in the region; to effectively mobilise resources to support individuals, groups and networks enabling their sustainability; and to strengthen partner capacities, leadership, advocacy and networks in the field.

<sup>1</sup> Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam and Mongolia.

# STRENGTHENING FEMINIST MOVEMENTS

Under this grant making programme, Women's Fund Asia supports women's and trans\*<sup>2</sup> rights groups, individual activists, and sub-national, national and regional networks.

The common threads that run through the grants under this programme are:

- Promoting a rights based perspective and feminist principles in women's rights/trans\* rights work in the region, key components of which are decision making, agency and voices
- Strengthening the leadership of women and trans\* people, especially of second line leadership
- Networking and collaborations among groups and activists working at a sub-national, national and regional levels.



Completed proposals should be emailed to [grants@wf-asia.org](mailto:grants@wf-asia.org) with the subject **"Application for Grant 2018-19"** by 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

The call for applications is open from 15 May – 15 June 2018. Women and trans\* rights groups, organisations, networks and activists from Bangladesh, Nepal, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka are eligible to apply for this call. The Application package includes the Proposal format, Budget format, and WFA's Grant Making FAQs. The package can be downloaded from [www.womensfundasia.org](http://www.womensfundasia.org).

## ELIGIBILITY

Who can apply for the current call?

1. Any woman's/trans\* rights organisation/group/network whose annual budget is under USD 50,000, located in the select countries of South Asia (Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) can apply in the current call.
2. The organisation/group/network should have women's/trans\* leadership in its governance and staff. i.e. The team should be led by a woman/trans\* person, and at least 70% of its decision-making body and staff should be women or trans\* people.
3. Groups, networks and organisations whose vision and mission is focused on advancement of women and/or trans\* rights.
4. The organisation should be committed to feminist principles and rights based approaches.
5. Individual women and trans\* activists may apply for small grants (USD 1000-5000).

The applicant organizations must meet all of the above criteria to be considered.

---

<sup>2</sup> Women's Fund Asia endorses use of the term "trans\*," with an asterisk, denoting a placeholder for the "entire range of possible gender identities that fall under the broad definition of trans".

## GRANT MAKING PRIORITIES

### WOMEN'S FUND ASIA PRIORITISES SUPPORTING THE FOLLOWING KINDS OF APPLICATIONS AND GROUPS:

1. Groups whose concept/idea proposed is feasible and clearly envisions change; and whose concept feeds into the group's vision and mission.
2. Groups working in difficult contexts and/or has limited access to resources
3. Groups which use feminist, right based approaches in their work
4. The groups which are self led i.e. the leadership of the group is representative of the constituency which the group is working with

### WHAT WOMEN'S FUND ASIA DOES NOT FUND:

1. Groups and organisations whose vision and mission does not include advancement of women's rights and/or trans\* rights
2. Groups working through strategies which are violative of women and trans\* rights (such as raid and rescue, anti-sex work, anti-abortion among others )
3. Groups whose primary purpose is service delivery, humanitarian assistance, charity, poverty alleviation programmes such as micro finance, income generation ; education, scholarships, literacy and skills development programmes
4. Groups directly/indirectly related or connected with elections and election campaigning
5. Groups directly affiliated with political parties and/or religious institutions
6. For-profit groups
7. Groups registered in countries outside of South Asia, and not directly working in the countries their proposed work is based in (regional collaborations not included)

## GRANT TYPES

Applicants can apply for the following **types** of grants:

### GENERAL OPERATING GRANTS:

This includes institutional and administrative costs including salaries, rent and other operational costs of groups/ organisations/ networks. General Operating grants can also be used to fill funding gaps of ongoing/new programmes and collaborations, as per the need of the groups.

### INDIVIDUAL GRANTS:

Individual applications can be for new or ongoing initiatives, or strengthening capacity and knowledge. Proposed work should support and feed into the larger landscape of women/trans\* rights movements.

## PRIORITY AREAS

Women's Fund Asia supports women and trans\* rights activists and organisations working towards strengthening movements to realise and sustain their rights. We believe Economic, Social, Cultural, Civil and Political rights are interlinked and that organisations, work on a continuum of rights violations and deprivation. Over the last decade WFA's grant making strategy has focused on and built upon the following priority areas, we fully recognise that interventions happen at multiple levels and are crosscutting and intersectional.

- 1. Strengthening Feminist Voices:** Supporting and strengthening grassroots feminist leadership and movements has always been a priority for us. In the past, grants have supported institutional strengthening, capacity building for groups and their constituencies, grassroots mobilisation, campaigns, research, advocacy and outreach.
- 2. Movement and Labour:** For over 6 years we have supported interventions focused on women and trans\* people's right to safe migration, economic justice, and labour rights, with a particular focus on women working in vulnerable, informal and stigmatized sectors such as sex work, garment factories, tea plantations, domestic work and migrant labour.
- 3. Autonomy, Decisions and Sexual Rights:** We have supported initiatives that promote the right to sexuality, decision-making and bodily autonomy of women and trans\* people. Beginning with supporting work on child and forced marriage and young women's leadership and choices, this priority area also grew to encompass groups working on LBT rights, abortion rights, and sexual and reproductive health rights.
- 4. Access to Justice:** We support initiatives focused on increasing women and trans\* people's access to justice, including raising legal awareness among communities; creating pathways and mechanisms for survivors to access lawyers and the judicial system; training women paralegals; supporting women lawyers etc.
- 5. Environment Justice:** This area of work has emerged as a critical issue for countries in Asia. Over the last two years, we have supported work which centers the voices and leadership of women and trans\* people in the decision-making processes which govern access to and distribution of resources such as land, water, food and other natural resources; as well as in policies that govern disaster management, climate change adaptation and sustainable development. Groups supported under this thematic work with women farmers, indigenous women, women with disabilities and migrant workers, particularly those located in ecologically fragile environments.

## GRANT MAKING PROCESS

It takes Women's Fund Asia's team at least **12-15 weeks** from the application deadline to complete the grant making process. The team is supported by an expert advisory team in finalising the grants.

## REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

The required documentation is mandatory for all organisational applications. All required documents need to be submitted along with the proposal and budget by the deadline. In case you are unable to submit any of the required documents, please provide a justification for this in your application.

Without all the required documents, your application will be considered incomplete and will not go through the review process.

We need all required documentation in English. If any of the required documentation are in a language other than English, you will need to:

1. *Provide a translated and attested copy of the same document in English*
2. *The document must be attested by an authorized officer certifying the authenticity of the document. (Certifying Statement should be made in English.)  
Eg: If your certificate of registration is in another language, the same should be stamped by an authorized officer stating, 'I hereby certify this document is the registration of .... Organisation'.*

## CHECKLIST OF REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

Please submit all the following documents along with the proposal and budget format:

- a. Organisation registration documents
- b. Document showing ability to receive foreign funding
- c. Tax exemption status
- d. Audited statement of accounts of the last 3 years (In case of the group does not have audit statements for 3 years, please provide a clear explanation for this.)
- e. Gender Disaggregated list of its governing body AND executive staff
- f. Latest Annual/Programme Report

**Please see WFA's Grant Making FAQs for further clarifications.**

Please send your applications or any queries related to the application to the following email address: [grants@wf-asia.org](mailto:grants@wf-asia.org). All applications should be submitted by 15 June 2018 midnight Sri Lanka time. Applications will not be accepted past this deadline.