

AWDF 2022 - 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence Call for Proposals

Theme: Young women led approaches to addressing digital/online safety for young women and girls

The development of technology such as the internet and mobile phones, and the increased use of digital tools have created and increased opportunities for communicating, connecting, learning, and mobilising in diverse and new ways. Recent events, including the emergence of and response to the COVID 19 pandemic, have shown the potential of technology to contribute to information sharing, connecting and mobilising people and for activism and advocacy. While the growth in digital access and use has come with many opportunities, digital spaces can be unsafe and a place of violence against women and girls¹. Online violence or abuse is when an individual or group creates a hostile environment with the goal of shaming, degrading, intimidating or silencing individuals. Online abuse not only violates an individual's right to live free from violence and to participate online, but also undermines their democratic and public engagement².

To address this, AWDF invites applications for the 2022 Sixteen Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence on "Young women led approaches to addressing digital/online safety for women and girls". AWDF will consider applications from women's groups and organisations, particularly those led by young women or girls, to educate, raise awareness and increase online safety and enjoyment, and prevent online violence and abuse against young women and girls.

AWDF welcomes applications from organisations led by marginalised groups of women and girls, including women and girls living with disabilities, LBTQI+ women and girls, sex workers, refugees and migrant women, women living with HIV and AIDS, and young feminists, among others. We will prioritise work that is creative and which employs innovative approaches that contribute to making online spaces safe and enjoyable for young women and girls.

This call for proposals for small grants of no more than \$2000 is open to African women led organisations with budgets of under USD100,000.

¹Feminist Africa 18; pg 150

http://www.agi.ac.za/sites/default/files/image_tool/images/429/feminist_africa_journals/archive/18/standpoints_digital_security_as_feminist_practice.pdf

² <https://plan-international.org/girls-get-equal/how-to-stay-safe-online>