

Frequently Asked Questions – Cycle 51 Grant making Cycle

Please ensure that you read the application guidance, which can be found on the website and is also accessible on the on-line platform before you complete the on-line application form.

Who is AWDF?

The [African Women's Development Fund](#) is a Pan-African resourcing organisation that resources, strengthens and upholds women's rights and feminist organisations and movements across Africa, with the aim of making gender justice a reality for all on our continent and beyond¹.

Type of Grants

2. Which grant should I apply for?

- For this Call for Applications, there would be three types of grants to choose from according to the area of work and goal of your application. The types of grants are described below:
 - ✓ Open/Main grant – This grant covers all areas of work that promotes the rights of women, girls and gender diverse persons' rights. Depending on the applicant's 2022 verified income, you can apply up to a maximum of USD100,000 per year for two years, making USD200,000 for two years
 - ✓ Kasa! grant – This is a grant specifically for Women's Rights Organisations registered and working in Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal working on sexual violence issues. The Sexual Violence Research Initiative defines sexual violence here <https://www.svri.org/research-methods/definitions> . This grant is for not more than USD30,000 per year for two years, making USD60,000 for two years.
 - ✓ Economic Justice grant - Community organisers, community-based organisations, women's rights organisations and feminist networks that are working with local communities doing economic justice work to identify and dismantle the barriers to economic justice and equality for African women are eligible to apply. This grant will **not** provide funding for income generating projects. This grant type is for small grants of no more than US\$9000.

3. How many applications can I submit to this call for proposals?

AWDF wants to support a diverse range of organisations. If you apply for an Open grant, you can also apply for a Kasa! grant. However, if you wish to apply for a grant under the "Economic Justice" theme, we can only consider one application (so you can't apply for an "economic justice" and Kasa! or open grant)

¹ Under the Leading From the South Initiative, AWDF also supports work in five countries in the Middle East – Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine, Iraq and Yemen.

Eligibility Criteria

4. Does ADWF fund organisations that are registered and/or have their headquarters outside Africa ?

In this call for proposals, AWDF will not consider applications for organisations that are not based and headquartered in Africa and/or organisations that are not led by African women (senior staff and Board)

5. Does AWDF support organisations where the ED/CEO and/or Chair of the Board is male?

No. AWDF will only consider applications from organisations where the Director of the organisation and Chair of the Board identify as female or non-binary and where a majority, (at least 70%), of all staff identify as female or non-binary.

6. Does AWDF fund organisations that have been registered for less than 3 years?

AWDF doesn't generally accept applications from organisations that haven't been registered for at least three years. In extremely rare circumstances however, AWDF will consider applications from organisations that have been registered for less than three years. Some examples are organisations led by and focused on particularly 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/AIDS, young feminists and other imposed marginalities.

7. Does AWDF support community-based organisations (CBOs)?

Yes, AWDF does consider applications from CBOs if they meet all our eligibility criteria

8. Does AWDF consider applications from profit making entities eligible to apply?

AWDF does not fund profit making entities or organisations

Current and/or previously AWDF funded organisations

9. If I have a current grant from AWDF, can I submit an application to the April 25th 2023 deadline?

If your current grant ends **before** 31st July 2023, you can submit an application. If your current grant ends **after** 31st July 2023, you can only submit an application for the Kasa! grant (assuming you don't have an existing Kasa! grant) or the Economic Justice grant.

10. My organisation has previously had a grant and/or has a current grant from AWDF – can we apply?

If the previous grant from AWDF has ended and there are no outstanding contractual obligations, you can apply. If you have a live grant that ends before 31st July 2023, you can apply. If you have a current grant that ends after 31st July 2023, you are not able to apply to this open grant call for proposals but will be eligible for our second call for proposals in 2023, which is expected to launch around the end of July 2023.

11. My organisation was previously funded under LFS, can I apply for an open grant, or a Kasa grant. Or if my organisation was previously funded under one thematic area, can we apply for work under a different one?

Yes, you can submit an application for one of any of the types of grant as long as you meet the eligible criteria (women led, proportion of previous annual income, geographical coverage, etc.).

Consortia and/or multi country applications

12. Does AWDF accept applications from organisations working in partnership/ consortia, coalitions, etc.?

AWDF welcomes applications that are for work delivered by more than one partner organisation as long as the application is from one partner and all the named partners meet all the eligibility criteria, etc. If you are submitting an application for a consortium project or more than two organisations, we will consider the eligibility and income of only the applicant organisation and not the combined income of all the proposed partners. We do also accept applications from organisations that are not working with partners.

13. Will AWDF consider multi country applications?

AWDF will consider multi country applications as long as the rationale for working across more than one country is clear and strategic with well-defined and measurable impact in each country.

14. Can we have multiple profiles on the AWDF online platform or does only one person register for this and only access one profile for the whole organisation or partnership?

For data security reasons, we would recommend that each organisation have only one profile for the organisation on the on-line platform.

Financial Information

15. When AWDF says you can apply for up to 50% of your organisational income, what do you mean?

We are looking to understand the total income for the whole organisation (not individual projects) from any source (not just AWDF and not just grant funding) over the last three years. We have requested information on your last three years total income as we recognise the impact that COVID 19 had on the income of African women-led organisations. As such, we will consider applications with budgets representing no more than 50% of your average income over the last three years.

16. Does AWDF only accept audited accounts?

AWDF will accept **either** audited accounts **or** unaudited accounts signed by management. If your 2022 accounts have yet to be audited or independently verified, we will accept your 2022 unaudited signed by management.

17. Does AWDF transfer funds to all countries in Africa? Sudan, Somali, etc.

Because of bank transfer restrictions by the Government of Ghana imposed by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) and others, AWDF is unable to transfer funds to Sudan, South Sudan, Syria and Iraq. Women's Rights Organisations in these countries, if successful, can consider entering into agreement with other Women's Rights Organisations in eligible countries to act as fiscal sponsors for their grant.

Call schedule and application timeline

18. What are the dates for this call for proposals?

AWDF's call for proposals was launched on **28th March 2023** and will be open until the deadline on **25th April 2023**

19. What is the process and how long does it take from submitting an application to having a grant approved?

AWDF typically receives up to 1000 applications to each funding cycle and we have a robust process to consider each one. All applications that meet our eligibility criteria and respond most closely to our stated priorities for the cycle are assessed by our Programmes Department, where necessary, with input from our expert Regional Advisers. Following assessment of shortlisted applications, we request references on applicants, and compile reports on all shortlisted applications which our Board considers and makes the final decision on. If your application is considered ineligible, you will be notified by the end of May 2023. If your application is not shortlisted for assessment, we will notify you by the end of June 2023. Applications submitted to the April 25th 2023 deadline grant making cycle will be considered by the AWDF Board in July 2023, with all successful and unsuccessful applicants receiving notification by the end of August 2023.