



Eligibility for Research Grants

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Research Grants

Grants will be awarded to individual researchers who must be affiliated with a recognised and reputable institution. Each Grantee, designated as the Principal Researcher, is expected to work with one or more team members. Selected Grantees will receive funding up to 25,000 USD for a one-year proposal involving primary research. This grant amount includes the time costs of the Principal Researcher and Co-Researcher(s), as well as research-related travel and administrative overheads.

The Program will provide advisory support from scholars who have carried out distinguished work in feminist research in related areas. It will also provide opportunities to share knowledge and network with other Grantees, and with peers and scholars working in the field.

Principal Researchers will participate in a research planning workshop at the beginning of the Program. An end-of-research workshop that will bring feminist activists and scholars together to strengthen networking for greater impact of the research in the region is also planned, subject to additional fund-raising.

The Program seeks to partner with reputable centres committed to feminist theory and practice such as gender/women's studies departments, non-profit centres undertaking high quality research for policy advocacy, action research networks engaged in lobbying for women's rights, and independent scholars. The Principal Researcher must be affiliated with an institution, called a 'Support Institution' with respect to this Program.

It is hoped that the Program is able to contribute to the Support Institution's ongoing priorities. For example, participation in the Program might help a research centre or an NGO pursue critical research in anticipation of a national policy effort. Nurturing local research and policy advocacy capacities in an important emerging area is a key Program objective.

Eligibility Requirements

The grants are open to developing country researchers with excellent credentials and a demonstrated commitment to gender and development studies who seek to explore original ideas. While the Program favours Asia-based researchers, exceptions can be made for those researchers whose past scholarship and research interest has focused on Asia, provided they team up with researchers in the region.

While a background in information society studies is not mandatory, selected Grantees will be required to familiarise themselves with existing literature and debates. The research projects under this Program are expected to draw upon the work existing work in this field. The Program Secretariat will support access to available material and also bring in experts for the initial planning workshop to orient Grantees to contemporary debates.

The application must identify critical research questions to be addressed by the research investigation proposed, and justify this selection vis-a-vis the Program objectives and its broad conceptual framework. The proposed research will need to be completed within 12 months after the grant is awarded.

The Principal Researcher will be responsible for receiving and administering grant funds at his/her institution, overseeing the realisation of research activities, and submitting all deliverables, including research and financial reports, as will be stipulated in the grant contract.

The contract will be signed by the Principal Researcher and a representative of the Support Institution. The outputs of the study funded by this Program will be made shareable under a Creative Commons license. The first right to publish will remain with the Program.

The research grant request should only include acceptable and reasonable items of expenditure as specified in the budgetary template and guidelines.

Principal Researcher

The Principal Researcher must:

1. Be a mid-career scholar from a developing country with an established track record of feminist scholarship and a demonstrated interest in questions of gender and development (i.e. at least 15 years of research experience). While a doctorate is desirable, it is not necessary for researchers who are able to demonstrate a career history of high quality scholarly research in feminist studies on gender and development.
2. Work and reside in Asia. (This requirement may be relaxed in case the scholar has been involved in and has a demonstrated research interest in the Asian context, provided he/she works with a Co-Researcher from the region.)
3. Have a formal affiliation with an institution that preferably has its headquarters in Asia and is eligible to function as Support Institution (as described below).

Co-Researcher(s)

Team members other than the Principal Researcher should also work and reside in a developing country in Asia and have demonstrated research competencies.

The application must carry details about the management structure and activity structure of the study, describing roles and responsibilities of every member of the Research Team, and indicate

how much of the research grant budget will be allocated to the different individuals working in the project.

Support Institution

The Support Institution may be an academic, public sector or civil society organisation. To be eligible to participate in the Program, it should meet the following requirements:

1. Preferably have its headquarters in Asia.
2. Be an established and reputable institution that participates in rigorous independent research and policy advocacy, preferably on gender and development.
3. Have the capacity to sponsor the proposed research study, administer grant funds and supervise the study as described in the application submitted.
4. Be legally recognized in the country where it has its headquarters and is physically located.
5. Be able to receive foreign funds for the purpose of development research.

Countries

In general, scholars from developing countries in Asia are eligible to participate in the Program. Researchers from high-income countries are not eligible (e.g. Japan, Republic of Korea, Singapore). Investigations in high-income countries may be used as a basis of comparison with developing country conditions, but the bulk of the research must be carried out in a developing country.

New Original Research

Grants are intended to support new and original research studies. The Selection Panel may, on an exceptional basis, award a grant that gives supplementary support to a study already under way. Applicants would need to justify such an exception, bearing in mind that grant proceeds may only be used to expand the scope of the ongoing study. The justification must answer a set of questions in a separate Annex (see the Pre-Proposal Application Form).