

Understanding the grant approval process

The Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI), in partnership with the World Bank Group (WBG), awards grants through the Development Marketplace Awards for innovative research on how to improve responses to and prevent gender-based violence – a severe and neglected problem affecting more than one in three women worldwide and a major challenge for global development. These grants range from \$40 000 to \$100 000 over a two-year period.

APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCESS

Grant recipients are chosen through a rigorous selection process. A call for proposals is sent out via SVRI Listserv and SVRI and WBG Gender networks. The grant applications are made through an online system. Proposals are accepted in English, French and Spanish. Once the deadline has closed, SVRI and WBG staff review all proposals. Those that do not fulfil basic eligibility criteria are excluded at this stage.

The SVRI Secretariat and WBG shortlist eligible applications for WBG regions to review. Eligibility is assessed according to strict, clear selection criteria. Guided by the regional review, the SVRI and WBG jointly prepare a shortlist of up to 20 proposals that are eligible and technically sound for final review by an expert panel. Information on the selection process and criteria is available in the Grant Guidelines.

WHAT PROPOSALS SHOULD AIM FOR

Projects must be innovative, focusing on responses to or prevention of gender-based violence. The research should aim to advance the field globally, while addressing a significant research question, gap or challenge in low- and middle-income countries. Partnerships between multiple organisations, as well as north-south and south-south partnerships, are encouraged. Applicants must be institutions and not individuals, have the required permissions to receive

There is increased awareness among policy-makers, funders and others that evidence is needed to inform their work. We must build on this opportunity by providing effective, practical solutions based on rigorous evidence to ensure women and children are able to live their lives free from violence and oppression. The SVRI WBG Development Marketplace Awards is an important strategy to achieve this.

foreign donations, and be able to demonstrate accountability. Due to strong competition and limited available funds, the quality of the proposals submitted determines their success.

REVIEW 1

Applications scanned to check if meet basic criteria

REVIEW 2

SVRI and WBG shortlist applications (n=120)

REVIEW 3

WBG regions review proposals (20 per region)

REVIEW 4

SVRI/WBG shortlist for final review (n=20)



FINAL REVIEW

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#GBVSolutions @WBG_Gender @TheSVRI



The Sexual Violence Research Initiative is hosted by the South African Medical Research Council



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Work supported by the SVRI and WBG should:



Adhere to international safety and ethical guidelines.



Engage the community that is being researched, where relevant.



Focus on low- and middle-income settings.



Challenge gender hierarchies and promote gender equity.



Be conceptualised within a human rights framework.



Inform policies, programmes and services.



Strive to be cross-sectoral and multidisciplinary.



Serve to strengthen access to comprehensive care and support for survivors and prevention of violence against women and children.

WHAT THE GRANT SUPPORTS

Types of research supported under this grant may include:

- Piloting, adapting, testing and/or expanding new or promising interventions.
- Costing studies on promising gender-based violence interventions to assess value for money.
- Adding a new component to an already funded intervention that can provide additional insight into the effectiveness of intervention components.
- Projects to disseminate research findings, including those that creatively use information and communication technology to advance the effective translation of research findings into policy and practice.
- Secondary analysis of existing data.
- Studies to better understand why violence prevention interventions are effective.
- Developing methods and tools for violence prevention research.

Previously supported projects have focused on a range of issues, including education, parenting interventions, cash transfers, sexual harassment and public transport, and violence and mental health.

PARTICIPATION IN SVRI/WBG DEVELOPMENT MARKETPLACE AWARD WEEK

At project inception all research teams are brought to Washington, D.C. to participate in a week of

capacity-building workshops and an awards ceremony presided over by the WBG President. This provides an opportunity for teams to network with one another and WBG policy-makers interested in integrating evidence-based programmes on gender-based violence into their work. It also creates a space for communities of practice to develop between grantees and to discuss ways to share lessons learnt.

If you have an innovative idea that you would like to explore, sign up to SVRI Update, the SVRI's newsletter, to receive notifications about the next request for proposals: <http://www.svri.org/content/subscribe?pt=full>. ■

For more information, visit <http://www.svri.org/what-we-do/research-support/svri-grant> or email svri@mrc.ac.za.