



Gender Support Programme

a new dawn for gender equality...

2009 SECOND CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) is pleased to announce the second call for proposals for the **Gender Support Programme (GSP)**, a multi-donor initiative dedicated to the advancement of gender equality, equity and women's empowerment in Zimbabwe at local and national levels. GSP is currently funded by the European Commission (EC) and The British Department for International Development (DFID).

A Secretariat manages the Fund's activities at UNIFEM. The Secretariat is guided by a **Steering Committee** comprised of representatives from the donor community and the Women's Coalition of Zimbabwe. Proposals are assessed by a **Technical Committee** comprised of a rotating group of experts in gender, development and women's empowerment.

Grants from the Gender Support Programme are highly competitive. The Fund will prioritize innovative, impact-oriented programmes that exhibit joint initiatives involving multi-stakeholder groups, and fostering collaborations and partnerships between well established and community based organisations from around Zimbabwe.

The call for proposal is initially for a **one year period**, with possibility of extension based on availability of resources and achievement of expected results.

The key areas of interventions are guided by the thematic areas contained in the National Gender and Women's Empowerment Strategic Action Plan (NGWESAP). These areas were prioritized and selected by stakeholders during the national consultative process. Prioritization was based on areas that required immediate attention in order to narrow the identified gaps and areas of common interest to the majority of the stakeholders. The selected thematic areas are;

- **Women and Economic Empowerment** -The main objective of this thematic area is to "Facilitate the creation of an environment that is conducive for women to generate, own and control wealth".
- **Women and Education** thematic area seeks to promote women's access to education, through advocacy and lobbying for the review of the educational curricular and girl empowerment.
- **Women in Decision making** thematic area seeks to enhance leadership, participation and representation of women at all levels of decision-making through capacity strengthening of women and women's groups as well as through advocacy.
- **Women and Health** thematic area aims at promoting women's access to health services through increased access to primary health care including sexual and reproductive health services and HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment and care for women and girls.
- **Women migration, forced displacement, trafficking and slavery** thematic area seeks to promote safe and legal migration by women and raise awareness on women's legal rights and challenges encountered in migration. It also seeks to reduce incidences of slavery and trafficking of women across or within borders.

- **Cross-cutting** themes to be mainstreamed through all the strategic thematic areas outlined above include:
 - **Legal Reform** which seeks to promote constitutional reform, the promulgation of gender sensitive laws and the repeal of gender discriminatory legislation, which does not promote gender equality and equity.
 - **Gender Budgeting** whose objective is to promote gender sensitive budgeting so that the special needs of women are catered for in national and sectoral budgeting.
 - **Disability** whose objective is to empower and involve all women living with disability in the different sectors.
 - **Gender and Labour** to ensure that women in all spheres of life have access to equal pay for comparable work, family benefits, financial credit and the right to own and inherit property.
 - **Institutional Capacity Strengthening** to strengthen the institutional capacity of the sector which has been observed to be lacking technical capacity in gender equality and women's empowerment programming.
 - **Strategic Partnerships** between the women's sector and already existing institutions with expertise in women's human rights issues is encouraged to achieve women's human rights in Zimbabwe.
 - **Programmatic or Operational Cross-cutting Issues** to be mainstreamed in all the thematic areas include capacity building of stakeholders, lobbying and advocacy, information dissemination, research and documentation, targeting and male involvement

To apply for the grant please refer to the detailed UNIFEM Application Guidelines on how to send in proposals. These guidelines are available on request from the address below (emails are more preferable). The operational guidelines include UNIFEM's project proposal format, criteria for organisations who may wish to apply, pre-selection, selection and approval process, and reasons why a proposal might be rendered inadmissible.

All completed proposals should be submitted, by **Sunday 13 September 2009, 12:00pm** clearly marked **GSP 2009 Second Call for Proposals** to the following:

UNIFEM, 7th Floor Takura House, 67-69 Kwame Nkurumah Avenue, Harare

e-mail unifem.zw.admin@undp.org .

Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.