

THE REGISTERED TRUSTEES OF WOMEN FUND TANZANIA (WFT TRUST)

CALL FOR PROPOSAL FOR THE PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S, GIRLS' AND CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN TANZANIA FOR 2025

The Registered Trustees of Women Fund Tanzania (WFT Trust) is the first national feminist Fund and the only funding support mechanism, started by women, for women, girls and children. As Tanzania's first and only women's rights fund, our overall goal is to contribute towards women's rights and empowerment, and to women's and feminist movement building through implementing a functional and empowering funding mechanism for women in Tanzania.

The Fund seeks to achieve lasting feminist gains by addressing the root causes of unequal power relations, including gender-based violence, disempowering attitudes, and social norms that perpetuate disenfranchisement and exclusion of women political and social leadership spaces.

We do this through funding women rights organisations, women's, girls', children's rights organisations and movement(s), and other social justice movements to be able to amplify voices and organise for collective transformative action to achieve progressive social change in their contexts.

Our main focus is to resource grassroots Women's Rights Organizations (WROs) and movements, especially at the local level, because we believe that they are the experts of their own realities to be able to organise and mobilise into credible collective voices and actions that transform the disempowering contexts they live in to realise their full potential and rights.

WFT Trust believes and invests in harnessing the immense power of the feminist women's movement(s) that arises from combining engagement platforms, experiences, and collaborative strategies and processes that harness the insights, knowledge, skills, and ingenuity of organisations, groups, individuals and activists working in Tanzania.

Who can apply

WFT Trust is accepting applications from Women's, girls' and children's, rights organisations and initiatives led by and for women, community-based organisations, groups, institutions, legal entities and transformative/progressive men-led organisations working on a feminist agenda that are based and operating in Tanzania. For more information kindly visit our website: www.wftrust.or.tz

Key thematic area for funding in 2025:

1. Women's Political Participation and Leadership

In 2025, WFT-T will focus on strengthening women's political participation and leadership through provision of grants to women's rights organizations working on the broad spectrum of interventions that support women political participation and leadership to enhance and prepare women both as aspirants and voters.

Background to the call:

Women's leadership and political participation are restricted. Women are underrepresented as voters, as well as in leading positions, whether in elected office, the civil service, the private sector or academia. This occurs despite their proven abilities as leaders and agents of change, and their right to participate equally in democratic governance.

Women face several obstacles to participating in political life. Structural barriers through discriminatory laws and institutions still limit women's options to run for elected office. Capacity gaps mean women are less likely than men to have the education, contacts and resources needed to become effective leaders. Women continue to be largely marginalized from the political sphere, often because of discriminatory laws, practices, attitudes and gender stereotypes, low levels of education, and the disproportionate effect of poverty on women.

In line with the Draft SADC Framework for Achieving Gender Parity in Politics and Decision-Making Positions (2025 - 2035), This call for proposals seeks to address the multiple challenges to women's participation s outlined through advocacy, capacity enhancement, networking, and transformative social norms change. These grants are expected to support women rights organizations, women organizations, women aspirants and other mission aligned civic actors to leverage collective action, forge partnerships, enhance coordination, share skills and knowledge, and enhance overall capacity of women through implementing interventions outlined below and similar others:

- Increase women's participation, election, and appointment in the 2025 electoral cycle and beyond, with a focus on young women in Tanzania.
- Support women aspirants in engaging directly in politics and enhance coordination among key stakeholders.
- Engage multiple stakeholders to create a more supportive environment for women's political representation, including preventing and responding to violence against women in politics.
- Advocacy & Networking: Strengthen women's leadership through coordinated advocacy, intergenerational networking, and access to knowledge and resources.
- Knowledge and Skills Sharing: Generate and share knowledge on women's political participation to inform policymakers and capacity-building initiatives.
- Social Norms Change: Promote transformative gender social norms through evidence-based advocacy and capacity building.
- Support women aspirants in preparing and competing effectively in elections.

Underpinning this call is the goal to ensure that women are perceived as equally legitimate political actors as men in decision-making processes and institutions. To accomplish these goals requires countering entrenched social norms which limit women's rights and participation, and necessitates raising awareness and sensitizing community leaders, men and boys, as well as the public at large through specific and deliberate actions. Women's rights organizations and civic rights organizations are fundamental in carrying out social norms change through demand driven approaches.

Grant Application Windows:

1. SMALL WINDOW

The Small Window funding is the core of WFT Trust's focus as it targets community-based women rights groups, feminist WROs and WOs as well as individuals that are looking for funding to ignite initiative with potential within communities through transformative and empowering approaches and/or ideas. The

Grant can be used for capacity building, awareness raising, and for galvanising social action in their communities and others, as well as Ignite and Prepare Women and Youth as voters and Aspirants.

- The duration of the intervention/project to be implemented is between 1 and 3 months
- The intervention is aimed at giving voice and visibility to women's and girls' issues, particularly marginalised women, special groups, and vulnerable populations in local communities
- Mainly for first time applicants from community-based levels

2. MEDIUM WINDOW

Projects under this Window should focus on initiatives for supporting women's, girls' and children's rights organisations to build/strengthen relevant conceptual and organisational capacities, and expertise for networking and knowledge sharing with the women's and girls' movements.

- The grant period should be between 6 months and 1 year
- Must aim at giving voice and visibility to marginalised women, girls and children on issues as stipulated in the call for a proposal
- The window is open to women and girls' initiatives at the local and national levels, which need funds for organising and mobilising women and girls to strengthen strategic alliances and networks in the women's movement at different levels.

3. STRATEGIC WINDOW

The Strategic Window is meant for funding longer term projects/interventions of up to 2 years in duration and for activities that target feminist movement/platform/coalition building efforts. The window can also be used to support WROs that are growing and that need support with core funding to building institutional and organisational capacity. In particular graduating middle window recipients and National level WROs (National level Women's Rights Organizations, Women Organizations with a potential for movement building that includes reach, agenda setting and constituent base - building interventions) are more suited to this window because of their relative growth and mandate in movement or coalition/platform building work.

The grant in this window can also be sought to support cross movement work within the various women, girls and children's movements. Feminist WROs possessing relevant institutional capacity, expertise, networking, and local knowledge to work with other partners (both local and national) to strengthen women's movement building strategies across sectors are encouraged to apply. Within this frame, we are accepting proposals aimed at initiating and scaling up interventions that promote collective/joint advocacy actions, cross border platforms, collective networking and learning within the various sectors of women and girls' and children's movement/s in the country.

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Applicants should strive to reflect in their proposals key guiding principles outlined below:

I. MISSION ALIGNED

Partners who share our aspiration of contributing towards the elimination of gender inequalities, discriminatory, practices, and processes through capacity enhancement and women's movement building, and whose work fits within our identified thematic areas.

II. CLARITY ON THE ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED BY THE PROJECT

- The proposal should ensure a strong link between the problem to be addressed and the strategies and measurable results anticipated from the project
- The proposal should reflect multi-stakeholder participation (within the women's movements and across other movements) in formulation and implementation of forming/strengthening functional networks, coalitions, and platforms
- The proposal should use models that demonstrate sustainability, innovation, replicability, and scaling up potential
- Your proposals should include strategic use of local, regional, and international days as opportunities and platforms to amplify your projects goals for instance the International Day of the African Child, International Day of Rural Women, and 16 Days of Activism etc.
- The organization applying must not be affiliated with any political party.

Specific Requirements:

Application for these Grants will follow this process:
Visit WFT Trust's website (www.wftrust.or.tz) to download the proposal form
Fill in the proposal form (8 pages max) describing the proposed idea or initiative
Upon submission of concept note kindly attach Copies of the following

- Organization's registration
- Organization constitution
- TIN Certificate (If Available)

And then send them via email to grants@wftrust.or.tz
OR,

Complete the application then either submit it in person at the office or mail it to the following address:

The Executive Director
Women Fund Tanzania Trust,
P.O. Box 79235,
Dar es Salaam

Any enquiries should be made through mobile phone: +255 753 912 130

Please note:

No offer, payment, gift, consideration, or benefits of any kind, which constitutes or could be construed as an illegal or fraudulent practice, will be made, either directly or indirectly, as an inducement or reward for the success of an application.

The deadline for submission shall be on Friday, February 28th, 2025 at 4:00 pm local time. Both successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified before 31st May, 2025.