



## Women's Empowerment International Grant Types for New Partners

Prospective new grant partners are eligible to apply for three of WE's four grant types:

- I. Seed/Innovation Grants
- II. Scale-up Grants
- III. One-time/Micro Grants

Please read through details below, in addition to our general [Funding & Selection Criteria](#) to assess overall eligibility and alignment. For questions, please email Sarah Adams, WE Executive Director, at [sarahadams@womenempowerment.org](mailto:sarahadams@womenempowerment.org).

### **I. SEED / INNOVATION GRANTS**

**Purpose:** These grants support early-stage, experimental ideas or pilot projects with potential for future growth. Novel approaches and risk-taking is encouraged; the goal of this grant is to generate learnings on economic empowerment programming for women experiencing poverty. No prior results are required; however, the organization should be able to show prior effectiveness with other programming or approaches.

**Amount:** \$2,000-\$10,000

**Timeframe:** 6 months – 1 year

#### **Types of Projects (suggested, but not limited to):**

- First time collaboration with new partners
- Pilot projects or prototyping sessions to test new standalone or add-on interventions, products, or services
- Refinement of research strategies (e.g., testing or improving survey tools)
- Refinement of operations (e.g., testing new program delivery mechanisms)

#### **Evaluation Criteria for Grant Application:**

- Is the idea or concept compelling and clearly articulated?
- Is the approach or idea new, or new to the local context?
- Does it aim to support women's empowerment or economic inclusion? For example:
  - Does it aim to provide tools, resources, and/or access for women to lift themselves out of poverty?
  - Does it focus on women achieving financial independence, sustainability, and/or self-sufficiency?
  - Does it focus on women being able to increase their household income and become the primary or other significant provider of income for their household?



- Is there a plan to share learnings or adapt programming?
- Can the program reasonably implement the project with the proposed budget and timeline?
- If it works, what is the opportunity for scaling?
- Would a grant from WE make a significant impact on the program and/or the organization as a whole, representing a large portion of its funding for the program or overall?

## **II. SCALE-UP GRANTS**

**Purpose:** These grants expand or replicate programs that have shown signs of success and a need for further investment to scale, grow, deepen, or replicate their work.

**Amount:** \$10,000-\$20,000

**Timeframe:** 1-2 years

### **Types of Projects (suggested, but not limited to):**

- Program replication in new communities or geographies
- Increasing frequency or intensity of existing services or interventions
- Strategies to reach more beneficiaries
- Strengthening internal systems to scale up program delivery
- Expanded monitoring, evaluation, and learning efforts

### **Evaluation Criteria for Grant Application:**

- Are there clear outcomes, stories, or data to support past impact?
- Is the program appropriate for the local context(s)?
- Does the organization have the internal capacity to scale the project?
- Is there a path or plan for the program to be sustainable at the new scaled size?
- Does it aim to support women's empowerment or economic inclusion? For example:
  - Does it aim to provide tools, resources, and/or access for women to lift themselves out of poverty?
  - Does it focus on women achieving financial independence, sustainability, and/or self-sufficiency?
  - Does it focus on women being able to increase their income and become the primary or other significant provider of income for their household?
- Is there a plan to share learnings or adapt programming, if relevant?
- Can the program reasonably implement the project with the proposed budget and timeline?
- Will the applicant anticipate and respond to risks or challenges?
- Would a grant from WE make a significant impact on the program and/or the organization as a whole, representing a large portion of its funding for the program or overall?



### **III. ONE-TIME / MICRO GRANTS**

**Purpose:** These grants provide fast, flexible funding for short-term needs, capacity building, or timely opportunities that contribute to a partner's mission and align with WE's goals.

**Amount:** \$500-\$2,000

**Timeframe:** Up to 6 months

**Types of Projects (suggested, but not limited to):**

- Event logistics or facilitation costs for program participants, including for example, general events, trainings, and retreats
- Conference attendance or travel stipends for staff or program participants
- Skills or leadership training for staff or program participants
- One-time materials or supplies purchases
- Emergency/time-sensitive needs

**Evaluation Criteria:**

- Is there a specific request for what the money will be used for and clear purpose?
- Are there clear outcomes, stories, or data to support past impact of similar activities (not required, but is a plus)?
- Does it aim to support women's empowerment or economic inclusion? For example:
  - Does it directly support a related program either through supplies, training of staff, or service delivery to or training of program participants?
  - Does it benefit staff or program participants in a way that contributes to women achieving financial independence, sustainability, and/or self-sufficiency?
- Will this investment enable meaningful progress for the organization, even if on a small scale?
- Is the budget reasonable and appropriate for the activity?
- Is the opportunity time-sensitive and fit within a reasonable timeframe for WE funding distribution?