



March 7, 2013

Dear Friends,

We hope you enjoy this week's edition of the Newsflash! Tomorrow, March 8, 2013 is International Women's Day. The theme for 2013 is "A promise is a promise: Time for action to end violence against women." See below and <http://www.internationalwomensday.com/> for more information.

Sincerely,

The Firelight Team

(Call for Applications) Project Inspire 2013 Grant for Empowerment of Women
(Call for Applicants) EASST Collaborative Invites East African Researchers
(Resource) International Women's Day

(Call for Applications) Project Inspire 2013 Grant for Empowerment of Women

Project Inspire: 5 Minutes to Change the World is a joint initiative by the Singapore Committee for UN Women and MasterCard to provide grants for creating a better world of opportunities for women and girls in Asia Pacific, the Middle East and Africa.

Launched in 2011 in celebration of the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day and the 25th anniversary of MasterCard in Asia/Pacific, Middle East and Africa, Project Inspire presents 18-35 year olds with a 5-minute platform to pitch their inspired idea to the world and win aUS\$25,000 grant.

Project Inspire presents 18-35 year olds across the world with a platform to pitch their inspired idea to the world and win a US\$25,000 grant. The grant must show creativity and sustainable impact in the lives of women and girls across Asia, Pacific, the Middle East or Africa through access to business and livelihood skills.

To qualify for the US\$25,000 grant, the project must meet all of the following requirements:

- The program must enable disadvantaged women and girls to attain sustained livelihood through business and livelihood skills

- An existing women’s empowerment program
 - Beneficiaries must be women or girls in Asia/Pacific, Middle East or Africa
 - The winner(s) of this competition will have to commence fieldwork by 1 December 2013
 - The project is designed to be implemented with a US\$25,000 budget
- Entries should be submitted in the form of either a (maximum) 5-minute video OR a (maximum) 2-page A4-sized proposal.

Video entries are to be uploaded on public video-sharing sites such as YouTube or Vimeo. A link to the video must be provided in the submission form.

Submissions, either video or written, must be made in English.

Each proposal should address the following questions:

- What is your inspirational idea?
 - How will your project change the lives of women and girls in the short and long term?
 - Tell us how many women and/or girls will benefit directly and indirectly from your project
- How will you/your team carry out the project?
 - Tell us the activities you have planned in order to reach your goal.
 - Please include key phases relevant to your project i.e., ground preparation, pilot phase, training period, evaluation etc.
- How will you spend the US\$25,000 grant to carry out the project?
 - Please include a detailed budget plan on how the US\$25,000 grant will be utilized, clearly indicating distinctions between programme expenses, operational cost, manpower cost and other spending relevant to your project.
 - How will you measure the success of the project?

Submissions should be accompanied by information on the existing program, biographies of the team members and any supporting materials (e.g. website, social media channels, media features, past awards). Please submit all additional information in one document.

Deadline for Submission: 30 June 2013

For more go to: http://www.5minutestochangetheworld.org/get_involved.acv

(Call for Applicants) EASST Collaborative Invites East African Researchers

The East Africa Social Science Translation (EASST) Collaborative invites East African researchers—in economics, public health, and other social science disciplines—to apply for two new opportunities in Impact Evaluation research:

2013 Evaluation Design Competition
and
EASST Visiting Scholar Fellowship

EASST is a multi-institution partnership with a mission to promote rigorous evaluation of social and economic development programs in East Africa. To learn more about EASST and these opportunities, visit: www.easst-collaborative.org.

--- Evaluation Design Competition ---

Deadline: March 22, 2013

Note: This is a rolling deadline. Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals as early as possible.

In 2013, EASST will be awarding grants of up to US \$25,000 to fund evaluations of promising social or economic development projects in East Africa. Awards will be made to research teams including an East African researcher plus a U.S. faculty member affiliated with the Center for Effective Global Action*. For a list of U.S. researchers affiliated with CEGA (which is headquartered at UC Berkeley), visit cega.berkeley.edu/faculty/.

A total of \$100,000 is available for the 2013 Evaluation Design Competition. The application process includes two stages. First, interested East African researchers must submit a one-page abstract describing an existing or planned social or economic development project in East Africa, accompanied by a clear strategy for rigorously evaluating the impacts of the project. Evaluation designs should have a well-articulated methodology (either randomized or quasi-experimental design) with clear identification of "treatment" and "comparison" groups. All designs submitted to EASST will be reviewed confidentially, and successful applicants will be partnered with a faculty member with similar research interests for joint preparation of a full grant proposal. In the second stage of the competition, a review panel will select up to 4 winning evaluation proposals for \$25,000 grants.

Applicants to this first round of competition should demonstrate experience in rigorous research design as well as involvement in (or familiarity with) a relevant social/economic development project in the East Africa region.

--- EASST Visiting Scholar Fellowship ---

Deadline: March 22, 2013

The EASST Visiting Scholar Fellowship seeks to equip East African social scientists with the skills needed to carry out impact evaluations. During a four-month fellowship, typically starting in August 2013, scholars will be based at a CEGA-network campus (University of California or Stanford University), where they will

audit courses, present recent work, attend seminars, develop curricula, and design collaborative research projects. Upon completing the fellowship, scholars are expected to return to a university or research institute in East Africa and assume a leading role in the global effort to use rigorous evaluation and evidence for economic development.

Each Visiting Scholar will be paired with a CEQA faculty mentor as well as a CEQA PhD student, to provide professional and personal support while in the program.

Room and board, health insurance, monthly stipend, visa fees, and roundtrip air travel will be covered by the program. Scholars will also be eligible to receive grants of \$10,000 for activities related to impact evaluation upon returning to their home institution in East Africa.

ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Eligible candidates for all EASST programs must:

- Be a resident of an East African country participating in EASST (i.e. Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, or Rwanda);
- Have participated in field-based data collection and rigorous empirical techniques/analysis;
- Have participated in or have familiarity with impact evaluation research (either randomized or quasi-experimental methods);
- Hold a staff position at a research institution, university or other organization in East Africa, preferably one that supports policy-relevant, quantitative social science research;
- Be computer literate and fluent in English;
- Have a PhD or Masters (completed within the last 8 years, for fellowship applicants), or be enrolled in a graduate program in economics, statistics, epidemiology/public health, or another social science discipline.

Selection criteria:

- Candidates must have strong analytic skills, and have preferably taken courses in economics and/or completed research using empirical, quantitative techniques;
- Candidates should demonstrate an interest in rigorous program evaluation, policy analysis, and micro-level field data collection;
- Candidates must submit a clear and innovative research proposal that evaluates a specific public policy or program, using randomized controlled trial or quasi-experimental methodologies;
- Female applicants are strongly encouraged to apply.

Visiting Scholar applicants must additionally:

- Plan to return to a university or research institute in East Africa for at least 1 year after the fellowship;

- Demonstrate a commitment to building the capacity of African research institutions/universities.

Deadline for Submission: March 22, 2013

For more go to: <https://cega.submittable.com/submit/18323>

(Resource) International Women's Day Website

A global hub for sharing International Women's Day news, events, and resources

2013 Theme: "A promise is a promise: Time for action to end violence against women"

Over time and distance, the equal rights of women have progressed. We celebrate the achievements of women while remaining vigilant and tenacious for further sustainable change. There is global momentum for championing women's equality. Each year around the world, International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated on March 8. Thousands of events occur not just on this day but throughout March to mark the economic, political and social achievements of women. Organisations, governments, charities, educational institutions, women's groups, corporations and the media celebrate the day. Many groups around the world choose different themes each year relevant to global and local gender issues.

"The Gender Agenda: Gaining Momentum" is the 2013 theme of our internationalwomensday.com website. Last year our 2012 theme was Connecting Girls, Inspiring Futures which supported the United Nation's (UN) first International Day of the Girl celebrated on 11 October 2012. The UN declares an International Women's Day theme and for 2013 it is "A promise is a promise: Time for action to end violence against women". In 2012 it was "Empower Rural Women – End Hunger and Poverty". Many organisations develop International Women's Day themes relevant to their local contexts. For example, the European Parliament's 2012 theme was "Equal pay for work of equal value".

THE ISSUE

Violence against women and girls is one of the most widespread violations of human rights. In some countries, up to 7 in 10 women will be beaten, raped, abused or mutilated in their lifetimes. To raise awareness and trigger action to end this global phenomenon, International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (25 November), and the ensuing 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence are commemorated every year around the world.

Ending violence against women is one of UN Women's priority areas. UN Women also coordinates the UN Secretary-General's UNiTE to End Violence against Women

campaign and supports widespread social mobilization through its Say NO – UNiTE to End Violence against Women platform. In addition, UN Women manages the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women which commemorates its 16th anniversary in 2012.

Facts and Figures

Violence against women and girls is a problem of pandemic proportions. Based on country data available, up to 70 per cent of women experience physical or sexual violence from men in their lifetime – the majority by husbands, intimate partners or someone they know.

Among women aged between 15 and 44, acts of violence cause more death and disability than cancer, malaria, traffic accidents and war combined. Perhaps the most pervasive human rights violation that we know today, violence against women devastates lives, fractures communities, and stalls development. It takes many forms and occurs in many places – domestic violence in the home, sexual abuse of girls in schools, sexual harassment at work, rape by husbands or strangers, in refugee camps or as a tactic of war.

PDF - Say NO Factsheet

Femicide – the murder of women because they are women

- In the United States, one-third of women murdered each year are killed by intimate partners.
- In South Africa, a woman is killed every 6 hours by an intimate partner.
- In India, 22 women were killed each day in dowry-related murders in 2007.
- In Guatemala, two women are murdered, on average, each day.

Trafficking

- Women and girls comprise 80 percent of the estimated 800,000 people trafficked annually, with the majority (79 percent) trafficked for sexual exploitation.

Harmful practices

- Approximately 100 to 140 million girls and women in the world have experienced female genital mutilation/cutting, with more than 3 million girls in Africa annually at risk of the practice.
 - Over 60 million girls worldwide are child brides, married before the age of 18, primarily in South Asia (31.1 million) and Sub-Saharan Africa (14.1 million).
- Sexual violence against women and girls

- An estimated 150 million girls under 18 suffered some form of sexual

violence in 2002 alone.

- As many as 1 in 4 women experience physical and/or sexual violence during pregnancy which increases the likelihood of having a miscarriage, stillbirth and abortion . Up to 53 percent of women physically abused by their intimate partners are being kicked or punched in the abdomen.

- In Sao Paulo, Brazil, a woman is assaulted every 15 seconds.

- In Ecuador, adolescent girls reporting sexual violence in school identified teachers as the perpetrator in 37 per cent of cases.

Rape as a method of warfare

- Approximately 250,000 to 500,000 women and girls were raped in the 1994 Rwandan genocide.

- In eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, at least 200,000 cases of sexual violence, mostly involving women and girls, have been documented since 1996, though the actual numbers are considered to be much higher.

Cost of violence against women

- Domestic violence alone cost approximately US\$1.16 billion in Canada and US\$5.8 billion in the United States. In Australia, violence against women and children costs an estimated US\$11.38 billion per year.

Sexual Harassment

- Between 40 and 50 per cent of women in European Union countries experience unwanted sexual advancements, physical contact or other forms of sexual harassment at their workplace.

- In the United States, 83 per cent of girls aged 12 to 16 experienced some form of sexual harassment in public schools.

For more go to: <http://saynotoviolence.org/issue/facts-and-figures> and <http://www.internationalwomensday.com/>

As part of the Firelight Foundation's Capacity Building Program, Firelight provides "Newsflashes" to share relevant resources and information with our active grantee-partners via weekly emails and via post on a monthly basis. We hope that by facilitating access to information for grassroots, community-focused organizations, programming for children and families, as well as organizational development, is enhanced. Past editions of the Firelight Newsflash can be found on our website: <http://www.firelightfoundation.org/newsflash.php>.

We welcome your comments, feedback and ideas for upcoming Newsflashes at newsletter@firelightfoundation.org.

For more information contact:

Firelight Foundation

740 Front Street, Suite 380
Santa Cruz, CA 95060 USA
www.firelightfoundation.org
+1 831-429- 8750