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May 9, 2013

Dear Friends,

We hope you enjoy this week's edition of the Newsflash!

Sincerely,  
The Firelight Team

(Call for Proposals) Project Inspire 2013  
(Open for Proposals) Global Fund for Women  
(Article) Charity Gives Way to Social Investment

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(Call for Proposals) Project Inspire 2013

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

Deadline for all submissions is 30 June 2013.

For more information, visit this link:

[http://www.5minutestochangetheworld.org/get\\_involved.acv](http://www.5minutestochangetheworld.org/get_involved.acv)

## (Open for Proposals) Global Fund for Women

Global Fund for Women invests in women's groups that advance the human rights of women and girls. We strengthen women-led organizations based outside best how to determine their needs and propose solutions for lasting change.

### Who Global Fund supports:

- Groups of women working together.
- Organizations that demonstrate a clear commitment to women's equality and women's human rights.
- Organizations that are governed and directed by women.
- Organizations based outside of the United States.

### Who Global Fund does NOT support:

- Individuals and Scholarships
- Organizations that do not have a women's human rights focus.
- Organizations headed or managed by men.
- Organizations whose sole activities are income-generation and/or charity.
- Organizations based or working primarily in the United States.
- Organizations in the Global North proposing partnerships in the Global South.
- Government entities, political parties or election campaigns.

### Funding Cycle and Deadlines:

The Global Fund for Women recently moved from accepting proposals on a rolling basis to accepting proposals twice a year with defined cycles.

#### Cycle One:

- Proposal Intake: beginning October 15 and closing December 31st.
- Application review and grant approval process completed by mid-May.
- Applicants notified of award or decline by May 31st.

#### Cycle Two:

- Proposal Intake: beginning March 15th and closing June 30th.
- Application review and grant approval process completed by mid-November.
- Applicants notified of award or decline by November 30th.

For more information, visit this link: <http://www.globalfundforwomen.org/apply-for-a-grant>

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## (Article) Charity Gives Way to Social Investment

**Excerpt:** In the worlds of business and finance, when someone makes an investment,

they do not simply give that money away; rather, they expect it to generate a financial return. Tshikululu Acting Manager of Advisory Services, Michael Rifer, points out that those making a social investment – both corporate and non-corporate foundations – may not be looking to make money, but they are beginning to expect a return for their outlay.

In doing so, the lexicon of development is beginning to sound more and more like that of business. Suddenly ‘performance’ and ‘value’ apply as much to the work of NGOs as they do to stocks. And as funders begin to expect clear ‘development dividends’ from their giving in the form of greater social impact, their development partners in the NGO sector must either adapt or risk being labeled a bad investment.

First and foremost, funders want to see impact. In the past, they may sometimes have turned a blind eye to the work of their development partners; it used to be good enough to support a ‘good cause’ and just trust that money donated was having a positive impact on beneficiaries. Today however, in part because of the reputational risks and pressures that funders face, they now want more – and better – information about the impact of the work that they are supporting.

To read more, visit: <http://www.tshikululu.org.za/charity-gives-way-to-social-investment/#more-7844>

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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/resources/newsflash/>.

We welcome your comments, feedback and ideas for upcoming Newsflashes at [newsletter@firelightfoundation.org](mailto:newsletter@firelightfoundation.org).

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