



August 8, 2013

Dear Friends,

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

Sincerely,
The Firelight Team

(Resource) Our Justice, Our Leadership: The Grassroots Women's Community Justice Guide

(Resource) Preparing for the Inevitable: A Succession Readiness Checklist

(Accepting Letters of Intent) Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund- VGIF

(Call for Applications) Japan Water Forum Fund 2013 for Grassroots NGOs

(Resource) Our Justice, Our Leadership: The Grassroots Women's Community Justice Guide

This guide is a culmination of four years of work by grassroots women's groups and networks. They have pioneered and tested a series of strategies to promote women's empowerment and protect and safeguard their rights, including the creation of community watchdog groups and community paralegals.

The guide has six broad aims:

- Introduce women with land issues to opportunities for justice
- Share the experience and wisdom of grassroots women
- Help women gain ownership of land and property and work on land and property rights
- Build capacity to mobilize women and communities for justice work
- Support cooperation among organizations focusing on statutory and legal rights and communities focusing on customary and traditional practices
- Support sustainable initiatives

To download this resource, visit:

<http://awid.org/News-Analysis/New-Resources2/Our-Justice-Our-Leadership-The-Grassroots-Women-s-Community-Justice-Guide>

(Resource) Preparing for the Inevitable: A Succession Readiness Checklist

When certain conditions are in place, an agency can expect a relatively smooth transition to new leadership whenever it might occur. An agency might determine which elements below are lacking in its current operations and then create a “succession plan” or “capacity building plan” that prescribes activities and timelines for filling the gaps. The agency is then ready for leadership transitions, foreseen or unforeseen.

To view this checklist, visit:

http://www.compasspoint.org/sites/default/files/docs/724_successionreadinesscheckl.pdf

(Accepting Letters of Intent) Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund- VGIF

The Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund (VGIF) provides small grants for grassroots projects that empower women and girls in developing countries. VGIF supports women’s organizations based outside of the United States by providing small grants for an array of community needs up to \$7,500 USD.

What VGIF supports:

- Economic empowerment of women
- Community development
- Health and nutritional support
- Literacy and leadership training
- Educational seminars and workshops
- Promoting education in the sciences for girls
- Women’s human rights
- Organizations that are governed and directed by women.

VGIF does not consider requests for the following:

- Individual scholarships and tuition
- Political organizations
- Religious groups unless the proposed project contributes to the general good of the community
- The construction of permanent buildings or the purchase of land
- Salaries for board members and permanent staff but may include stipends/honoraria for external resource people/trainers.

For more information, visit this link: <http://www.vgif3.org/projects2tier/index.asp>

(Call for Applications) Japan Water Forum Fund 2013 for Grassroots NGOs

JWF Funding can be requested for projects related to:

- Installation of rainwater-harvesting tanks, ponds or digging wells;
- Development of small scale water supply systems;
- Building new toilets and upgrading existing sanitation facilities;
- Prevention of water-related disasters projects;
- Establishment and encouragement of water-efficient irrigation;
- Solving gender issues on water and sanitation;
- Water environment restoration activities.

The JWF Fund provides grants of US \$1000 per project/organization. Grassroots-based NGOs in the following countries can apply for this funding opportunity: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Rep., Chad, Comoros, Congo, Dem. Rep., Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kiribati, Laos, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Samoa, São Tomé e Príncipe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Uganda, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia

Submission Period: From July 29 until August 19, 2013

For more information or to apply:

http://www.waterforum.jp/en/what_we_do/pages/grass_roots/jwf_funds/2013/call_for/index.php

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.

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