Partnership grants: Frequently Asked Questions

How does AmplifyChange define ‘the SRHR movement’?
Social movements have played a critical role in the establishment and sustaining of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). We’ve seen first-hand that networks of loosely coordinated civil society organisations and active citizens make more impact as a collective than when they work independently or in competition. The objective of this grant is to enable organisations, and or consortia, that are already established and well positioned in the SRHR movement, to provide advocacy grants directly to grassroots organisations to strengthen a resilient movement to attain universal sexual and reproductive health and rights for all.

What types of organisations can apply?
AmplifyChange will consider applications from civil society organisations based in Sub-Saharan Africa or South Asia. We recognise the broad scope of civil society and the wide range of organisations, actors and coalitions it encompasses. Civil society organisations can include community groups, youth groups, non-governmental organisations, indigenous groups, charitable organisations, faith-based organisations, research institutes, social enterprise groups, public-private partnerships, communications and media groups and professional associations.

We don’t have annual audited accounts for the past three years, can we still apply?
The purpose of the Partnership grant funding is to support established organisations, and so it is a requirement to have annual audited accounts for the past three years. If your organisation is invited to submit a full application, we will request to see your organisation’s audited accounts at Full Application stage in June. If your 2020 annual accounts have not been finalised, we would expect to see a draft version. Please note that when we say “audited accounts” we mean financial accounts reviewed and signed off by external and independent auditors.

What does it mean for an applicant to be ‘originating from’ the Global South?
AmplifyChange’s grants are intended to strengthen civil society organisations originating from the Global South. In this Partnership round, lead applicant organisations must be sub-Saharan African or South Asian, with the ability to define a strategy, raise funds, set performance targets and other objectives, define a brand identity and have a governance structure fully independently of a Global North-based headquarters or support office. AmplifyChange encourages and recognises the interconnectedness of civil society across the world. However, we are focused on ensuring that Partnership grants are led by southern-based organisations, emerging from and rooted in their own communities to
advance sexual and reproductive health and rights. These groups have fewer opportunities for funding in the global development financing architecture which limits their opportunities to lead advocacy agendas. International NGOs may apply as a partner within a Partnership grant led by a southern-based organisation. A list of eligible countries can be found on our website.

Is it possible for a project to be implemented in more than one country? There are no limits in terms of the number of implementation countries. Applicants can propose to implement their project in any number of eligible countries.

We like to work in consortia can we still do this? Applications from individual organisations or consortia are welcome to apply for this grant. The consortium members would be implementing or downstream partners which is different to the on-granting organisations. There are no limits to the number of organisations in a consortium. Please note that AmplifyChange will have a Grant Agreement with the lead applicant only. It will be the responsibility of the lead applicant to put in place contracts with their consortium partners. Therefore, only the lead applicant’s average annual expenditure over the last three years can be considered for eligibility.

There is a question on the concept note application about where the grant will be implemented but we don’t know who will be successful in our on-granting, what should we say? Please add the countries where you would intend to open the call for applications – this can be adjusted later as necessary.

How much of the grant should be given to on-granting and how many grants should we give? This will vary from organisation to organisation, we have left this deliberately open for you to decide about the level of investment you are prepared to make with on-granting and to weigh up the risks and costs.

Who can we on-grant to? Partnership grant holders are expected to support smaller grassroots civil society organisations within the SRHR movement. On-granting is intended to be in the form of advocacy grants and the lead organisation will be responsible for ensuring they are well implemented.
We don’t have any grant making experience can we still apply?
Yes, you can. We are seeking to develop SRHR movements with these grants so it would be important to show why you would be well placed to do grant making in your context and how you plan to develop the appropriate systems to do so.

How many themes can we work on?
AmplifyChange has five themes and you are welcome to work on any of these themes, you can choose one, or work on more than one as you see fit.

Will AmplifyChange influence how we give grants?
AmplifyChange will not have any influence over the grant making, however as part of our own due diligence we shall be looking to see that there will be an appropriate level of due diligence carried out on the on-granting organisations. By appropriate we mean at a level which corresponds to the size of grant.

How do we determine the exchange rate for the budget, and what can be included?
We do not require a budget at Concept Note stage. However, if an organisation is invited to submit a Full Application a budget will be required, when AmplifyChange will provide specific financial guidance for the Partnership grants. For general guidance on determining exchange rates and other financial concerns please look at our general financial guidance 6. Financial guidance - AmplifyChange - A fund to break the silence on SRHR

Can we download an offline version of the Concept Note to work on?
All applicants can download a PDF version of the Concept Note from SMILE (our online grants management system). You can do this by clicking 'Preview Application' in the menu on the left-hand side. Final Concept Notes should be finalised and submitted through SMILE. Please view our SMILE application guidance film here: https://amplifychange.org/implement/smile/

What do you mean by ‘Partnership’ with AmplifyChange?
The question on the Concept Note Application Form asking about the relationship you would like to have with AmplifyChange is one element of the Partnership that is new to this type of grant. We hope to use the Partnership grants to further the reach and support to civil society organisations in the SRHR movement you are a part of in a sustainable way. We look forward to hearing your ideas about how this two-way partnership could work, and this is something we will be able to develop further together if your application is successful.