CALL FOR APPLICATIONS 2019-20
Thematic: Environmental Justice

SUBMISSION DEADLINE 5TH JUNE 2018

Women’s Fund Asia (WFA) is pleased to announce this call for applications under the Environmental Justice thematic for the year 2019-20 under our grant making programme, Strengthening Feminist Movements. This call is open to women and trans* rights groups based in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam and Mongolia.

Women’s Fund Asia (WFA) is a regional women’s fund, committed to supporting feminist, human rights activism and interventions lead by women and trans* people in Asia. Established in 2004 as the South Asia Women’s Fund (SAWF), the fund was created to address the lack of resources for smaller grassroots organisations in South Asia. In 2017 WFA opened its funding to 18 countries in Asia, and officially transitioned into Women’s Fund Asia in 2018, with a bigger mandate to fund rights-based work across Asia.

Environmental Justice is one of the 5 thematic priority areas on which WFA conducts its grant-making. WFA launched this thematic in 2017 as a response to the criticality of the issue for countries in Asia. For WFA, Environmental Justice means ensuring women and trans* communities:

(i) rights to access and enjoy natural resources are protected
(ii) their voices and experiences are centred at every decision making level - from decisions and policies at the local level to national level, as well as in larger international discourses on climate change and sustainable development
(iii) their leadership is recognised in the design, development and implementation of relevant laws and policies

In two years of grant-making, we have supported women and trans* groups working on issues such as the right to clean water and safe living and working environments, climate-related displacement, disability, indigenous and Adivasi rights, mining, deforestation, and others. Communities we have supported include indigenous women, migrant workers, women farmers and women with disabilities.

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1 Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam and Mongolia.
What are we funding in this call?

Under this thematic, WFA will provide grants to activists, organisations and networks working at the intersection of environmental justice and women’s and trans* human rights.

We will support work which centres the voices and leadership of women and trans* people in the decision-making processes which govern access to and distribution of resources such as land, water, food, and other natural resources, as well as in policies that govern disaster management, climate change adaptation, and sustainable development.

We will prioritise interventions which promote a rights-based perspective and feminist principles; those which are self-led; and/or those which look to strengthen national and regional movements for women and trans* environment and climate justice.

GRANT TYPES

Applicants can apply for the following types of grants:

- **General Operating grants**: This includes institutional and administrative costs including salaries, rent and other operational costs of groups/organisations/networks. General Operating grants can also be used to fill funding gaps of ongoing/new programmes and collaborations, or institutional strengthening and capacity building, as per the need of the organisation. Applicants for this type of grant should be organisations working at the intersection of environmental justice, and women and/or trans* rights.

- **Programme/project grants**: This includes (but is not limited to) support for new or ongoing programmes; research; cross-regional or cross-movement collaborations; and learning and exchange visits.

- **Individual grants**: individual activists may apply for support to build their capacity or conduct research related to this thematic. Applicants should clearly demonstrate how their learnings or research will feed back into the work of women and/or trans* rights movements. Individual grant requests should not exceed USD 5000.

ELIGIBILITY

Who can apply for the current call?

- Any woman’s/trans* rights organisation/group/network whose annual budget is under USD 50,000 located in the eligible countries can apply.
• Both the governing body and staff of the organisation should be lead by women or trans* people.
• The entity should have at least 60% women, trans* people or a combination of both, in its decision-making body and staff.
• Groups, networks and organisations for whom advancement of women and/or trans* rights is a key component of its vision and mission.
• The organisation should be committed to feminist principles and rights-based approaches.

The applicant organisations must meet all of the above criteria to be considered.

What Women’s Fund Asia does not fund:

• Groups and organisations whose vision and mission does not include advancement of women’s rights and/or trans* rights
• Groups working through strategies which are violative of women and trans* rights (such as raid and rescue, anti-sex work, and anti-abortion among others)
• Groups whose primary purpose is service delivery, humanitarian assistance, charity, poverty alleviation programmes such as micro finance, income generation, education, scholarships, literacy, and skills development programmes
• Groups directly/indirectly related or connected with elections and election campaigning
• Groups directly affiliated with political parties and/or religious institutions
• For-profit groups and educational institutions
• Groups registered in countries outside of Asia, and not directly working in the countries their proposed work is based in (regional collaborations not included)

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please submit your Letter of Interest in the given format, along with the requested budget and required supporting documents. Applications should be submitted to grants@wf-asia.org with the subject line ‘Application for EJ thematic 19-20″. The deadline for submission is 5th June 2019 midnight Sri Lanka time. If you have any clarifications please refer to WFA’s Grant Making FAQs or email grants@wf-asia within a week of the deadline.

It takes Women’s Fund Asia’s team at least 12 weeks from the application deadline to complete the grant making process. The team is supported by an expert advisory team in finalising the grants.