



## APPLICATION GUIDELINES

# SMALL GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY BASED/LED INNOVATIVE SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR) PROJECTS

### INTRODUCTION

The Center for Health, Human Rights and Development (CEHURD) is a mainstream legal and human rights indigenous Non-Governmental Organisation established in 2010 to pioneer the justiciability of the right to health in Uganda and East Africa with regional and global contribution and impact. The organisation addresses social injustices, inequalities and health rights violations in health systems and other sectors which impact health outcomes for girls, women and other vulnerable communities. It advances the health rights of vulnerable communities through tested approaches that include litigation, advocacy, research, building community and partner agency through empowerment and social movement building to realise equitable health and human rights for all. CEHURD seeks to impact laws and policies; health practices and services and change of social norms and practices which impact negatively on the realization of health and human rights.

For over a decade, CEHURD has been focused on advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in Uganda through movement building, campaigns, national and sub-national advocacy, capacity building and systems strengthening, as well as empowering communities to demand for their human rights. Over the last 5 years, CEHURD piloted a regranting programme on SRHR Advocacy with particular focus on grassroots organisations. The call for innovative SRHR advocacy projects is motivated by this work which has benefitted more than 90 grassroots organisations which work on issues of SRHR and abortion healthcare.

CEHURD hosts the Coalition to Stop Maternal Mortality due to Unsafe Abortion (CSMMUA) which brings together over 50 member organisations working in/or desiring to integrate SRHR in their

interventions. CSMMUA envisions a Uganda where no woman suffers or dies due to unsafe abortion. Established 10 years ago, the Coalition advocates for legal and policy frameworks that advance and adequately protect women and girls from morbidity and mortality due to unsafe abortion and other related causes. In 2021, CEHURD conducted an Advocacy Capacity Assessment (ACA) exercise among the members of the Coalition to establish their advocacy strengths as well as areas with gaps that need to be addressed.

### OVERVIEW OF THE PARTNERSHIP ADVOCACY SMALL GRANTS

With support and collaboration with AmplifyChange, CEHURD will award small grants between GBP 10,000 - GBP 20,000 to support 15 - 20 organisations operating at grassroots/community level to implement innovative projects on SRHR advocacy. These small grants will be awarded through an unsolicited/competitive process and will primarily support the implementation of one-off innovative advocacy projects on SRHR. Implementation period for the grants will be between 6 - 18 months from 2026 to 2027. The purpose of the small grants is to enable grassroots organisations that are working on SRHR issues implement innovative advocacy projects that influence community support for SRHR.

The small grants advocacy programme targets the SRHR ecosystem nurtured through the Coalition to Stop Maternal Mortality due to Unsafe Abortion (CSMMUA), the Legal Support Network (LSN) and aims to bring on board new players. Special consideration may be given to organisations which have been impacted, with evidence by the Global Gag policy and funding cuts. In addition to receiving small grants, successful organisations will benefit from technical and organisational development capacity building opportunities from CEHURD aimed at enabling them to effectively advocate for and protect SRHR, based on their identified needs.

Under this programme, CEHURD adapts a grant making strategy that includes marginalised groups and non-traditional SRHR Allies. Organisations focusing on Persons with Disability, Faith Based Organisations and cultural institutions which promote SRHR and address access barriers, stigma and discrimination are encouraged to apply. At least 5 of the total number of small grants will go to these organisations.

### FUNDING PRIORITIES

The programme will support projects which aim to prevent and/or reduce maternal mortality due to unsafe abortion and other related causes in Uganda, especially at the community level. Priority will be given but not limited to projects focusing on one or more of the following areas:

1. Advocacy to address the problem of unsafe abortion, access to Post-Abortion Care and addressing abortion related stigma.
2. Initiatives which support the implementation of legal and policy frameworks on SRHR including Post-Abortion Care Guidelines and National Guideline on Self-Care Interventions for health and well-being.
3. Advocacy for safe and decent motherhood
4. Advocacy to increase community level awareness, engagements, support and action on persistent SRHR challenges and barriers for service access.
5. Transforming social and cultural norms affecting access to SRHR services and information.
6. Strategic messaging on SRHR including abortion healthcare.
7. Access to SRHR services and information for vulnerable and marginalised groups.
8. Initiatives which promote agency and voice for those most affected by unsafe abortion and lack of access to SRH services and information.
9. Evidence generation on abortion-related issues.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- To qualify for funding, applicants must belong to any one or more of the following categories:
- Be institutional members of CSMMUA and/or the Legal Support Network or the wider Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Movement, operating at the community level
- Organisations focusing on SRHR for

- vulnerable and marginalised groups
- Non-traditional SRHR Allies including Faith Based organisations and cultural institutions
- Not have received a CEHURD small grant in the last two years (FY2024 - 2025)

CORE COSTS:

Each applicant may request for up to 20% for their core costs (i.e. 7% administration costs and 13% to salaries) This provision will only be

acceptable once it is justified in the proposal and included in the budget. However, it does not increase the maximum grant size which can be applied for, which remains capped at GBP 10,000 - GBP 20,000. All applicants are expected to budget responsibly in order to ensure effective and efficient use of funds. The following guidance outlines what can and cannot be supported through the Advocacy partnerships small grant.

Eligible costs:

These are expenses directly linked to implementing the project and aligned with the grant objectives:

Category	Examples
Personnel (Project-specific)	Up to 13% for salaries or stipends for project staff (e.g., Coordinator, M&E officer) working on the funded project (pro-rata basis)
Project Activities	Training workshops, community meetings, advocacy campaigns, production of IEC materials, etc
Communication	Printing, talk shows, phone calls (project-related), internet for coordination
Training	Trainer fees, training materials, venue, participant transport, meals – only if applying for a training component ( <b>Annex 2 of the application form must be completed</b> )
Travel & Transport	Local transport, fuel, accommodation for field visits or training events directly related to the project
Monitoring & Evaluation	Data collection tools, evaluation meetings, research and learning activities, documentation and reporting costs
Equipment & Supplies	Project-specific items like flip charts, mobile tablets for data collection, visibility materials (e.g., banners, T-shirts)
Core/Administration Costs	Up to 7% of total grant applied for with justification (e.g., utilities, rent, audit fees)

Ineligible Costs:

These are costs that will not be supported under the grant:

Category	Examples
Capital Expenditures	Purchase or construction of buildings, vehicles, or large infrastructure
Unjustified Core Costs	Salaries for staff not involved in the project and unrelated operational costs
International Travel	Flights or expenses for travel outside Uganda ( <i>can be allowed with approval of the activity by CEHURD</i> )
Personal Costs	Salaries or allowances not linked to project implementation, personal gadgets (e.g., personal phones, laptops)
Entertainment	Alcohol, parties, gifts, recreational activities
Political/Religious Activities	Costs for promoting political parties or religious agendas
Loan Repayment or Debts	Outstanding obligations which include penalties, fines, or legal settlements
Budget Reserves	Unallocated lump sums or contingency lines without explanation

APPLICATIONS:

The deadline for applications will be 9th January 2026. Applications will then be reviewed and feedback provided by the 9th February, 2026. The application form can be accessed here; <https://www.cephurd.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/2025-Small-Grants-Application-form.docx>. Should you require additional support or information while developing your application, you can contact [smallgrants@cephurd.org](mailto:smallgrants@cephurd.org) or [nahurira@cephurd.org](mailto:nahurira@cephurd.org)

**Applications must be sent by email before midnight on 9th January, 2026 to [smallgrants@cephurd.org](mailto:smallgrants@cephurd.org)**

Please attach all required documents to this application form. Incomplete applications risk not being considered.

**All applicants must include the following documents with their application:**

- Clear address and direction to the physical premises of the facility where the applying organisation operates from.

PUBLICATIONS/INFORMATION

Successful applicants will be required to share with CEHURD any required information related to the grant in a timely manner, for the further development of the initiative and other official purposes. Any publication, audio or video program, film or other media product supported through the small grants initiative shall be shared with CEHURD and may be used for visibility of the initiative or other official purpose.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- All costs must be reasonable, necessary, and directly attributable to project objectives.
- CEHURD reserves the right to request revisions or disallow certain costs during the review of applications.
- Applicants are encouraged to submit files in .pdf format wherever possible for consistency and security. However, to facilitate smooth submission and review for all applications, supporting documents must only be presented in the following formats:
  - Text-based documents (e.g., proposals, letters, budgets, CVs): .doc, .docx, or .pdf
  - Scanned certificates, permits, or references: .pdf or .jpeg
  - Financial statements or audited accounts: .pdf (preferred), .xls, or .xlsx
  - Images/photos (if relevant): .jpeg or .png

- A copy of the registration of your organisation confirming that it is a legal entity in the country.
- A reference from a current or previous donor.
- Proof of employment with the organisation of the person responsible for the small grant.
- Proof of registration of the person responsible with the relevant professional body/council such as the Law Society, Medical Council, etc where applicable.
- A copy of a valid work permit if the responsible person is not a national.
- Current audited accounts. In the absence of current audited accounts, please provide an explanation of why it is not possible to provide accounts and instead submit an annual statement of income and expenditure.
- Detailed project budget using the provided template.



- The budget should be provided in the local currency and in British Pound Sterling, indicating the date of currency conversion and the rate used. The budget MUST NOT exceed the proposed range of GBP 10,000 GBP to GBP 20,000.
- A copy of the organisation structure. Alternatively, a summary list of staff positions in the organisation indicating the number of people per position.
  - Curriculum vitae (CVs) of the key institutional contacts, the head of the organisation, the person responsible for project coordination and for the person responsible for finance management for the project.

If applying for training costs, please fill out the training details form which is Annex 2 of the application form.

**If applying for the purchase of supplies and related commodities, please include:**

- A minimum of three quotes for proposed commodities, supplies or equipment purchases if applicable, indicating the preferred quote and reasons for this.

Please note that we will award up to 20 small grants. We will endeavour to communicate the decision to all applicants within one month of the closing date.

**What to expect if you are successful in applying for a small grant:**

If you are successful, you will be notified by the CEHURD, which will send you a grant approval letter, outlining the terms and conditions of the grant.

**What to do if your application is not successful:**

If your application is not successful, you will receive an email of regret from CEHURD. Please feel free to request any clarification from CEHURD if required.

CEHURD acknowledges that all organizations that apply for small grants are committed to preventing and/or reducing maternal mortality due to unsafe abortion and to advocate and protect sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Failure to succeed on this occasion does not stop one from engaging CEHURD on other available opportunities for collaboration.

**END**