

Call for Applications:

Funding opportunity for Youth-led organizations/networks in Kenya, Uganda and Zambia working on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)

The Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights (YCSRR) is pleased to announce a call for applications for a funding opportunity directed at youth-led organizations (YLOs) working on Bodily Autonomy and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights advocacy in Kenya, Uganda and Zambia under the SHE SOARS project.

If you wish to apply, fill out [this application form](#) **no later than June 15th 11:59 PM EAT**. Should you have any questions regarding the application process or accessibility needs, kindly write to winnie@youthcoalition.org.

The YCSRR will host an informative session about this process on **June 2nd** at 4:00 PM East Africa Time. Please [register here](#) to attend.

About the YCSRR

The YCSRR is an international organization of young people (ages 18-29 years) committed to promoting adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive health and rights at the national, regional and international levels. We are volunteers from all over the world, with a small team of staff based in Ottawa to support us in this mandate. We are students, researchers, lawyers, health care professionals, educators, development workers, and most importantly, we are all dedicated activists.

Together, we work to ensure that the sexual and reproductive rights of all young people are respected, guaranteed and promoted, and strive to secure the meaningful participation of young people in decision-making that affects the lives of young people and adolescents. We do this through advocating, generating knowledge, sharing information, building partnerships, and training young activists.

About the SHE SOARS! Project

SHE SOARS! (Sexual and reproductive Health & Economic empowerment [SHE] Supporting Out of school Adolescent girls' Rights and Skills [SOARS]) is a seven-year, Global Affairs Canada-funded project. SHE SOARS will be delivered in partnership with [CARE](#), [Restless Development](#), the [Youth Coalition for Sexual and](#)

[Reproductive Rights](#), and the [Center for Reproductive Rights](#) in Kenya, Uganda and Zambia. Its aim is to support out-of-school adolescent girls' 10-19 years access high-quality, evidence-based sexual and reproductive health services and to enable these girls to realize their sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). It will build the capacity of and engage with local women's rights and youth-led groups, train health providers, and work with communities and relevant government ministries, to create sustainable change in the social, economic, and legal environments that impact out-of-school adolescent girls' SRHR.

About the funding opportunity

As part of our mandate, the YCSRR will partner with YLOs in the region to strengthen their capacity to advocate for youth-centered ASRHR and meaningful youth engagement. Under our key principles of co-leadership, co-ownership and co-creation, our intervention will be to improve effectiveness of youth-led organizations' capacity to advocate for evidence-based, accountable and equitable SRHR policies, legal frameworks and services.

For this sub-granting cycle, the YCSRR will select **three (3) youth-led organizations** (one per country) to receive funds, and will partner with them to co-implement the SHE SOARS project throughout the next 2.5 years. **Each of the selected youth-led organizations will receive 38,000 CAD throughout 2.5 years.**

Additionally, the YCSRR will support advocacy activities of the selected YLOs both financially and technically.

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for this funding opportunity, aspiring organizations must fulfill the following requirements:

- a. Must work locally in Kenya, Zambia or Uganda.
- b. Must be a registered^[MT-4] non-governmental, non-political and not-for-profit (non-commercial) entity. **If the organization is not legally registered, it must be willing and able to commit funds from this process to consolidate legally.**
- c. Must have existed for at least 2 years and be registered with a relevant authority at national level or sub national level as applicable **OR** have existed for at least three years and can demonstrate

recognition (through letters of support) from other, registered WROs and/or YLOs. **If the organization is not legally registered, it must be willing and able to commit funds from this process to consolidate legally.**

- d. Must be youth-led and/or adolescent-led. This is defined by having all of members of governance bodies/staff/network comprised of young people between the^[MT-5] ages of 17 and 35 and with at least $\frac{2}{3}$ of the members of the governance bodies/staff/volunteers/members women or gender non-conforming young people. The concept of youth has been adopted based on the context of the region where youth are defined as up to 35 years old. However, as an affirmative action, priority will be given to YLOs led by people between 17-29 through the scoring of applications given the focus of SHE SOARS on adolescents 10-19.
- e. Must be an organization/network that can demonstrate, through its activities and actions, a belief in the full realization of young people's empowerment to decide and lead on their own ASRHR.
- f. The organization's/network's current mission, values, and the profile of the activities that it is currently implementing, are focused on transforming young people's lives and addressing gender inequalities.
- g. The organization's/network's work must focus on advancing youth/adolescent leadership, youth/adolescent movement building and youth-/adolescent-centered approaches to ASRHR in any of the implementing countries of Kenya, Uganda and Zambia.
- h. Must be an organization that is implementing and/or willing to take up work on youth/adolescent-centered ASRHR legal and policy advocacy, at national and regional levels.
- i. Must be available and willing to participate in SHE SOARS capacity development initiatives (which will be funded through the SHE SOARS project).
- j. Must provide evidence that the organization has the ability to manage external funding
- k. Must be willing and able to set up a bank account if they do not already have one, to receive funds from the project, if selected.
- l. Must agree to [YCSRR's Principles and Values](#).

In addition to these requirements, funding priority will be given to YLOs working to strengthen bodily autonomy of adolescents and young people. This includes but is not limited to the following topics:

- Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)
- Early and forced marriage
- Teenage pregnancy
- Access to contraception & sexual health services
- Intersections of gender, age and other issues related to SRHR and Bodily Autonomy.

Priority will also be given to YLOs based and/or working in the following regions:

- Zambia - Chadiza, Kasenengwa and Mambwe districts
- Uganda - Kampala, Terego, Madi-okollo and Arua districts
- Kenya - Kisumu, Kajiado, Siaya and Nairobi Counties

Selection process information

The grant-making process will be youth-led, youth-centred, and based on feminist participatory grant-making principles.

In order to shift the power dynamics that affect young people's access to funding, the YCSRR has set up a [Youth Advisory Board](#) (which includes six external members i.e., two per country) to lead on the grant-making process. The YAB, together with the YCSRR, has defined the eligibility criteria, and will lead an open call for proposals, assess applications and then propose a short list of final grantees based on the eligibility criteria above.

The YAB will select and nominate YLOs from each of the three SHE SOARS implementing countries. The nominees will be contacted to conduct a due diligence review process co-lead by the YCSRR and CARE. Once selected, the grantees will work collaboratively with YCSRR to conduct a capacity assessment and to co-design a work plan and a strategy for allocating the funds within the organization in a flexible way.

How to apply

If your organization meets the criteria set above, fill out [this application form](#) no later than **June 15th 11:59 PM EAT**. Should you have any questions regarding the application process or accessibility needs, kindly write to applications@youthcoalition.org

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The application form includes the following sections:

1.- Basic information about the organization

Physical Address (if applicable)

Organization's email address

Organization's website/ social media platforms (if applicable)

Is your organization legally registered? Yes/No

Country of Registration (if applicable)

Organization's Registration Number (if applicable)

How many years has your organization been in operation?

Name & position of the contact person for the organization.

2.- About your work

- *Which districts or Counties do you work in?*
- *Which programmatic thematic areas does your organization focus on?*
- *Does your organization work for advancing the rights of the following groups? Check all that apply.*
 - *Young sex workers*
 - *Adolescents*
 - *Youth with disabilities*
 - *LGBTQI+ youth*
 - *Indigenous/rural groups of young people*
 - *Young people living with HIV*
 - *Survivors of FGM/early forced marriage*
 - *Other historically marginalized groups (please specify)*
- *Does your organization have a board of directors/ advisors? List the names, age, gender and position of members of your board of directors/ advisors.*
- *Have you received funding from formal/organizational donors in the past (i.e. governments, feminist organizations, human rights funds, etc.? YES/NO*
- *Please specify the amounts, years and projects of funding if applicable.*

3.- Application Questions

- *Does your organization/network have experience advocating for youth leadership or Meaningful Youth Engagement? Please explain. [250 words max]*
- *Tell us about your advocacy work to advance ASRHR in the past two to three years. What projects/programs are you most proud of? [250 words max]*
- *What is your experience building networks of young people and mobilizing youth to advocate for ASRHR? Please describe. [250 words max]*

4.-Application document upload

Kindly share a document with your profile highlighting the following aspects of your work as an organization:

- *Introduction; organization mission and strategy*
- *Scope of work*
- *Description of your organization's leadership team*
- *Brief background of your work (history of your organization)*
- *Thematic areas*
- *Project/advocacy activities*
- *Key achievements*
- *How do your priorities/work align with the scope of SHE SOARS and this call for applications?*
- *Past experience with funding and financial reporting (how do you keep track of your expenses and reporting objectives).*

*It can be a word document, pdf or powerpoint presentation. **Please make sure that this document is no more than 6 pages or 15 slides in length.***

If you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to contact us by email and we will respond promptly. Persons with disabilities who anticipate needing accommodations for any part of the application process may contact, in confidence, winnie@youthcoalition.org.