Covid-19

Youth-Led Response Fund TOR

BACKGROUND
The COVID-19 Youth-led Response Fund is established in order to provide fast and flexible financial support to young people on the frontlines of COVID-19 response. The fund will support the work of the overall goal of promoting, advancing and protecting people’s human rights and fight inequalities perpetuated by this pandemic.

The Corona virus (COVID-19) like any other pandemic, has a direct impact on the most vulnerable and their rights, and like in many other crises we are already seeing an exacerbation of existing injustices and inequalities. Women and especially young people are likely to be hardest hit by social and economic disruptions as a result of state-sanctioned precautionary measures.

The COVID-19 Youth-led Response Fund will provide immediate grants within a short period of time (24 hours -1 week) to support Young people at the frontlines of COVID-19 response. We will be supporting interventions that may not be part of planned programme activities, are not covered by long term funding and where rapid intervention will have an impact.
TARGET GROUP
The target group is:

- Youth Working Group (YWG)
- Youth engaged through Youth Programs at ACOs
- Youth associated with the Global Platforms
- Inspirators & Advisors
- Youth engaged through Local Rights Program (LRPs)
- Activista Networks
- Young people in YLVO
- ActionAid Youth Partners
- Individuals or movements that have a connection to an ActionAid Office/Global Platforms/YWG and can receive funding through them

FINANCING
COVID-19 Youth-led Response Fund will be financed as follows:

- ActionAid Denmark’s CIV funds to the Global Platform Secretariat and the Youth Community of Interest (YCoI)
The COVID-19 Youth-led Response Fund makes grants in two levels:

1. **Level A: 0 < 12.000 DKK (App. 2.000 USD)**
   Small grants intended to enable a short-term intervention. We will respond to most urgent requests within 24 hours. Requests received without the local AA Country office/GP endorsement may require additional time.

2. **Level B: 12.000 < 60.000 DKK (App. 10.000 USD)**
   Larger grants intended to enable interventions of longer periods or more resource demanding interventions. We will respond within 1 week.

We acknowledge that young people have the skills, capacity and resources to respond to and recover from humanitarian situations like COVID-19 and that supporting and working with them will help improve humanitarian effectiveness and efficiency and strengthen resilience of communities.

Actions supported by the Youth-Led Response Fund will vary widely but we will prefer **CREATIVE YOUTH-LED** initiatives that:

- Develop and widely disseminate gendered messages and information about COVID-19.
- Addresses stigma and reinforcing the sharing of accurate, youth friendly information.
• Creative action research/document creatively the effects of the pandemic on young women, People Living with disabilities (PLWDs), refugees and LGBTQ groups.
• Initiatives addressing SRHR and sexual and gender-based violence
• Initiatives geared towards holding states accountable on emerging issues from COVID-19 epidemic
• Create awareness/education on the COVID-19 at the grassroots level targeting People Living with disability (PLWDs) informal sector rural/urban areas and other at-risk groups using art, traditional and digital media
• Are strategic, sustainable, bold and/or unique.

MEMBERSHIP & WAYS OF WORKING
The COVID-19 Youth-led Response Fund will be governed by a Steering Committee that will have six members comprising of 1 representative each from YCOI, the Global Platforms secretariat, Youth Working Group, IP4, Activista and the humanitarian team.

The steering committee will be responsible for:
• Reviewing and approving proposals submitted for funding
• Determining the strategic direction of the COVID-19 Youth-led Response Fund
• Providing oversight and overall accountability of the Fund
• Providing applicants with feedback on their proposals.

Each of the modalities will nominate their representative to the steering committee.
WAYS OF WORKING

• One person will be elected Chair of the Steering Committee by its members. The Chair of the Steering Committee will have the responsibility to call for meetings, share applications and ensure coordination on COVID-19 Youth-led Response Fund.

• The chair will assist in decision-making on matters relating to the COVID-19 Youth-led Response Funds.

• Ensuring the steering committee delivers on the TORs as outlined.

• Three people will be elected to be responsible for approving applications within 24 hours for level A funds.

• The Steering Committee will meet virtually once a week from April-June and on an ad-hoc basis when required. Frequency for meetings after June will be decided in June.

• The Steering Committee will use all reasonable efforts to make decisions by consensus. If no consensus can be reached, decisions shall require a two-thirds majority of members.

The funding will be available throughout 2020 – or until there is no more funding.

SELECTION CRITERIA OF THE APPLICATIONS

The applications will be selected based on the following criteria:

1. Only applications filled out online [HERE] will be considered.

2. The action(s) is/are creative.
3. The action(s) is/are led by young people: **From action design, implementation, and follow up.**

4. The action(s) will build or strengthen young people’s capacities in conducting preparedness and humanitarian response activities and recovery.

5. The action(s) expected results are clearly articulated, and it is clear how the suggested action(s) will generate the expected results.

6. The action(s) is/are in line with **ActionAid Humanitarian Signature.** (page 13)

7. The action(s) will address vulnerabilities that young people and their communities are facing and/or build resilience of young people and their communities.

8. The action(s) will “do no harm” and considers **AAI PSEA.**

9. The Feasibility and relevance of the action(s) in challenging and difficult circumstances (including consideration of safety, security and ethics)

10. The applicants have a cooperation with the local ActionAid office/Global Platform/Youth Working Group, who have agreed to receive and administrate the funds.

**SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL PROCESS**

ONLINE APPLICATION FORM: Fill out the application form online [HERE](#).

A response will be provided to the main contact person listed in the application (Level A = 24 hours. / Level B = 1 week).

**Response can be:**

a. “Approved”

b. “To be revised”
c. “Rejected”

APPROVAL PROCESS FOR LEVEL A GRANTS:

- At least two people will be responsible for endorsing and approving Level A applications within 24 h.

APPROVAL PROCESS FOR LEVEL B GRANTS:

- At least 50% of the Steering Committee should attend the virtual meetings of endorsing and approving applications.
- Majority (minimum 3 people) of the attendants at the meeting should agree to accept an application.

REPORTING
Funds should be reported on as follows:

Level A GRANTS:

- Financial report:
  - To be made in cooperation with ActionAid Country Office/Global Platform/YWG receiving the grants.
  - Deadline is 2 months after the end of the activity(ies). If the activity(ies) is/are to take place throughout the year, the financial report is to be submitted by 20th December 2020 latest.

- Narrative report:
  - Fill out the “Before and After Actions”. Link will be sent when grants are approved.
Level B GRANTS:

  - Narrative report:
    - Fill out the “Before and After-Action Review”: Link will be sent when grants are approved.
    - Fill out the “Reflection Log” [HERE].

TIME FRAME
The time frame for COVID-19 Youth-led Response Fund is:
1st April 2020 – 31st December 2020
It can be extended if needed. This will be decided by the Steering Committee.