

# GUIDELINES FOR SHARE-NET INTERNATIONAL

## ACTIVATION GRANTS 2022

### 1. SNI GRANTS SCHEME

Since 2014, Share-Net International (SNI) has awarded 59 grants to its members. The SNI grants contribute to supporting the knowledge management activities amongst its members. The grants provide funding traditionally for applied research, documentation of practices, and knowledge products to improve policy and practice in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR). They also offer the opportunity to enhance the work of SNI members and facilitate the development of knowledge product(s) that can be otherwise difficult to get funded.

Activities proposed by members must contribute to achieving the knowledge related outcomes of SNI, which are as follows:

- Policymakers, practitioners, and researchers have better access to SRHR information and knowledge.
- Researchers address scientifically, politically, and practically relevant knowledge gaps in SRHR.
- Actual and effective learning is taking place between and in countries among policymakers, practitioners, and researchers.
- Knowledge is applied to evidence-informed SRHR programmes, policies and practices.

Hence, our grants scheme strengthens the linkages between research, policy, and practice through sharing, generating, translating, and promoting the use of knowledge to develop better policies and practices in SRHR.

### 2. WHAT ARE WE ACTIVATING?

Activation grants facilitate the generation of and uptake of knowledge, research and documentation practices, and influences practitioners and policymakers in the SRHR field. We activate stakeholders ability to comprehend the complexity and relevance of a wide range of SRHR themes. We activate knowledge so that it achieves impact and comprehensive SRHR agenda. We activate the minds and souls of the people who dedicate their lives to providing SRHR services. We activate communities often not prioritised by or with limited access to SRHR funding, including young people, people with disabilities, LGBTI+, sex workers, and people of colour. We believe that activating knowledge is a powerful tool to dismantle systems of oppression and uphold the sexual and reproductive rights embedded in the human rights frameworks adopted in most contexts.

SNI recognises historically oppressed communities and people at the margins of society are protagonists of their own lives and know best how to address issues that concern them. For this reason, this call funds organisation that are led by or meaningfully engage with the communities they aim to target. Successful applications must comply with the principles of participation, diversity, and inclusion at the project and organisation levels. "Leaving no one behind" means making funding available for organisations and communities that often do not receive funding. Hence, we encourage applicants to consider these principles highly before applying.

As a genuinely participatory process, we aim to provide unrestricted funding to organisations and groups. SNI does not prioritise any themes for this grantmaking round because the peer reviewers prioritise topics/themes at the national and international levels. For instance, the SNI country hubs in Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Colombia, Ethiopia, and the Netherlands and our SNI members decide what's most suitable for funding based on their needs and perspectives. Unrestricted funding for knowledge generation and translation activities aligns with our efforts to work towards a more equitable network. We aim to be flexible enough to allow our community of experts to decide what's most suited for policy and practice change in SRHR.

- We encourage applications that identify innovative approaches in SRHR and can successfully reach and sensitise a set of selected stakeholders.
- We encourage reflections about gender equality, discrimination, and stigma as drivers of systemic exclusion and oppression of marginalised communities, limiting their access and enjoyment of SRHR.
- We encourage clear linkages with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and human rights frameworks.
- We encourage the use of sound research and methodologies. Although we do not demand any specific approach, data analysis should be ethical, verifiable and adequately referenced.

### 3. FUNDING AVAILABLE

The maximum total amount available for grantmaking is **250,000 euros**. The upper limit per grant is **25,000 euros**. The final number of grants awarded will depend on the grants committee's types of grants prioritised for funding. The grant is a *lump sum* in euros that will be executed according to Dutch law (VAT and other legal obligations).

### 4. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- The (lead) applicant must be an organisation or group that is an official member of SNI. For more information about our membership process and membership charter, please see [our membership information page](#).
- The (lead) applicant must be a registered organisation with a bank account. In exceptional cases, organisations without registration or bank account will be considered if the context or situation does not allow that. Please justify accordingly.
- The (lead) applicant must be committed to the principles of self-leadership and participation and/or demonstrate meaningful engagement of historically oppressed and disenfranchised groups.

### 5. WE DO NOT FUND

- **Individuals**  
Individual members and individuals, in general, cannot apply.
- **Non-members**  
Non-members cannot be a lead applicant but can be a partner in grant type 1. Still, we encourage all applicants to apply for membership.
- **Non-registered groups**

Non-registered organisations may partner with a lead applicant that holds an organisational registration.

- **Organisations based in Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Sudan, and Syria**

We acknowledge that knowledge, information and exchange on SRHR are necessary for all contexts. Unfortunately, our donor's funding is restricted, and we cannot fund organisations based in these locations.

- **General organisational work**

Please do not submit proposals to implement regular NGO activities and services that do not serve the purpose of this grants scheme. This is because we do not provide core funding. Instead, our grants schemes have a particular purpose and applications that do not comply with that will not be selected.

- **Excessive budget requests**

All applicants should limit to the maximum amount of funding available per grant type. Given our limited time for the selection, we will not look at requests above the limit per grant.

## 6. GRANTS TYPOLOGY

SNI has three types of grants. Applicants can select one only. We do not accept two applications from the same organisation. However, an organisation partnering in type 1 grant may apply for types 2 and 3.

### Type 1. Activation Grant – Knowledge Collaboration

Annual grant amount: up to 25.000 euros

**Purpose:** Contribute to creating knowledge product(s) for improving policy and practice in SRHR. This grant does so by making it possible for more than one organisational member of SNI to strategically formulate a sound proposal for the SRHR movement and other SNI network members. Each collaboration should have a lead applicant, which submits the application and is liable before SNI. Ideally, collaborations are not meant for more than four organisations unless there is a strong justification.

### Type 2. Activation Grant – Knowledge Translation

Annual grant amount: up to 10.000 euros

**Purpose:** Contribute to creating knowledge product(s) for improving policy and practice in SRHR. This grant does so by making it possible for one organisational member of SNI to formulate a valuable proposal for the SRHR movement and other SNI network members. In addition, with this grant, SNI wants its members to sensitise stakeholders on the SRHR issue of concern and provide a clear strategy for achieving that goal.

### Type 3. Activation Grant – Knowledge Generation

Annual grant amount: up to 5.000 euros

**Purpose:** Contribute to funding research and documentation of practices in SRHR, particularly in contexts where there are knowledge gaps and limited knowledge about specific issues or affected communities. If ethical approval is required, this additional amount should be requested in the proposal and the maximum amount if needed. If funding allows, a grant increase for ethical approval may be granted.

## 7. BUDGET

For the selection phase, SNI does not require a complete budget. With that, we aim to reduce the application burden. Instead, we need an estimate of the amounts necessary for the implementation of the selected grant type. The amount requested must be considered reasonable by the grants committee.

SNI will request a detailed budget explaining how you plan to spend the approved budget during the contracting phase. Please note, amounts awarded by the grants committee may differ from your request. A dedicated team will provide a budget template once and invite your organisation to receive a grant.

## 8. SELECTION PROCESS

As in every process of SNI, its grantmaking – that is, the art of making grants – is also participatory. As in previous grantmaking cycles, SNI will involve its members and hubs in the selection process of the grants. We now refer to this process as "Participatory Grantmaking" to highlight participation as critical for making grants. The SNI members and hubs make the grants decisions, aligning with the network's collaboration and southern leadership principles. SNI values the expertise and knowledge that its members bring into this process, aims to promote cross-member learning, and educate the Secretariat about the SNI members' perspectives and needs. Participation enhances communities deeper understanding of philanthropy, power structures and hierarchies, decision-making and enables a platform of learning and shared knowledge.

## 9. ASSESSMENT AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed based on their:

- Ability to address an SRHR issue or problem effectively by creating knowledge product(s) or generating suitable knowledge for change in policy and practice.
- Ability to demonstrate commitment to the principles of participation, diversity, and inclusion in the project.
- Ability to demonstrate uptake, interest and engagement of the stakeholders sensitised, including clear strategy for disseminating your product. For instance, explain how you want to enhance impact by sensitising stakeholders with the knowledge product(s) you aim to create.
- Ability to innovate and create strategies that are contextually relevant and sensitive.
- Ability to achieve an impact by creating, improving and strengthening knowledge production in SRHR.
- Ability to collaborate effectively and/or produce useful content for SNI network members and its country hubs.
- Ability to showcase organisational and/or collaboration relevance and legitimacy to work on the selected issues and target groups.

## 10. WEBINAR

On **8 November 2021**, SNI will organise a webinar to clarify its new grantmaking scheme and process and clarify participants' doubts concerning the call for proposals. We welcome potential applicants to join. Information about the webinar will be published via our events listing page at [share-netinternational.org/event](https://share-netinternational.org/event) and on the digital platform.

## 11. TIMELINE

- **1 November 2021:** we will open our call for proposals in four languages (Arabic, English, French, Spanish) via the Share-Net International Digital Platform – <https://www.share-netinternational.org/>
- **8 November 2021:** a webinar will be organised to explain the new participatory grantmaking process, clarify questions about the call and share writing tips
- **5 December 2021:** deadline for this call for proposals / for submitting
- **15 January 2022:** applicants are informed about the decision and requested to provide information about their due diligence and complete budget
- **15 February 2022:** grants are made, followed by the first payments