



## The FREE Fund for Adolescent Girls and Young Women Youth Peer Panel Terms of Reference

The FREE (Financial Resilience and Economic Empowerment) Fund aims to ensure long-term investment in the economic empowerment of adolescent girls and young women. FREE will accelerate progress towards SDG 5 and SDG 8 by increasing the economic opportunities available to girls and women. This fund will identify promising initiatives, provide resources to expand and scale existing work, and connect innovators to be able to share solutions.

FREE will invest in groups and organisations that are directly supporting and targeting the following participants: All cis, trans, non-binary and all other underrepresented groups and communities such as black, indigenous, people of colour, LGBTIQ+, refugees, and migrant adolescent girls and women with or without disabilities, sex workers, aged between 12 to 35 years.

To start, FREE will provide support to groups and organisations in 7 countries; Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Bangladesh, Nepal and the Philippines. These countries were selected based on the overlap of the gendered impact of the COVID-19 countries, lack of government investment, lack of gender data and funder priorities.



**Using new participatory models, young people will have a seat at the grant decision-making table. A more equitable granting model will allow young activists to select projects that they feel will make the most impact in their own countries.**

Two Youth Peer Panels, formed by region, will review, score, and recommend proposals for grants. This will be done through an online scoring system as well as calls between committee members. Five participants from each region will be recruited from organizations and activists already working on the focus areas and issues.

The specific scope of the Peer Panel's work includes:

- **Grant making** - Participating in the selection of grantees and recommending the best community led initiatives to the Advisory Committee
- **Learning** - Contribute to the learning agenda, including determining themes and topics for (virtual) grantee convenings and other learning events;
- **Outreach** - supporting communications, information sharing and awareness raising.

Members will work with the FREE Fund Advisory Committee and Women Win to ensure grant making decisions are transparent and aligned with the Fund strategy.

## Who are we looking for:

- Young women aged **18-30** based in Africa and Asia who:
- Show a demonstrated commitment to advancing the rights and opportunities of girls' and young people
- Have connections to girl or young women organising, programming or movements in your context or community
- Have an interest in collaborating with and learning from other similar young people across the world in this review process
- Are able to communicate and review applications in English



## Compensation

Each panellist, as an individual, will receive a stipend of USD\$350.00 for their participation in the Youth Peer Panel.

We also imagine that there are other benefits to being involved as a panellist, such as connecting to other women's rights and feminist activists across the region and the opportunity to learn more about participatory grant making.

## Responsibilities & Time Commitment:

20 – 25 hours taking place from June to the end of August including:

- Attending the training sessions on FREE (2-4 hours)
- Reviewing assigned applications (10-15 hours)
- Attending sessions to discuss and decide the grantees (4-6 hours)
- Attending a learning session to reflect on their experience as a panellist. (1 hour)

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**Interested in the opportunity to shape funding decisions?**

**[Fill out the application form here](#) by June 17<sup>th</sup>.**

If you have any questions please email [freefund@womenwin.org](mailto:freefund@womenwin.org)

