

## Call for Concepts: **Empowering Refugee-Led Women and Young Women Groups/Organizations through Group Cash Transfer.**

Deadline: 2 October 2023

### **About Oxfam:**

Oxfam is a worldwide organization that employs over 6,000 people in more than 80 countries. We work together with partners and local communities to overcome poverty and suffering. We strive for a world where resources and power are distributed more equally and where everyone's rights to a livelihood, basic services, protection from violence, and a say in their future are upheld. A world in which everyone enjoys the same opportunities – regardless of gender, race, culture, or physical ability.

In Uganda, Oxfam works to promote good governance, accountability and resilient livelihoods, improve humanitarian preparedness and response and gender justice and women rights. Oxfam has engaged in the South Sudan refugee response since January 2014, with programming in water, sanitation and hygiene; food security and livelihoods; gender; protection; and peacebuilding.

### **Background:**

Refugee-led women and young women groups are integral components of displaced communities, often serving as catalysts for positive change and progress. However, their potential impact is frequently hampered by limited access to resources, hindering their ability to initiate projects and programs that address critical challenges within their communities. Providing small grants to refugee-led women and young women groups is a strategic and impactful approach that offers numerous compelling rationales:

- **Amplifying Voices and Agency:** Empowering refugee-led women and young women groups with small grants empowers these marginalized segments of society to be active participants in their own development. By providing financial support, we enable them to voice their concerns, aspirations, and innovative solutions to the challenges they face.
- **Tailored Solutions to Local Challenges:** Refugee-led women and young women groups possess intimate knowledge of the specific challenges, needs, and opportunities within their communities. Their firsthand experiences enable them to design and implement projects that are contextually relevant, culturally sensitive, and directly address pressing issues such as education, healthcare, livelihoods, and social integration.
- **Fostering Self-Reliance and Sustainability:** Small grants enable refugee-led groups to establish and manage initiatives that promote self-reliance and sustainability. By taking ownership of their projects, these groups become less dependent on external aid, contributing to the long-term development and resilience of their communities.
- **Strengthening Leadership and Capacity:** Engaging refugee women and young women in project design, implementation, and management fosters leadership skills and organizational capacity. The process of securing and managing small grants provides valuable training in project planning, budgeting, communication, and collaboration – skills that have far-reaching benefits beyond the immediate project.
- **Community Engagement and Ownership:** Small grants encourage active community involvement and ownership of development initiatives. When local women and young women take the lead in designing and executing projects, they engage their fellow community members, resulting in greater participation, collective action, and sustainable impact.

- **Challenging Stereotypes and Stigma:** Refugee-led women and young women groups can challenge negative stereotypes and combat stigma associated with displacement. Through their projects and advocacy efforts, these groups can highlight the contributions, talents, and resilience of refugees, reshaping perceptions and fostering greater social cohesion.
- **Innovative and Contextual Approaches:** Refugee-led groups often develop innovative, context-specific approaches to complex problems. Their unique perspectives and insights can lead to creative solutions that might not be apparent from outside perspectives.
- **Networking and Collaboration:** Providing small grants encourages networking and collaboration among refugee-led groups, fostering an environment of knowledge exchange and mutual support. Collaboration enhances the impact of individual projects and contributes to a more cohesive and empowered refugee community.
- **Catalyst for Positive Change:** Small grants serve as catalysts for positive change, enabling refugee-led women and young women groups to initiate projects that create a ripple effect of progress. These projects not only address immediate needs but also lay the groundwork for broader social and economic development.

Oxfam with support from Danida through partners Community Empowerment for Creative Innovations (CECI Uganda) and Youth Empowerment to Act (YETA) seek to empower and support Refugee-Led Women and Young Women Groups in implementing initiatives that address pressing issues within their communities, foster self-reliance, and promote social integration.

Under this initiative CECI and YETA will lead the support towards these groups to carry out activities within refugee settlements under the theme - **Support women's empowerment and leadership**

**Requirements:**

**Time frame:** Proposed activities should take place between 1<sup>st</sup> November and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

**Budget:** Proposed budgets should range from 2000 to 3000 euros

**Geographical location:** Proposed activities should take place in Bidibidi Zone 3 or Imvepi Refugee Settlement in Yumbe and Terego Districts.

Applicant should have a physical presence in the proposed project location.

Legal status: OXFAM, CECI and YETA will *consider applications from community groups without formal registration status.*

**Selection Criteria:**

Women-led refugee groups will be required to submit a brief narrative and financial proposal outlining the overall needs and priorities identified and plans for how to respond to them through community-led interventions through open competitive call for proposal process.

The groups will be selected based on:

- Relevance of the proposed interventions and targeted beneficiaries – women and girls focus
- Prospects of positive impact and benefit of project to targeted beneficiaries and their community
- Applicant group previous connections and/or experience with the target group and area
- Prospects for strengthening community solidarity and cohesion and ensuring conflict-sensitive approaches

Application/Selection Process:

1. Applications must be submitted physically or electronically to Community Empowerment and Creative Innovations - [ceciuganda@gmail.com](mailto:ceciuganda@gmail.com) for Bidibidi Refugee Settlement and Youth Empowerment to Act - [yetacbo2018@gmail.com](mailto:yetacbo2018@gmail.com) for Imvepi Refugee Settlement with the subject line specifying "Group Cash Transfer" and the name of the organization.
2. Evaluation of the proposals by a selection committee (including representatives from Oxfam, CECI, YETA, OPM, RWC, host sub-country).
3. Shortlisting, and assessment of selected groups.
4. Final review and approval of project and budget by Oxfam, CECI and YETA.

Proposal Template (Herein attached)