

## Frequently Asked Questions

### The SVRI Research Grant: Knowledge for Action to End Violence Against Women and Violence Against Children



Evidence for Action to End  
Violence Against Women and  
Violence Against Children



**1. What is SVRI's definition of innovation in the field of violence women and violence against children?**

Innovation is the creation of a new method, approach or intervention or an improvement of an existing method, approach or intervention. Innovation is a continuous, iterative and dynamic process of bringing together sectors, organisations, ideas and knowledge to re-think realities and current strategies to create new, more effective, better quality solutions for the prevention and response of violence against women and violence against children.

**2. Are there specific countries that are prioritised for research under this grant?**

Only research being undertaken on VAW and VAC in low- and middle-income countries (as classified by the World Bank) is eligible for this grant. A complete list of classified LMICs can be found [here](#).

**3. Can applications propose research in more than one country?**

Yes. Applications may propose research in more than one country or region, provided that all countries to be researched are classified as a low- or middle-income country.

**4. When selecting grants recipients, are certain countries and / or economic classifications given preference over others?**

Yes. Preference will be given to proposals submitted and led by organisations based in LMICs.

**5. Are current / ongoing research projects eligible to apply?**

Yes. However, proposals must indicate how the integration of a new, meaningful component to a current or ongoing research project will work to improve our understanding of how to prevent and / or respond to VAW or VAC in LMICs.

**6. Are prior grantees eligible to submit applications?**

Yes, if they are not a main applicant. Also note that the organisation's status as a prior grantee will be considered when reviewing applications and selecting ultimate grant recipients. Preference will be given to organisations that have not yet received a grant.

**7. Can an organisation submit more than one application?**

Yes. Organisations may submit up to two applications, though no organisation will receive more than one grant.

**8. My organisation operates globally and has individual country offices around the world. Do individual country offices count as their own independent organisation, or are they included under the umbrella of the parent organisation?**

Different country offices may apply separately as distinct primary institutions, with each country office eligible to submit up to two applications. However, it is unlikely that the SVRI will fund more than one proposal from the same parent company.

**9. Are applications proposing work on behalf of UN organisations or other multi-lateral agencies eligible for funding?**

No. However, should they wish to undertake a research project in conjunction with local NGOs or academic institutions, said agencies can participate in the research team / consortium, the only stipulation being that they cannot be the project's lead applicant institution nor the ultimate recipient of funds.

**10. Are non-profit firms / organisations eligible to submit applications?**

Yes.

**11. Are for-profit firms / organisations eligible to submit applications?**

No.

**12. May applications be submitted through email or carrier mail?**

No. Applications must be submitted through the [proposalCENTRAL](#) platform. Any applications received through another means will be rejected at point of receipt.

**13. What is the value of the grants?**

\$40,000 USD up to \$200,000 USD.

**14. Can organisations request more than \$200,000 USD for a particularly expensive project?**

No. Any application requesting more than \$200,000 USD will be rejected at point of receipt.

**15. Should proposed budgets include indirect costs?**

Yes. Indirect costs are permitted but may not exceed 15% of total costs.

**16. What can I include as an overhead?**

Overheads such as the items listed below:

- Premises and office costs: This includes costs like rental of office space, insurance, data

transmission, maintenance, security, water & sewerage, electricity and property taxes, and bank charges.

- Central function costs: This includes costs related to functions performed by support services like finance, operations, contracts & budget management, IT, HR, Legal, etc.
- Governance and strategic development costs: This includes costs related to functions performed by a Board & Committees, Top Management/EMC, annual audit costs, etc.

The overall budget cannot exceed \$200,000 USD including the overhead.

**17. Can I list other overhead costs separately and over and above the 15% allocation for indirect costs?**

No. Overhead costs can only be included under the 15% indirect cost allocation.

**18. Where can I access templates for CVs, budget, and project plan?**

In order to access these documents, you must first create a profile on [proposalCENTRAL](#) and officially begin your application to the SVRI Research Grant. Within your started application you will be able to access templates for CVs. Furthermore, the application is interactive and guides you through, indicating where the project plan and budget details should be placed.

**19. What are the safety and ethical guidelines proposals must encompass?**

Necessary ethical considerations can be found in our [Research Grant Guidelines](#). This document clarifies relevant standards and provides resources detailing ethical and safety guidelines within the field of VAW and VAC research.

**20. I am having difficulties locating an institution in my country that can provide ethical clearance for the research proposal. What can I do?**

Ethical review of proposals is a non-negotiable standard. Researchers should obtain ethical clearance from an ethics board, with preference given to a locally based ethics review board. If, however, this option is not available, you might consider:

- Applying for ethical approval from a Research Ethics Committee/Institutional Review Board in a local university.
- Applying for ethical approval from a private Research Ethics Committee/Institutional Review Boards if these are available in the country. These charge a certain fee.

- Applying for ethical approval from a relevant ministry (e.g., Ministry of Health), if there are no ethics committee or ethics board in the universities in the country.
- Applying for ethical approval from the equivalent of a National Health Research Ethics Council if it is available in the country.
- Partnering with local, regional, or international research organisation to support you with the ethical review process.
- Establishing a project community advisory board consisting of local research experts, leaders, and other important stakeholders to assist with ethical review. Community advisory boards are an important mechanism for safeguarding, ensuring relevance of the research and supporting research uptake efforts. All community-based research projects should consider creating a community advisory board for their research even if ethical review committees are available.

The following documents might help:

- [International Compilation of Human Research Standards](#), published by The Office of Human Research Protections (OHRP) - listing of over 1,000 laws, regulations, and guidelines on human subjects protections in over 100 countries and several international organizations.
- **Social-Behavioral Research Standards: Description** - This document provides multiple codes from different countries <https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/international/social-behavioral-research-standards/table1-description/index.html>.

**21. In the context of COVID-19, will there be flexibility for an agile research design that can be adapted depending on the country specific situation in terms of the pandemic? How explicitly should we address possible uncertainty and restrictions due to COVID-19 in our proposal?**

SVRI acknowledges that Covid – 19 has had a tremendous impact on research and programming across the world, and particularly in LMICs. We are also aware of the current uncertainty around the pandemic and the difficulties to do proper planning at this point in time. We suggest you include a good background analysis of the pandemic in the country where the research will take place - at the time of submission of your proposal - and provide an assessment of the future risks associated with the implementation and your mitigation efforts.

SVRI will take into account the pandemic developments in the coming years and will be open to no-cost extensions if necessary and justified.

Please also check the [SVRI Knowledge Exchange Adjusting to Covid.](#)

Before reaching out the SVRI team for assistance, kindly read the [SVRI Research Grant Guidelines](#) to ensure you understand the grant application and review process. Grant Application Guidelines are also available in [Spanish](#) and [French](#).

To maintain the impartiality and fairness of the process, the SVRI is unable to provide one on one feedback on proposal ideas.

Outstanding questions may be addressed to [svri@svri.org](mailto:svri@svri.org).