Apply now for the SVRI Research Grant 2025

Knowledge for Action to End Violence Against Women and Violence Against Children
The Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) is inviting applications for innovative research that will contribute to the prevention and response of violence against women (VAW) and violence against children (VAC) and other forms of violence driven by gender inequality in low and middle-income countries.

Research we would like to support under this grant

The SVRI grant calls for research that is priority driven and impactful and exemplifies equitable research partnerships and processes that promote the leadership of low- and middle-income country-based researchers. We prioritise research that is grounded in feminist principles and acknowledges and addresses imbalanced power dynamics between donors and researchers as well as in partnerships between high-income and low- and middle-income countries, and within countries and between researchers and practitioners.

Priority setting processes provide essential direction to research funding to address knowledge gaps. Over the past 5 years, the SVRI has been working with partners to identify priorities for the field. Please refer to these agendas to guide the development of your research question – such as the Global Shared Research Agenda, the Latin America and the Caribbean agenda; the Africa Shared Research Agenda, and priorities for research on the intersections between VAC and VAW. In the absence of a set of published research priorities for your region, your topic and / or your local community, please use the literature, the needs in your own setting and your policy leads to guide and co-create your research question.

Scope of the SVRI Research Grant

The scope of SVRI funding is for research – research is “the systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge”\(^1\) that will advance the field on how to improve research, strengthen responses and / or prevent VAW and child sexual violence in low and middle income countries.

What we like to see in proposals

In terms of selection, we like to see proposals that:

- Are from local organizations based in LMICs; and / or multidisciplinary, multisectoral consortia, especially those led by researchers or evidence builders residing in LMICs.
- Embrace an intersectional approach to research and involve communities where relevant, appropriate, and ethical.
- Provide a clear breakdown of responsibilities for consortium proposals, ensuring equitable partnerships and including an expert in VAW/VAC research.
- Emphasize efforts to build the capacity of early-career researchers from LMICs.
- Clearly and comprehensively outline strategies for effective dissemination of findings.
- Provide a logical and clear budget with sound justification.

\(^1\) U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, 2016, 45 CFR 46.102[d]
In your proposal, please also ensure that you:

- Provide a clear explanation upfront on how your study builds on current evidence and shows how you have explored and built on existing research.
- Articulate how your research addresses a gap in the field, emphasizing advancement of knowledge on VAW/CSV research and programs in LMICs.
- Demonstrate how your work will strengthen policy and practice or enhance methodology within the field.

Thus research supported by the SVRI Research Grant should:

- Advance our understanding and knowledge.
- Apply feminist and women-centred principles to research and partnerships.
- Promote equitable participation and bring to the field diverse voices from low and middle-income countries (young researchers, practitioners, survivors, marginalised groups).
- Adhere to international safety and ethical guidelines.
- Strive for innovation in ideas, new methodologies and partnerships, while building on existing evidence.
- Strive to be collaborative, cross-sectoral and multi-disciplinary.
- Where relevant and appropriate, endeavor to engage the community where the research will take place.
- Challenge the gender hierarchy that contributes to VAW and VAC specially child sexual violence in order to promote gender equality.
- Inform policy, programmes and services and strengthen access to comprehensive care and support for survivors.

**Grant value and duration**

Applicants can apply for grants between $40,000 to $150,000 no longer than 18 months in length.

The provision of funding is for a limited period of time with clear measurable outcomes.
How to apply

Applications must be made via the Proposal Central online system at: https://proposalcentral.altum.com/.

If you are a first-time user of Proposal Central, you must first register before you can proceed with your application. All information needed for proposal submission is available online in the SVRI Research Grant Guidelines.

Closing date

All applications must be submitted and reach us by midnight (South African time) on 9th July 2024. Only applications submitted via the online system before the stated closing date and time will be considered.

Online applications can be complicated. Please try and submit well before the deadline. The SVRI and Proposal Central will not be held responsible for delays due to internet connectivity or problems experienced with the online form.

Grant information summary

- Level of award: $40,000 to $150,000
- Period of award: 12-18 months in length
- Closing date for applications: 9 July 2024
- Further information email: svri@svri.org
- Method of application: Applications must be submitted online here (Select Award Maker: Sexual Violence Research Initiative)
- Language of application: Applications in English, French and Spanish will be accepted.