



SVRI Data to Evidence Grant 2027: Knowledge for Action to End Violence Against Women and Child Sexual Violence

Grant Application Guidelines

1. Introduction

SVRI is inviting proposals for the Data to Evidence Grant 2027, a grant that funds LMIC-based researchers to conduct secondary data analysis that generates policy-relevant evidence on violence against women (VAW) and child sexual violence (CSV). This document is designed to help organisations assess their eligibility for the grant and prepare and submit proposals in accordance with the required procedures.

This guideline should be read alongside the Data to Evidence Grant 2027: Knowledge for Action to End Violence Against Women and Childhood Sexual Violence – Request for Proposals (RFP), which sets out the full scope, eligibility criteria, and grant terms. Where any detail differs between this guideline and the RFP, the RFP is the authoritative document.

2. About SVRI Data to Evidence Grant: Knowledge to End Violence Against Women and Child Sexual Violence

The Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) is a global organisation committed to advancing research on violence against women (VAW) and child sexual violence (CSV) and other forms of gender-based violence (GBV) in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

Since 2014, SVRI has supported close to USD 11 million in research across low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), building a trusted network of researchers, practitioners, and policymakers working to address violence rooted in gender inequality. SVRI's grant-making is guided by its commitment to research that is locally led, ethically rigorous, and directed toward strengthening policy and practice in the countries where violence is most prevalent.

In 2027, SVRI is piloting a new grant-making offering. A great deal of data relevant to violence against women and child sexual violence already exists, generated through surveys, evaluations and research studies, yet much of it remains unanalysed for what it can reveal. This represents a significant, untapped source of evidence.

Using existing data well is good science and good ethics. It respects the time and trust of the people who took part in the original research, and it generates new evidence without asking communities to give their time and stories again. It also makes better use of the field's resources, freeing researchers to focus on analysis, interpretation and dissemination rather than new data collection.





The Data to Evidence Grant will fund LMIC-based researchers to conduct secondary data analyses, generating new evidence on questions the field has not yet answered and putting it in the hands of researchers, policymakers and practitioners. SVRI will also provide technical assistance, building skills in secondary data analysis that researchers can apply to other datasets in future.

Applicants may propose analysis of any dataset relevant to VAW and CSV provided the dataset has been ethically sourced and the applicant can demonstrate they have the necessary approval to use it. A number of existing datasets relevant to the field are listed on SVRI's datasets page: www.svri.org/datasets. Applicants are encouraged to consult this page, though use of a dataset not listed there is equally welcome, provided it meets the ethical sourcing and approval requirements set out below.

3. Scope of the Grant

This grant round supports secondary data analysis of an existing, ethically sourced dataset relevant to VAW and/ or CSV. Applicants may propose analysis of any such dataset, provided it has been ethically sourced and the applicant can demonstrate they hold the necessary approval and permission to access and use the proposed dataset for this analysis.

A number of existing datasets relevant to the field are listed on SVRI's datasets page: www.svri.org/datasets. Applicants are encouraged to consult this page. Use of a dataset not listed there is equally welcome, provided the ethical sourcing and approval to use the dataset for the purpose of the proposed secondary analysis requirements are met.

4. What We're Looking For

All proposals must:

- Be led by a researcher or research team based in a low- or middle-income country (LMIC) as per [World Bank classifications](#)
- Propose a focused, well-defined research question or questions that can be addressed through secondary analysis of an existing, ethically sourced dataset.
- Confirm that the applicant has the necessary approval and permission to access and use the proposed dataset for this analysis.
- Demonstrate familiarity with secondary data analysis methods, including an understanding of the dataset's scope, structure, and limitations.
- Clearly articulate the evidence gap the proposed analysis will address, with reference to SVRI's research agendas where relevant. Geographic and topic-specific research agendas developed by the field are available at www.svri.org/geographic-specific-research-agenda and www.svri.org/topic-specific-research-agendas.



svri@svri.org



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- Show how the findings will contribute to policy, practice, or the broader evidence base on VAW, CSV in an LMIC context.

We welcome proposals that:

- Are led by, or meaningfully involve, early-career researchers from LMICs.
- Include a clear knowledge output or product and a dissemination plan.
- Demonstrate ethical awareness appropriate to working with sensitive data on violence, including data confidentiality and responsible handling of findings.
- Outline a realistic budget and timeline within the twelve-month grant period.

5. Eligibility Criteria

- The lead applicant must be based at an LMIC-based university, research institution, or non-governmental organisation. Individuals unaffiliated with an institution, including independent consultants, are not eligible to apply.
- The proposed dataset must be ethically sourced, and the applicant must confirm they hold the necessary approval and permission to use it for the proposed analysis.
- The lead applicant must not hold another active SVRI research grant.
- Institutions that held a past SVRI grant which is no longer active may apply. Note that preference will be given to organisations that have not yet received an SVRI grant.
- Researchers based in any low- or middle-income country are eligible; there are no further country restrictions.

Eligibility considerations:

- Each research team or institution may submit only one application under this round.
- Institutions with an active SVRI research grant are not eligible to apply.
- Applications proposing work on behalf of UN agencies, the World Bank Group, or other multilateral organisations will not be considered.
- Applications submitted by for-profit companies as lead applicants will not be considered.

6. What We Do Not Fund

- Primary data collection of any kind.
- Interventions or services, including direct service delivery, standalone awareness or advocacy campaigns, and training programmes not embedded in a broader research study.





- Standalone tools, apps, or platform development that are not part of a rigorous secondary data analysis.
- Baseline studies, needs assessments, or programme monitoring and evaluation activities.
- International conference travel or costs not linked to the dissemination of this grant's findings.
- Equipment purchases that are not essential to the proposed analysis.
- Institutional overhead above the 15% cap.

7. Grant Value, Duration, and Eligible Costs

Individual grants will range between USD 30,000 and USD 50,000. SVRI has a total funding envelope of USD 400,000 for this round, so we expect to make between 8 and 13 grants, depending on the budgets requested. Grants are for a maximum period of twelve months from the date of the signed grant agreement. Applicants should ensure their proposed timeline reflects realistic milestones for analysis, write-up, and dissemination within this period.

Grant funds may be used to cover:

- Researcher time (salary/costs for the lead researcher and any co-investigators).
- Costs associated with data access or data cleaning where applicable.
- Statistical or analytical software, where not already available at the applicant's institution. Applicants are encouraged to use open-source software (such as R or Python) where feasible; where the analysis requires licensed software, budgets should cover a single-user licence for the grant period only, up to USD 1,000, with a brief justification.
- Research assistance or support staff directly engaged in the analysis.
- Dissemination costs, including preparation of policy briefs, presentation at relevant forums, or translation.
- Reasonable institutional overhead, not to exceed 15% of the total budget.

Ineligible costs include: primary data collection; travel or conference costs not linked to the dissemination of this grant's findings; equipment purchases that are not essential to the proposed analysis; and institutional overhead above the 15% cap.

8. Application Process

8.1 Registering on Proposal Central



svri@svri.org



www.svri.org



@TheSVRI



@TheSVRI



thesvri

SVRI NPC (2019/197466/08)



All applications must be submitted through SVRI's online application system. Proposal Central [Altum | ProposalCentral](#).

If you are a first time user of Proposal Central you must first register, before you can proceed with your application. To do so you must:

- Go to <https://proposalcentral.altum.com>
- Select “First Time Users – Register”
- Complete the registration page
- Create your own Username, password and challenge question for your user account
- Click “SAVE” when done.
- The registration confirmation screen will confirm your new account has been created.
- For security purposes, you will receive a confirmation number by e-mail which you must enter when you log in the first time.

Contact Proposal Central at pcsupport@altum.com if you experience any difficulties with this process

8.2 Filling in the online form

- Graphics and tables: the online form cannot accept graphics and tables; these must be uploaded as attachments.
- CVs of key personnel: provide short CVs (max 3 pages each) of all personnel working on the project, using any format that suits the applicant.
- Project plan and timeline: must be included using the template provided online, reflecting realistic milestones within the twelve-month grant period.
- Dissemination/research uptake plan: Include a clear knowledge output or product and a dissemination plan.
- Letters of permission to use the dataset for secondary analysis. Examples of such permissions could include: a data use agreement, written permission from the dataset custodian or any other letters that provide evidence that you have the necessary permissions and access to the dataset you propose to use.

8.3 Budget guidance

- Budgets must be submitted in USD using the online application form and must fall within the USD 30,000–USD 50,000 award range.
- Budgets must be a definitive line-item budget for all direct costs and administrative or indirect costs, and must exclude capital expenditure and general operating support.





- Indirect (overhead) costs are capped at 15% of the total budget and are not expected to be itemised separately in addition to this cap.
- Personnel (employee) costs: calculate the daily rate using annual salary inclusive of fringe benefits, divided by 260.
- Personnel (consultant) costs: the daily cost of the consultant to the applicant's institution.
- Cost items should match the scope of the proposed analysis and reflect real or estimated cost burdens — budgets should not be padded.
- A budget narrative must accompany the budget, explaining how each line item supports the proposed analysis.
- Proposals that request more than USD 50,000 will be rejected at point of receipt.

8.4 Saving and submitting

Remember to save your work before moving to the next page in Proposal Central; changes made while in print view are not saved. Your proposal is not considered submitted until you receive a confirmation email from Proposal Central. If you are uncertain whether your proposal has been submitted, contact Proposal Central to confirm.

For assistance with the online application, contact Proposal Central Customer Service at pcsupport@altum.com, or by phone at 800 875 2562 (toll-free, U.S. and Canada) or +1 703 964 5840 (direct dial, international).

9. Review Process

All applications will first be assessed for eligibility and completeness. Eligible applications will then be reviewed by an independent panel of experts, and shortlisted applicants will be invited to an online discussion with the panel. SVRI may contact applicants for clarification at any stage; however, to reduce any risk of conflict of interest, we do not engage with applicants on an individual basis while a call is open, and we are unable to respond to individual queries by email. Questions about the call are answered through the FAQs, available on the SVRI website. We are unable to provide individual feedback on applications before, during or after the review process. All applicants will be notified of the outcome.

10. Review Criteria

Criterion	Guiding questions
Overall merit	Does the proposal clearly and concisely summarise the significance of the work, the research question, the analytical





	approach, the potential impact of the findings, and the dissemination plan? Will the analysis build the evidence base for VAW, CSV in LMICs?
Research methods	Is the secondary data analysis approach sound, feasible, and well matched to the research question? Does the proposal demonstrate a clear understanding of the dataset's structure and limitations? Are potential analytical challenges recognised and addressed?
Research team	Is the lead researcher and team's training and experience appropriate for the proposed analysis? Is the team LMIC-based and led? Where a partnership exists, is it equitable, with roles and responsibilities clearly outlined?
Significance	Will the analysis fill a priority evidence gap identified in SVRI's research agendas? Will it strengthen policy, practice, or future research capacity on VAW ,CSV?
Ethical considerations	Does the applicant hold the necessary approval and permission to use the dataset? Is there appropriate attention to data confidentiality and the responsible handling of sensitive findings?
Budget	Is the budget credible, realistic, and aligned with the proposed analysis? Is the 15% overhead cap respected? Does the budget narrative clearly justify each line item?

11. Key Dates and Timeline

Applications open	16 th July 2026, 11:59 pm (South African time)
Applications close	17 th September 2026, 11:59 pm (South African time)
Eligibility and completeness screening	November 2026
Independent Technical and expert panel review	December 2026 – January 2027
Notification of outcomes to shortlisted applicants	By approximately February 2027
Grant agreement and inception	March 2027





Grant period	Up to 12 months from the date of the signed grant agreement
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12. Application Checklist

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Before submitting, confirm you have included:

- Completed online application, including the research question, methodology, and analysis plan, research uptake plan (see Proposal Central)
- Confirmation of dataset access/approval (data use agreement, custodian permission, or ethical approval covering secondary analysis) upload as appendix on Proposal Central
- Completed and signed SVRI Grant Approval Form (See: Proposal Central)
- CVs of key personnel (max 3 pages each) (no prescribed CV format. Upload CV on Proposal Central)
- Project plan and timeline, using the template provided online (Proposal Central)
- Line-item budget and budget narrative, within the USD 30,000–USD 50,000 range
- References for evidence used to inform the research goals and objectives (APA style) (upload as appendix)
- Other Appendices, if required

13. Grant Information Summary

Grant name	Data to Evidence Grant: Knowledge for Action to End Violence Against Women and Child Sexual Violence
Grant stream	Secondary data analysis on violence against women, child sexual violence
Total envelope	USD 400,000
Grant value	USD 30,000 to USD 50,000 per grant
Number of grants	Between 8 and 13 grants, depending on the budgets requested





Duration	Up to 12 months
Dataset	Any ethically sourced dataset relevant to VAW, CSV for which the applicant holds approval to use. See www.svri.org/datasets for examples.
Eligibility	LMIC-based researchers, research institutions, not for profits
Language	English, French, and Spanish
Method of application	proposalcentral.altum.com (select Award Maker: Sexual Violence Research Initiative)
Contact	svri@svri.org

