



**What Works to Prevent Violence: Impact at Scale Programme** is seeking full proposals from programme implementers in the global south to apply for a **3-year grant to scale up evidence-based violence and against women and girls' prevention programming.**

**CALL FOR FULL PROPOSAL APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN**

Find out more here: <https://ww2preventvawg.org/apply>

Apply by 23.59 GMT on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2022.





The What Works to Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls: Impact at Scale Programme (What Works 2) is pleased to announce an open call to apply for a **3-year scale-up grant (2023-2025) to prevent violence against women and girls**. What Works 2 invites **full proposals** from organizations including women's rights organisations, INGOs/NGOs and small and medium enterprises (SMEs), either as single organizations or in consortia. Applicants in consortia should include at least one WRO from the Global South. **Proposals must be received by 23.59 pm GMT on 23 September 2022.**

## Overview

Building on the success of its predecessor ([whatworks.co.za](http://whatworks.co.za)), which showed that violence against women and girls (VAWG) is preventable, What Works 2 is a seven-year UK aid funded programme to scale up evidence-based, practice-informed violence prevention approaches. Contributing progress towards the elimination of

VAWG, What Works 2 seeks to achieve a measurable reduction in VAWG in development and humanitarian contexts, including for the most marginalised women and girls in all their diversities. What Works 2 will allocate funding on behalf of Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) to address innovation initiatives to prevent VAWG, including in conflict and crises. The What Works 2 Programme seeks to expand the global knowledge and evidence base on what works to prevent VAWG and how to achieve this at scale. It also aims to support women's rights organisations (WROs) to be recognised as essential actors in VAWG prevention and improve access to funding to uphold the rights, agency and voices of women and girls in all their diversity.

## What are scale-up grants?

Scale-up grant information and criteria

### What Works 2 defines scale as:

*Expanding and/or deepening evidence based VAWG prevention programming and policy efforts in partnership with organizations, institutions and communities who share a commitment to sustainable change.*

We are interested in designing, implementing, and rigorously evaluating a range of approaches to scale up violence prevention efforts, translating proof-of-concept evidence into robust, large-scale interventions and strategies.

In funding Window 1, What Works 2 will award one 3 year GBP 4 million scale-up grant through an open competition call to organisations or consortia designed to achieve a measurable reduction in VAWG in development and humanitarian contexts, including for the most marginalised women and girls.

### We are looking to fund a range of pathways to scaling up VAWG prevention

- Take effective VAWG prevention interventions (or elements of interventions) and **expand** them in the original setting (e.g. taking an existing project to a larger scale, such as from district to province); or **adapt and replicate** them in new contexts/countries.
- **Deepen** impact by implementing a comprehensive **multi-sectoral package** of effective interventions in a particular context such as district or sub-district (e.g. combining schools, livelihoods and workplace-based interventions) including integrating violence reduction and gender equality into local systems.
- **Mainstream** VAWG/violence against children (VAC) prevention and gender equality into large scale sector programmes (e.g. education, social protection, livelihoods, health delivery) to optimize their impact on reducing VAWG.

These pathways to scaling interventions are not mutually exclusive and may be applied simultaneously or sequentially in some contexts.

Within the four pathways to scale, we are interested in the following four types of scale:

1. **Quantitative scale:** increasing geographic spread or beneficiaries in same location.
2. **Functional scale:** expanding the scope of an activity.
3. **Organisational scale:** involving other organisations or creating new ones, or being taken on by governments / multilaterals / other donors investing.
4. **Political scale:** expansion by influencing political interests to affect institutional gains that allow interventions to be scaled up and sustained.

## Selection Criteria for What Works 2 scale-up grants

**We are seeking full proposals for scale interventions in VAWG prevention that demonstrate:**

### Effectiveness

A clear intervention model for prevention of VAWG that has demonstrated:

- A meaningful and statistically significant reduction in a VAWG outcome through rigorous testing carried out in lower-and middle-income countries. This could include randomized controlled trials or quasi-experimental evaluations demonstrating effectiveness of the intervention including any evidence-based reductions in VAWG outcomes; differential impacts or changes in plausible pathways; data or information on quality and challenges from implementation participants; cost effectiveness of the intervention.
- A change in pathways such as gender attitudes, household decision-making, or other mechanisms that support gender transformation through a previous trial.
- Analysis of trial data for any potential difference of impact by age, disability, or other identity.
- Information on implementation quality, such as fidelity to the intervention, reach/attendance/engagement data from participants, etc.
- Key questions and challenges that the VAWG prevention field is facing that the intervention aims to answer through evidence generation.

### Scale and Sustainability

- Demonstrates ability for project to scale either by reach or proportion of population covered.
- Describes how the proposed intervention could be sustained beyond the life of the funding.
- Intervention includes gender transformative components that could lead to greater sustainability outcomes outside of the VAWG sector.

## Cost Efficiency

- Provides cost effectiveness or cost efficiency data.
- Demonstrates a plausible means to achieve economies at scale using cost data or cost modelling approaches.

## Enabling Environment

- Evidence of a conducive political environment for scale, or windows of opportunity where FCDO support could be catalytic.
- Intervention demonstrates how it will leverage other sources of funding.
- Learning from the evaluation of the intervention will fill a major evidence gap for what works to prevent violence.
- Technological and digital solutions may be part of the approach.

## Equality and Inclusion Principles

- Project includes gender transformative components.
- Project includes mechanisms for remaining accountable to communities and stakeholders.
- Project includes support or building of equitable relationships with WROs and the communities where the work will occur.
- Project establishes a positive work culture where there is zero tolerance of any type of VAW including sexual exploitation or harassment among all staff and project partners as evidence by existing policies.
- Project strives to be inclusive and include and empower the most vulnerable groups as well as acknowledge and address the unique needs and challenges faced by these groups.

The What Works 2 consortium has developed a set of guiding principles our projects will follow for VAWG prevention programming at scale:

<b>Principles for VAWG Prevention Programming</b>	
<b>Principles for VAWG Prevention Programming</b>	<b>Principles for VAWG Prevention Programming at Scale</b>
A feminist analysis of the drivers of VAWG	Programming that transforms gender inequality through promoting critical thinking and inspiring activism for social change
Deep knowledge and connection to the local context	Ample time for preparation, implementation and exit
A clear theory of change	Meaningful sustainable involvement of and accountability to communities at all stages, with special care for inclusion of marginalized groups
Centering women and their leadership while doing no harm	Iterative, timely, non-burdensome learning that monitors direct and indirect consequences of programming

<b>Special Considerations for Prevention Programming at Scale</b>	
Realistic, achievable outcomes aligned with organizational capacities, evidence, and resources	Realistic alignment between reach, depth, geographies, and resources

Successful applicants awarded with a grant will collaborate with the What Works 2 technical advisors in 'learning partnerships' to co-design, field-test, monitor, and refine scale-up and innovation projects. This will be an interactive process of adaptation to ensure the intervention is addressing a knowledge gap regarding what works to prevent VAWG. In addition, the organisation/consortia will be paired with partners from the What Works 2 Research Consortium to co-design a fit-for-purpose research question and evaluation design to generate learning and evidence about their proposed intervention and potential for scale. Grantees will be responsible for collecting information for monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) plan, in partnership with the Research Consortium. However, budget for the evaluation will be covered by the Research Consortium and will be separate from the project grant budget.

## Geographical Scope

Projects should be located within Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and Middle East and North Africa.

## Types of Violence

The primary focus for the funding is VAWG, with a secondary focus on VAC. Given the high prevalence and the robust evidence base on what works, prevention of intimate partner violence (IPV) and non-partner sexual violence are priorities for What Works 2. In addition, the funding seeks to address multiple forms of VAWG and the interrelationship between different forms, including **conflict related sexual violence (CRSV) and violence in and around schools, workplaces, and public spaces**. We particularly encourage proposals that seek to impact on more than one type of violence, recognizing that these often co-occur.

## Language

Applications must be submitted in English.

## Eligibility criteria for What Works 2 scale-up grants

- Applicants are willing to participate in the co-design of research in collaboration with the What Works 2 Research Consortium. Applicants are willing to participate in an evaluation process.
- Applicants are located within the three priority regions: sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, and Middle East and North Africa.
- Funding organisations are not eligible.
- Organisations are only eligible to apply for one What Works 2 project in each funding cycle.

The scale-up grant is open to applicants either as a single organisation or in consortia. Where an application is submitted by a consortium, the following requirements apply:

- Applicants could include a mix of WROs who are programme implementers, as well as INGOs, NGOs and SMEs.
- Applicants in consortia must ensure that members include at least one WRO from the Global South, which will lead/co-lead the project's design, implementation, learning, and policy influencing and benefit from technical and organizational capacity strengthening opportunities related to the grant.
- Applicants are willing to work flexibly with What Works 2 on project design, adaptation, and assessments.

### What Works 2 understands women-led, WROs to be organisations that:

- Have majority women at every level, including at the board level and across all decision-making levels.
- Have a deliberate mandate to protect and promote the rights of women and girls.
- Centre women and girls in all their diversity.
- Acknowledge individual and structural gender inequality and gender norms as a core driver of VAWG.

## **Grant Funding**

VAWG prevention open competition scale-up grants are in the amount of up to GBP 4 million for a term of 3 years for implementation activities with a clear start and end date, with interventions designed as a stand-alone phase of work with feasible and concrete outcomes. Grant funds are not intended as core support, although What Works 2 understands the need and can cover some staffing and other core costs as part of the implementation of the prevention. project.

The contracting mechanism for the project grants will be an FCDO Accountable Grant Arrangement (AGA). The AGA template has been tailored to applicants receiving grants and includes reporting requirements and eligible costs for FCDO funding. As a final stage in the application process prior to signing the grant agreement, IRC, acting on behalf of FCDO as the fund manager, will conduct a due diligence assessment to identify any development needs and assign actions to mitigate against the risk to the FCDO funding. This is a collaborative review and analysis of the selected grantee's organizational, programmatic, financial, and operational capacity to implement the proposed project.

## **Application Process**

A full proposal application form requests basic FCDO eligibility information and a narrative including a description of the scale project, technical expertise in the field of ending VAWG and organizational capacity in project and finance management.

Full applications will be assessed after the deadline for submissions has passed.

Following approval from FCDO, the selected applications will be offered a provisional award of funding, subject to satisfactory completion of a due diligence assessment. If approved, grant funds would be available for a project start from approximately April 2023.

## Next Steps

Please read the full application guidelines alongside this RFP. Complete the **online full proposal application form** [via this link](#) by 23.59 GMT on 23rd September 2022.

Webinar sessions providing information on emerging evidence on VAWG prevention, FCDO priorities and grant agreement and compliance will take place during week commencing 15 August 2022. Further information will be announced on the What Works 2 website and Twitter @WW2PreventVAWG.

Questions regarding the full proposal application can be submitted via email to [WW2.info@rescue.org](mailto:WW2.info@rescue.org).

