



AUSTRALIAN NGO GENDER ACTION PLATFORM

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

In 2016-17, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's (DFAT) Gender Equality Fund will provide \$10 million for the Australian NGO Gender Action Platform (the GAP). The GAP is a grants process for Australian NGOs accredited under the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) to strengthen gender equality programming in the Indo-Pacific.

ANCP NGOs will have the opportunity to submit a proposal for a grant between \$500,000 and \$3 million for a new or existing project addressing gender equality that scales up good practice or trials innovation.

Proposals must align with DFAT's Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy. DFAT has also identified country/regional gender equality challenges to create collective action around key gender challenges.

A DFAT panel made up of sectoral and geographic experts will select the final successful projects to be implemented from 1 July 2017.

OBJECTIVES OF THE GAP

THE OBJECTIVE OF THE GAP IS TO STRENGTHEN NGO PROJECTS TO ENHANCE GENDER EQUALITY OUTCOMES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, THROUGH:

- the delivery of innovative or transformational NGO projects that reduce violence against women, increase women's economic opportunities and improve leadership for and by women through collective action
- shared learning on good gender equality practice and lessons from trialling new approaches with GAP NGOs and the broader ANCP
- increased collaboration on gender equality development challenges, including between NGOs and DFAT bilateral and regional programs.

DFAT is seeking exceptional proposals that go beyond working with traditional networks. Projects implemented in consortium or partnership with the private sector, government and other NGOs are strongly encouraged, as are close working relationships with DFAT Posts.

The GAP aims to encourage innovation, development coordination, improved monitoring, evaluation and shared learning processes and effective partnerships across projects addressing gender equality.



THE GAP AND THE ANCP

The GAP is available to ANCP NGOs in recognition of continued high performance on addressing gender equality at the community level. The ANCP is already meeting the Aid Program's target to effectively address gender issues in over 80 per cent of investments, with 87 per cent of its projects having a principal or significant focus on gender equality in 2015-16. In 2014-15 gender equality was the principal objective in 108 projects with expenditure over \$18.6 million reaching 1.4 million people. The 2016 ANCP Thematic Review on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment recognised the ANCP's important contribution to advancing gender equality and made recommendations to strengthen NGO programming.

The GAP will leverage this work by operating as a separate competitive grant round to the ANCP. Funding will be provided to successful Australian NGOs. In line with the ANCP Manual, Australian NGOs will be required to commit \$1 for every \$5 that DFAT provides to each project under the GAP (1:5 match) over the life of the project. Annual reporting requirements for successful projects will be aligned with the ANCP reporting cycle.

To ensure a streamlined approach, the GAP will operate in line with the ANCP Manual with any conditions noted in the *Appendix A: GAP Guidelines*.

PROPOSALS

NGOs are invited to submit a proposal for the GAP through ANCP Online. The deadline for submission is **8am, Wednesday 30 November 2016**. Proposals will not be accepted after this time.

ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

All ANCP accredited NGOs are eligible to submit one proposal only. Refer to *Appendix A: The GAP Guidelines* for details on the eligibility, selection criteria and priority areas for projects.

TIMEFRAME

Call for proposals: September 2016

Closing date for proposals: 8am, 30 November 2016

Expected announcement of successful projects: April 2017

Project implementation begins: 1 July 2017

CONTACT

For more information please contact the GAP team gap@dfat.gov.au

APPENDICES

Appendix A: The GAP Guidelines

