



INVITATION TO APPLY FOR GRANTS 2009/10
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME – 6th CALL for APPLICATIONS
Promoting Youth – Led Development in Western Kenya

1. Introduction

KCDF aspires to increase the effective participation of all people in the development of their own communities. KCDF is convinced that empowering young Kenyans to fully participate and take ownership of development processes constitutes a key pillar in any meaningful poverty reduction strategy. Youth involvement is crucial for the achievement of sustainable social and economic development.

KCDF received a grant from the World Bank, under the Japan Social Development Fund (JPDF), to implement a Youth Development Programme whose key objective is to “*strengthen inclusion, participation and empowerment of young Kenyans in development processes*”. The specific objectives of this Grant are to:

1. Scale-up and replicate innovative programmes, for and by young people, that focus on livelihood and well-being;
2. Facilitate Government-Civil Society interface for improved development outcomes that stem from bottom-up accountability; and
3. Build the capacity of youth-serving organizations and institutions to deliver services to young people based on their own priorities.

Following the *first call* for applications in September 2006, KCDF provided grants to 16 youth organizations in 11 districts across Kenya. Following the *2nd Call* for Applications in December 2007 and January 2008 KCDF has provided grants to six (6) organizations in three districts. The *3rd Call* in May 2008, specifically targeted youth organizations in Rift Valley province in the wake of socio-political processes preceding the December 2007 General Elections, subsequent tension and strife that developed in that period as well as the violence and disruption in the aftermath of the Elections in which youth were both perpetrators and victims. KCDF made grants to nine (9) organizations across 8 districts in the Rift Valley Province. KCDF is in the process of awarding grants following the *4th National Call*. We now make this **6th Call for Applications** in which KCDF will make grants to eligible youth-led/managed and/or youth-serving organizations for capacity building and increased participation in development for young people in Western Province in Kenya who meet the specifications and criteria described in Section 3 overleaf.

For more details about the grantees please see our website: www.kcdf.net

2. About the Grant

This Call for Grant Applications seeks to support youth-led initiatives that positively engage young Kenyans in initiatives that increase the capacity of youth to take up leadership within organizations as well as their communities; develop and build knowledge for personal, community and national development; address issues of livelihood and well being; enhance

efforts towards inclusion, participation, civic engagement, social accountability, national cohesion and peace-building; and contribute towards youth economic empowerment.

This Grant targets project activities in which young Kenyans are key actors and contributors in western Kenya. This includes youth initiatives specifically in Western Province, as described by the Government of Kenya; activities that enhance the positive engagement of youth within communities and ultimately in national-level processes that inform their outlook towards ethnic diversity, appropriately address issues of equity, explore and synergize their efforts for joint economically viable ventures that can lift them from idleness, unemployment and poverty. Youth must set out their priorities for engagement with the larger society and effectively participate in the national reconciliation processes in search of lasting peace efforts as key stakeholders in this critical national effort.

A single grant will range roughly from Ksh 700,000 and does not exceed Ksh 1,400,000.

3. Activities that can be supported:

The key focus will be support of one-year long (12 months) innovative, creative, replicable and/or scalable projects that may include but are not limited to programmes that:

- (i) Empower youth and allows them a significant role in organizational and/or project leadership positions.
- (ii) Directly benefit youth and demonstrate evidence that youth have participated in the proposed project development and planning, and will be involved in implementation.
- (iii) Target underserved, disadvantaged youth: these may include youth with disability, youth in rehabilitation centres, youth in arid and semi-arid lands or peri-urban areas, those recently resettled among others, and are gender sensitive.
- (iv) Demonstrate an integrated and responsive approach to issues that affect young people, this may include, but not limited to economic self-reliance (but not establishment of business enterprise), life skills, environmental management/conservation, sports, theatre, arts & culture, promotion of community service, among others. Projects may:
 - *Promote agri-based and/or conservation initiatives:* for wealth creation, addressing climate change and food security concerns. This may include skills building for agri-based enterprises in food processing or value-addition; learning and exchange field visits for farmer field schools, successful farmers, value addition points or research institutes;
 - *Promote active non-violent approaches for civic engagement:* building skills for early warning systems, alternative means to resolution, mediation, advocacy and lobbying, all towards community empowerment.
 - *Promote leadership skills development* through practical skills building, interaction with community based and national leaders, mentoring programmes, interethnic and cross-cultural processes;
 - *Use sports and/or creative art:* Use of art-based medium i.e. film, theatre, painting or dance to promote and/or create awareness on issues affecting youth and/or their role in community development; supporting sporting events to build inter-generational and inter-ethnic bridges and alliances; talent development and identification;
 - *Economic empowerment programmes:* Promoting entrepreneurship development, support youth identify and use complimentary services such as awareness of

economic/enterprise opportunities in the market; or supportive resources such as training on how to conduct market research or how to access financial services from institutional providers;

- *Promote and harness Kenya's cultural and ethnic diversity:* Initiating training/education fora for community level dialogue (between youth peers and intergenerational); cultural exhibitions; to promote inter-ethnic dialogue, respect for diversity, tolerance and acceptance;
 - *Provision of life skills:* promote development of responsible young adults and citizens, well-placed to address social, political and economic challenges facing their generation.
- (iv) Clearly and specifically demonstrate working partnerships with other non-profit organizations, Government and/or donor agencies past and/or present.

4. Activities that cannot be supported:

The grant will not fund formal academic training programmes, general administration costs, general office equipment, provision of basic services, travel not clearly justified by the needs of the project, capital equipment, construction, scholarships/fellowships, individuals applying on their own behalf or non-legal entities.

Any proposed projects' budgets below the minimum or above the maximum provisions are ineligible and will not be considered.

A single grant will range roughly from Ksh 700,000 and does not exceed Ksh 1,400,000.

5. Criteria for selection of the Grantee Organizations:

Grants shall be made to legal entities/organizations that meet the following criteria:

- a) Local (Kenyan) non-profit organization innovatively working with youth to promote youth empowerment, participation and inclusion, with demonstrable track record and tangible results;
- b) Legal registration as a non-profit organization (CBO, NGO, FBO, Society, etc);
- c) Demonstration that organization is rooted in the community, as evidenced by a governance structure composed of youth and community members, activities based in the community, and community and youth participation in the full project cycle management;
- d) Organization demonstrates how the project will have direct impact on the youth in the community and how these benefits will be sustained beyond current grant;
- e) Organization justifies all costs shown in the budget and demonstrates that best value for money will be obtained;
- f) Organization has in place financial systems that meet the minimum standards that would allow for accountability for grant funds, including an operational bank account (current account);
- g) ***Ideally***, applying organizations should be able to demonstrate previous experience in managing at least Kshs 250,000. As a minimum applying organizations must be able to demonstrate previous experience in project implementation within the target group which includes management of donated technical and financial resources, and/or equipment;
- h) The proposed programme should:
 - address issues in an integrated manner, with a plan for learning, monitoring and evaluation and is replicable;
 - clearly link project activities to the overall grant objective;

- clearly link project activities to the organization's mission, vision and ongoing programmes and plans to reach out to youth;
- clearly state anticipated outcomes and plans for sustainability; and
- be economically, financially and technically viable.

KCDF now invites **eligible** organizations to apply for the grants by filling an application form which can be downloaded from our website, availed by email upon request, or collected from our offices (see our contact details below).

6. Submission deadline

The deadline for receiving the applications is **3 p.m. on Friday 11 September 2009**. Please note that applications sent after this time and date will not be considered. Any applications that do not meet the minimum selection criteria will be considered non-responsive and disqualified. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

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Please note that applications cannot be sent by e-mail.