



**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR
THE UKUSEKELA SMALL PROJECT AND SUPPORT FUND (SPSF) PROGRAM –
AUGUST 2025**

The Small Project and Support Fund (SPSF) is a project funded by Bread for the World (BfdW) to support small local initiatives that are made up of committed and dedicated people who may belong to any of these structures: self-help groups, community-based organisations (CBO's), faith-based organisations (FBO's) or smaller non-governmental organisations (NGO's) or small local networks and their members working within their vicinity and context to improve the lives of the marginalised. The BfdW partner organisation AIDS Foundation of South Africa (AFSA) is the administrative partner of the SPSF and manages the programme autonomously based on criteria that have been mutually agreed with BfdW. Funding to successful applicants will be channelled through AFSA.

The SPSF aims to empower communities to act and participate in their own development through actions that are designed, implemented, and owned by the communities themselves. It targets grass-root initiatives that are known in their communities; at least 65% of the funded initiatives must be female-led at Board or Operational level so as to address gender inequalities and drive female empowerment.

THIS CALL IS FOR COMPONENT 1 OF THE SPSF PROGRAMME:

COMPONENT 1: This component will support a maximum of 10 small projects in KwaZulu-Natal, North West, and Eastern Cape within an 18-month period (August 2025 to January 2027). Selected applications will need to meet Ukusekela due diligence requirements. If approved, the selected organizations will engage in a six-month hybrid capacity strengthening before initiating any implementation of activities. The grant contract will include specific terms regarding compliance and the achievement of milestones that must be met before the first disbursement. The applications could qualify for a maximum grant amount of 225.000 ZAR.

TARGET PROVINCES AND DISTRICTS:

Kwa Zulu Natal: Harry Gwala

Eastern Cape: Alfred Nzo
North West: Bojanala Platinum (Rustenburg).

THEMATIC FOCUS AREAS OF IMPLEMENTATION:

- Economic development and empowerment;
- Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) advocacy and support;
- Improving Gender Equality (in the workplace and educational institutions).
- Improving access to women's sexual and mental health

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Locally registered in line with the NPO Act 71 of 1997 requirements, and operational within the stated Provinces and Districts.
- Registered in line with the CIPC Act 71 of 2008 requirements.
- Annual organisational budget which **is not more** than R1.5 million;
- Have been operational for a minimum of two years; (This will be confirmed through the entity's dates of registration, and submission of activity reports for the period, provision of CIPC compliance requirements if registered as an NPC: Annual returns, Annual Financial Statement/ Financial Reports, and Income Tax returns).
- Must have received and handled donor funding of more than R70 000.00 per annum in the past;
- Have prepared narrative and financial reports to a donor for the period that you have been funded for, which must be attached to this application as supporting documents.
- Demonstrate basic organisational and financial systems being in place (organisational policies including organogram)

OBJECTIVES OF THE SPSF:

- To strengthen sub-recipients to deliver sustainable services to the most vulnerable, especially women and children within their communities.
- To build the capacity of the sub-recipients located within the most vulnerable and resource limited settings and provide them with accompaniment through mentoring and technical assistance to sustain their projects, help them develop skills to network with other actors in the field, and forge new sustainable partnerships.
- To support vulnerable communities with resources to access restoration of human rights violations through ad-hoc activities.

EXCLUSIONS:

- Any organisations that are currently being supported and funded by AFSA will not be eligible to apply for funds from the SPSF under the current financial year.

- Organisations that are part of government structures or are in any way linked to government cannot be funded. These may be directly affiliated with any of the government departments, agencies are not eligible for funding under this initiative. This is to ensure that the programme maintains its focus on supporting independent, community-based, and civil society organisations.
- Organisations that are already being financed by BfdW or were previously financed by the SPSF in the previous phases.
- Organisations with an annual budget of more than R1.5M ZAR will not be eligible to apply.
- Only organisations that fall within the provinces and districts stated above will be applicable for consideration. The organisations must operate (their office location/base) from any of the three mentioned Provinces and implement their work within the target Districts. (To support this, you will be required to furnish a letter from the Counsellor's/Traditional Authority's office confirming your existence and operational location).
- The grant will **not** support any **HIV/AIDS-related** work.
- The grant will not support top-up requests.

CONDITIONS FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS:

- All the sections of the application form must be completed in full.
- All the required supporting documentation must be submitted with the application form.
- Applications must be submitted at AFA's offices in person or via courier on or before 6th June 2025; the call for applications closes at **16h00**.
- Roadshows will be conducted in the target Districts where we will outline the application process and indicate local points where the applications can be delivered as an alternative measure.

NB: To access the application form and budget template please visit the AIDS Foundation South Africa website: <https://www.aids.org.za/requests-for-applications>