

Firelight Newsflash! 23 November 2009 – Funding & Other Opportunities

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Call for Proposals: UBS Optimus Foundation

Deadline: 30 November 2009

UBS Optimus Foundation (UBSOF) is a philanthropic organization that was established by UBS in 1999, is opening a call for proposals. Within a needs-oriented focus of two core areas, "Education and Child Protection" and "Global Health Research", the foundation aims to finance high-quality, innovative, impactful projects around the world. This call for projects in the innovation phase is a part of the UBSOF mission to comprehensively and sustainably improve the lives of children worldwide within their 4-phase value chain that promotes the development, validation, promotion, and dissemination of innovative approaches.

All those interested are encouraged to consult the UBS Optimus Foundation webpage (www.ubs.com/optimus) for more information on guidelines and proposal submission.

Request for Applications: Practitioner Learning Program on Reaching Scale in Youth Financial Services

Deadline for Submission: 14 December 2009

The SEEP Network, together with the MasterCard Foundation, is pleased to announce the Request for Applications for a new practitioner learning program on scaling up financial services for youth.

For more information and to download the Request for Applications, visit:

<http://www.seepnetwork.org/Pages/YouthFinServicesPLP.aspx>

The RFA can be downloaded directly at:

<http://www.seepnetwork.org/PDFfiles/Youth Fin Services RFA final.doc>

For more information, contact Laura K. Meissner, Senior Program Manager at The SEEP Network, at: meissner@seepnetwork.org

Mango's Bursary Scheme

Thanks to the generous support of sponsors including Barclays Bank PLC, 66 bursaries have been awarded to Mango training participants in 2009. The benefits that these bursaries provided enabled staff from small, poorly resourced, local NGOs attend our popular overseas *Practical Financial Management for NGOs (FM1)* and *Strategic Financial Management for NGOs (FM2)* training courses. The rewards that are gained from the bursary scheme have been captured in the astounding feedback Mango has received from recipients:

"I wish to register my gratitude to Mango for awarding me the FM1 bursary. So far it is the best course I have ever attended. Also, the course provided the best resources for the development of financial systems in our organization. I can now confidently manage and control financial resources more efficiently and effectively" Kennedy Walusala, FM1 Nairobi, 2009

"First, I am extremely grateful for the bursary that you offered me to attend the training. It has changed my way of doing things in the organization. We appreciate your commitment to training ...we appreciate Barclays Bursary Support. If more young Africans are trained early to embrace the concept of governance and accountability we can see the light of day. Thank you for your continued and invaluable support" Marion Nelima, FM1 Nairobi, 2009

To find out more about Mango's bursary scheme and to benefit from Mango training in 2010 click below:

http://www.mango.org.uk/training/coursefees.asp?dm_i=3SG,2LFW,LCD7F,87VY,1#bursary

Nominations Currently Being Accepted for the 2010 Archbishop Tutu Fellowship

The goal of the African Leadership Institute (AfLI) is to nurture and enhance leadership capability across Africa, with particular focus on the promising leaders of the future. AfLI's aim is to create a network of high potential young Africans who have attended our programmes, and who are expected to rise to top leadership positions in their sphere of activity over the next 5-20 years.

For more information, see:

<http://www.pambazuka.org/en/category/fundraising/60039>

Apply for a Women Deliver Conference 2010 Scholarship

Deadline: 15 December 2009

Women Deliver 2010 is a conference about women at the economic heart of the developing world. And to do this work, they need to be healthy. The Women Deliver global conference, held in Washington DC on June 7-9, 2010, will focus on the theme: *Delivering solutions for girls and women*. Girls and women are the solution; not the problem. And by bringing together experts and creative thinkers in not only maternal health and mortality but also human rights, gender, HIV and AIDS, education, micro-enterprise, sexual and reproductive health, including family planning, and more, we can show the world that it's time to deliver for women and that it is, in fact, a good investment.

As part of this international community, you have the opportunity to make Women Deliver a vibrant demonstration of how health, gender equality, and development are inextricably linked. Women Deliver is committed to making Women Deliver 2010 accessible to individuals from all over the world, and will offer full conference scholarships to selected candidates.

Fill out a scholarship application at:

<http://www.womendeliver.org/conference2010/scholarship.htm>

Please check womendeliver.org for frequent updates:

<http://www.familycareintl.org/>

Call for Applications: United Nations Democracy Fund

Deadline: 31 December 2009

On 16 November, the United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF) opened the call for applications for its Fourth Round of Funding. UNDEF's primary purpose is of supporting democratization around the world; it supports projects that strengthen the voice of civil society, promote human rights and encourage the participation of all groups in democratic processes. Ensuring that projects ensure greater participation of women in democratization is an important requisite for UNDEF. The selection process is expected to be highly rigorous and competitive, considering that for the Third Round, some 70 project proposals were selected out of more than 2,100 received.

Proposal guidelines in English and French can be found at:

<http://www.un.org/democracyfund/index.htm>

Call for Proposals – Swedish Special Initiative for Democratisation and Freedom of Expression

Deadline: 31 December 2009

The Government of Sweden has decided on a special initiative for democratisation and freedom of expression. The initiative aims at supporting actors for change, individuals, groups and civil society organisations working for democratisation and freedom of expression.

Sida invites eligible organisations to submit a Concept Note for projects which might be considered under this support mechanism. For selection criteria and concept note format, see: <http://www.sida.se/democracy-initiative>

Request for Proposals: Small Grants Program for Local Research in Family Planning & Reproductive Health

Deadline: 31 December 2009

MEASURE Evaluation Population & Reproductive Health (PRH) is pleased to announce a small grants program to build the evidence base in family planning and reproductive health (FP/RH), support the research efforts of developing country researchers and their institutions, and maximize opportunities to use research findings for decision-making. Eligible candidates must be seeking to build the research and/or data use capacity in country or regional academic institutions or centers, non-profit or for-profit research organizations, parastatal or non-governmental organizations. To learn more about the MEASURE Evaluation PRH Small Grants Program, visit <http://www.cpc.unc.edu/measure/prh-rfp>.

Weinstein International Fellowship in Conflict Resolution

Deadline: 15 January 2010

The Weinstein International Fellowship (from the JAMS Foundation) provides opportunities for individuals from outside the United States to visit the U.S. to learn more about dispute resolution processes and practices and to pursue a project of their own design that serves to advance the resolution of disputes in their home countries.

Fellowships are good from 1 month to up to one year and fellowships are awarded up to \$25,000 U.S. For more details, see:

<http://www.jamsadr.com/weinstein-fellowship/>

Web Resource: FundsforNGOs.org

[FundsforNGOs.org](http://www.fundsforngos.org) is an online initiative, working for the sustainability of NGOs by increasing their access to donors, resources and skills. It uses online technologies to spread knowledge about organizational sustainability, promote creative ideas for long-term generation of institutional funds for development interventions, improve professional efforts in resource mobilization and advocate for increased allocation of donor resources for building the skills and capacities of NGOs. FundsforNGOs.org also intends to create awareness about opportunities to sustain NGOs in the long-run and address the issue of short-term donor support which lacks any plan for organizational sustainability. Such kinds of support not only implicate NGOs in embarrassing situations but also disturb the established community practices.

To view current funding opportunities, see their website:

<http://www.fundsforngos.org/>

For more information, email them at: info@fundsforngos.org.

As part of the Firelight Foundation's Monitoring, Evaluation and Technical Assistance (META) Program, Firelight provides "Newsflashes" to share relevant resources and information with our active grantee-partners via weekly emails and via post on a monthly basis. We hope that by facilitating access to information for grassroots, community-focused organizations, programming for children and families, as well as organizational development, is enhanced. Past editions of the Firelight Newsflash can be found on our website:

<http://www.firelightfoundation.org/newsflash.htm>.

We welcome your comments, feedback and ideas for upcoming Newsflashes at newsletter@firelightfoundation.org.