



# **TOGETHER WOMEN RISE**

Collective action for global gender equality

## Grantee Information Session-2026

### **Featured Grants Program**

# Feature Grants Information Session Agenda

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Guiding Principles
3. Process Goals
4. Stakeholders
5. Featured Grants Committee (FGC)
6. Program Details
7. Eligibility Highlights
8. Fiscal Sponsorship
9. Key Dates
10. Common Application Challenges
11. Logic Model Overview
12. Resources and Support
13. Closing



# Guiding Principles –Featured Grants

- Together Women Rise funds organizations and projects that address the varied issues and needs of women and girls in low -income communities in the Global South.
- Organizations and projects funded will provide solutions identified by the women and/or girls being served and must actively include their perspectives.
- Featured Grantees are sustainable organizations with multiple funding sources.
- Organizations and projects funded will create lasting change in the lives of the women and/or girls who are affected.
- Featured Grantees must demonstrate the direct impact of the project funded, the methods and ability to monitor and evaluate the project.
- Together Women Rise strives to maximize the educational opportunities for our members over the course of a year.

# Featured Grants Program

# Process Goals for Featured Grants

- Simplify the application and selection process while maintaining rigor
- Clear and transparent criteria, so everyone understands how decisions are made
- Is appropriately resourced, including the use of both volunteer and staff time
- Promote equity and narrow the power gap between grantees and Rise
- Reflects the values of Rise
- Uses a single grants portal that is connected in Salesforce
- Provide meaningful opportunities for volunteer and member engagement
- Is efficient and cost effective
- Includes financial due diligence

# Rise must balance the goals of three key stakeholders

## Rise Board of Directors:

- Fulfill compliance, legal, fiduciary requirements
- Build visibility for Rise to attract new members, donors, and others
- Have good data to measure Rise's own impact

## Rise Chapter Members and Community:

- Provide rich education opportunities to learn
- Ensure Rise community feels connected with grantees and Rise's mission
- Ensure member donations are used wisely

## Rise Grantees:

- Meet grantees "where they are"
- Streamline the asks of grantees and minimize the reporting burden while reviewing applications with same rigor

# FEATURED GRANTS COMMITTEE (FGC)

The Featured Grants Committee is composed of 15 members, including Together Women Rise volunteers and board members, and is supported by staff.

The FGC is responsible for reading, vetting, deliberating and presenting a slate of grantees for approval by the Board of Directors.

# Understanding Direct & Indirect Impact

Type of Impact

Definition

Example

**Direct Impact**

Immediate participants or recipients of services.

150 rural young women receive training in renewable energy and entrepreneurship

**Indirect Impact**

Beneficiaries affected by secondary results or the ripple-effects of services. Indirect beneficiaries should be estimated conservatively and must be reasonably attributable to your intervention.

So, while only 150 women were trained directly, approx. 450–600 additional individuals experience improved income stability, energy access, or economic opportunity because of those women's businesses.



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# Annual Impact Overview

## Grantee Spotlight:

**88%**

Cohort 1 scholarship recipients **continued** their studies after the first year.

**20%**

Expanded from 8 schools in 2024, with 10 schools expected in 2025.

**600**

**Girls expected** to participate in 2025, demonstrating rapid program scale.

## Featured Grants 2024 & 2025

**27**

Organizations supported by our grants

**17+**

Countries Impacted

**487,185**

individuals **impacted** indirectly across 2024 and 2025.

# Featured Grant Program Details

- We award up to 12 featured grants per calendar year.
- Featured Grant term is 24 months (2 years).
- Featured Grant size is \$35,000 to \$50,000 paid over a two -year period.
- Only organizations with budgets of \$100,000 and above may apply.
- Organizations may receive no more than one Featured Grant per four -year period.

The two funding categories are:

## Capacity Building

Support is funding to strengthen an organization's system and thereby increase its effectiveness. Only organizations with operating budgets below \$1 million may apply.

## Special Programs/Projects

Support is funding to launch a new program or expand an existing program.

# Eligibility Requirements

We encourage you to review these eligibility requirements carefully. In order to be considered for a Rise Featured Grant, you must provide evidence that your organization meets ALL of these eligibility requirements:

## Nonprofit Status

Applicant must be a US 501(c)3 nonprofit organization or have a fiscal sponsor which is a US 501(c)3 corporation. We do not accept registration documents issued by any other country.

## Financial Requirements

Applicant must have a minimum of \$100,000 operating expenses annually for the most recent fiscal year, unless using a fiscal sponsor.

## Operational Experience

Applicant must demonstrate capacity and on -the-ground operations in low -income communities in the Global South for a minimum of three years.

# Eligibility (cont'd)

- Applicant must demonstrate fiscally responsible and sustainable practices within their organization.
- Applicant must have a website in English, unless using a fiscal sponsor.
- Applicant must submit all information requested on the grant application.
- Applicant must provide additional information as deemed necessary for Together Women Rise to make the grant decision.
- Applicant has not received a Together Women Rise grant within the past four years.

# Eligibility (cont'd)

- Applicant must provide data regarding the direct impact of the organization's program(s) that the grant would support.
- Women must make up at least 50% majority leadership of the organization on its board of directors and staff at the time of application.
- If the applicant has previously received a Rise grantee, it must have satisfied **ALL** of Rise's reporting requirements for that past grant.

# Eligibility (cont'd)

A fiscal sponsor is a US non-profit organization that provides fiduciary oversight, financial management, and other administrative services to help build the capacity of charitable organizations that do not have a US 501(c)3 designation. An applicant that does not have a US 501c3 designation can submit an application to Together Women Rise with a fiscal sponsor if they have a verifiable present relationship with that fiscal sponsor that has been in existence for the past 12 months. The fiscal sponsor must satisfy all the Together Women Rise grant criteria. Please note: Together Women Rise does not facilitate fiscal sponsor matchmaking. Applicants are responsible for securing and maintaining that relationship prior to applying. Please note: Together Women Rise does not facilitate fiscal sponsor matchmaking. Applicants are responsible for securing and maintaining that relationship prior to applying.

# Common Questions & Clarifications

- Applications **must be** submitted through the portal on or before the deadline— email submissions will not be accepted
- Submission confirmation emails are automatically generated
  - Applicants should save responses offline before submitting
  - Word limits in the portal override PDF uploads
  - Indirect beneficiaries should only be counted if directly linked to measurable outcomes

# TOGETHER WOMEN RISE WILL NOT SUPPORT:

- Debt reduction
- Grants to individuals
- Endowments
- Lobbying or political activities/parties
- Election campaigns
- Government entities
- Building funds or campaigns
- Organizations that engage in religious or political proselytizing.\*

*\*Together Women Rise does not fund organizations that engage in exclusionary practices based on religion or political affiliation or that attempt to convert the community beneficiaries to a particular religious faith or belief, or a political party or belief.*

# Featured Grant Program Timeline



# Common Challenges

## Outcomes & Sustainability

- Identify the changes you hope to see in people or communities.
- Describe both measurable and narrative outcomes.
- Explain how those outcomes will be sustained after the grant period.

## Measuring Impact

- Share what data you'll collect and from whom.
- Describe how data will be collected, analyzed, and used.
- Highlight resources or partners supporting your evaluation efforts.

## Leadership & Gender Equity

- Explain your internal gender equity practices.
- Include representation of women across leadership levels.
- Share your strategies for fostering leadership among women.

## Budget Overview

- Be clear and transparent with your program or project budget.
- Explain how both Rise and other funds will be used.
- Share your contingency plan for potential funding gaps.

## Community Context & Problem Definition

- Define the problem your project addresses and why it's important.
- Support your case with relevant data and community insights.
- Explain why your organization is well -positioned to address it.

# LOGIC MODEL TO TELL YOUR STORY

## INPUTS

Everything You USE to Carry out your program.

- Funding
- Staff
- Volunteers
- Materials
- Equipment
- Facilities
- Travel
- Food/Supplies

## ACTIVITIES

Everything you DO to carry out your program

- Identifying/Screening/Treating
- Teaching/Training
- Mentoring/Supporting
- Connecting/Collaborating
- Building/Establishing
- Advocating/Educating
- Producing materials (videos, books, pamphlets, curricula)
- Providing food, clothing, shelter, and other goods to meet needs

## OUTPUTS

The product of each activity - HOW MANY, HOW MUCH

- # screened, identified, treated.
- # of classes/Workshops taught and number of people attending/completing
- # of people paired with mentors, advocates
- # of people connected to resources.
- # of gardens, wells, homes, etc. built, repaired
- # Number of meetings with advocacy groups, government officials, etc.
- # of and types of materials produced
- #r fed, clothed, housed

## OUTCOMES

The SO WHAT: gains, achievements, changes, and improvements that are a result of your activities. Outcomes can be short -term, intermediate, or long -term. NOTE: Most programs will measure short -term and intermediate outcomes.

### Short-term:

- Gains in knowledge, skills, or changes in attitude.
- Improved attendance and participation.
- Awareness of policy or system changes needed.
- Access to potable water, nutritious food, health care.

### Intermediate:

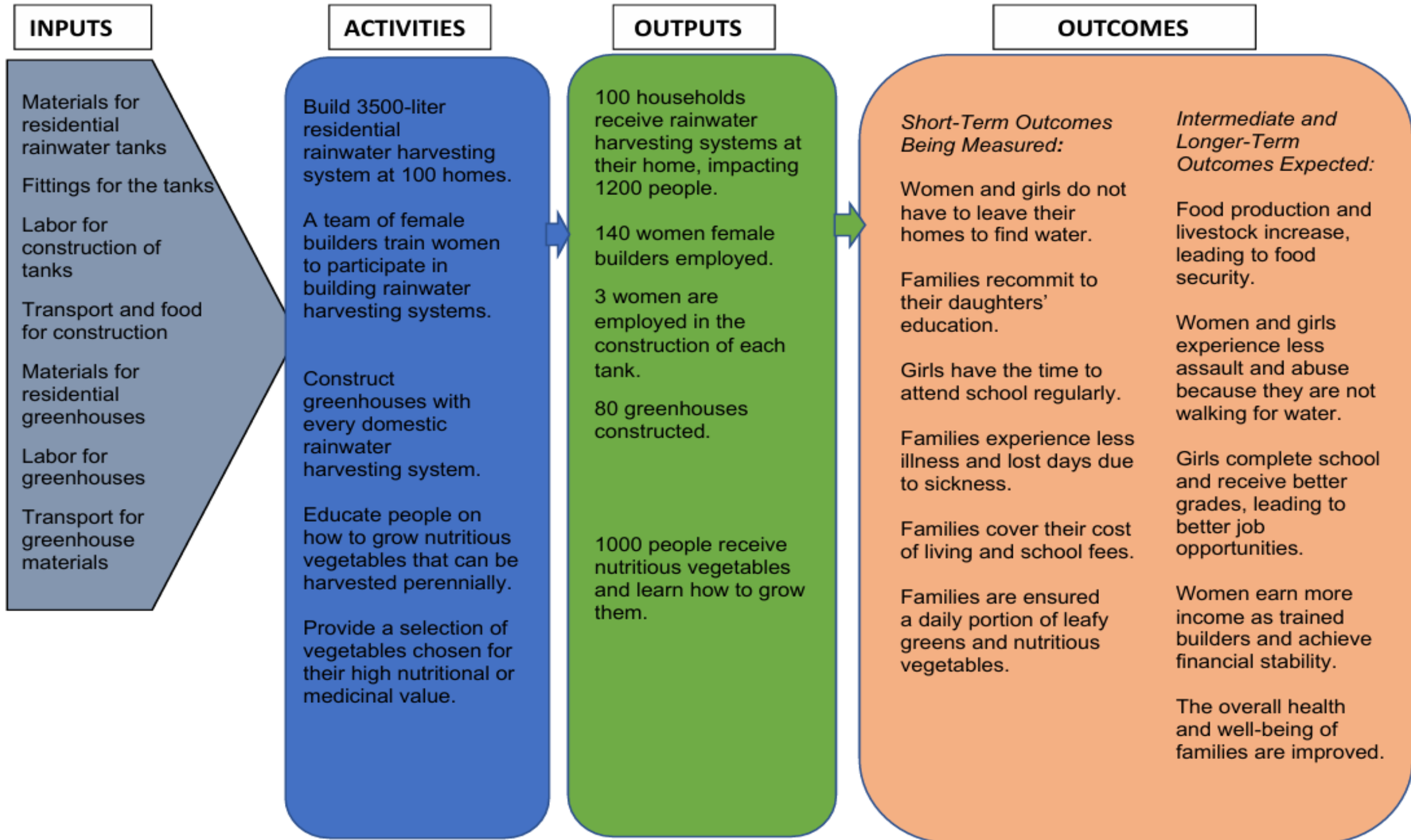
- Behavior changes
- Improved grades, educational attainment, job entry
- Improved capacity to implement policy/systems changes.
- Decreased food insecurity.
- Better nutrition/health

### Long-Term:

- Improved well being and social status.
- Improved financial status.
- Reduction in FGM, assault, trafficking.
- Policy changes supporting gender equality.
- Improved overall health and life expectancy.



# TELL YOUR STORY: OUTCOMES





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## Additional Resources/Information

Please visit our website: [togetherwomenrise.org/grants](https://togetherwomenrise.org/grants) for more detailed information about the featured grants program.

Contact Jasemen Hatcher, Program and Grantmaking Manager at [grants@togetherwomenrise.org](mailto:grants@togetherwomenrise.org).

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Thank you!!

