



Stanford eCorner

Grantee Selection Criteria for Global Fund for Women

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The Global Fund for Women (GFW) is overwhelmed with requests for grants-3,000 every year, in many languages, says Ramdas. International advisors give feedback on priorities for social areas in their communities. GFW also have a basic set of criteria -- is it a group of women instead of an individual, do they have a clear articulation of how they will challenge women's positions within that society? GFW doesn't give a grant until they have an endorsement from the ground, she says.



Transcript

We are overwhelmed with requests. It's interesting; I often think that the Global Fund is a secret in the bay area, but very well known everywhere else in the world. We now get about 3,000 requests every year. They come to us in every different kind of language; in Kiswahili, in Arabic, in French, in Urdu or Hindi. We use our network of international advisers to help us make assessments. Both broader assessments about what might be priorities for a particular region or a particular country. Using India as an example, over the last few years we've talked about having, our advisers in India have helped us kind of determine that trying to reach out to Dalit women or what we formerly called the untouchable women, trying to reach out to Muslim women's groups and trying to reach women on certain regions of India. The northeastern part of India which tends to be really underfunded and lacking in access to any kind of resources that those should be priority areas for us. So, that helps us make sort of an initial cut. We also have sort of a basic set of criteria.

Is this a group of women rather than an individual? Do they have a clear articulation? Not only, let's say, of just an income generating project, but how they are hoping to kind of challenge women's position within that society. And then lastly, we don't make a grant until we actually get an endorsement from the ground, from an adviser on the ground or another grantee who has actually made a visit, talked to the group, knows what some of the issues are that they're working on. And that helps us to be able to say, for example, that the group might be working on a very critical issue that nobody else may be working on. And for that reason it might be important for us to fund. And then as I said earlier, another criteria is just, we have a strong emphasis on groups that haven't received previous funding because we know how hard it is, if you don't have a track record, to be able to get money. So those are a some of the criteria that we use to make the decision.