



'UHAI': The East African Sexual Health & Rights Initiative

Call for Proposals

'UHAI': The East African Sexual Health & Rights Initiative is pleased to announce the launch of its first round of Call for Proposals.

[Deadline: 13th February 2009](#)

What does 'UHAI' mean?

'UHAI', meaning 'Alive' or 'Life' in Kiswahili, is an acronym for the words Ujinsia (Sexuality), Haki (Rights), Afya (Health) and Imani (Faith).

What is 'UHAI': the East African Sexual Health & Rights Initiative?

'UHAI': the East African Sexual Health and Rights Initiative (EASHRI) is a new grant-making initiative which aims to provide flexible, accessible resources to support civil society activism around issues of sexuality, health and human rights in the East African region (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi). It has a particular focus on the rights of sexual minorities.

What's the aim of 'UHAI' and where is it located?

'UHAI' aims to build a strong, diverse and organised movement for change, and to enhance the knowledge and expertise of donors supporting sexual rights in East Africa. 'UHAI' is currently hosted by Akiba Uhaki, the East African human rights and social justice fund, based in Nairobi.

So who can apply for funds?

Funds are open to organisations working in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi.

'UHAI' will prioritise funding for organisations and programmes led by and focused on sexual minorities and MSM/WSW health and rights within East Africa but will also consider project grants for organisations which are working with sexual minorities but not necessarily led by them (see the funding activity areas below).

That's great! But can individuals apply?

No. 'UHAI' is currently only supporting organisations. However, if as an individual you have an innovative idea then we strongly urge you to join or collaborate with an existing organisation. If you're still not sure then you can contact the support team at the addresses and telephone number below for more information.

OK. But my organisation is not registered. Can I still apply?

Yes! Although registration is a necessity for most donors, 'UHAI' is aware that some organisations may have difficulty registering because of the type of activities they are involved in. If your organisation is not registered, you will need to demonstrate to us that 1) your group has a name; 2) your group has position holders e.g. manager, programme officer, treasurer and a board etc; 3) your group has a clear mission statement, aim and objectives. You will also need to provide us with a letter of support/endorsement from a recognised and relevant organisation in the region (such as a human rights or HIV organisation) stating that they are aware of your group, its work and recommend you for funding.

So what is 'UHAI' funding?

Twice a year, at the end of January and the end of July, 'UHAI' will issue a call for proposals for 'peer grants'.

However, throughout the year we will accept proposals for unplanned and unforeseen activities called 'opportunity grants'. **Please note these are not individual or emergency grants and UHAI will not be able to provide such direct assistance.** More information about the 'opportunity grants' is available from the support team (see below).

This Call for Proposals is seeking applicants for 'peer grants'. These grants will be awarded on a bi-annual basis in an open and competitive process and will be funding organisations and programmes engaged in the following areas of work:

- **Policy and legal advocacy:** activities challenging discriminatory law and policies and responding to human rights violations through grants for

documentation, strategic litigation, research and alliance building in human rights, HIV/AIDS and faith sectors.

- **Rights-based service delivery:** developing inclusive health and legal services for sexual minorities through grants for HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment activities and services, sexual health services and sexuality education, as well as legal aid.
- **Strengthening institutions:** activities and programmes that build organisational skills and systems; sustaining activism through grants for activist exchange visits and internships; human rights defenders initiatives; core funding and seeding networks and coalitions.
- **Media and culture-** transforming public opinion and social attitudes through grants for media training, engaging religious institutions, film festivals and so forth.
- **Income generating initiatives:** social enterprise and wealth-generating activities that provide demonstrable benefit to the sexual minority community (not just an individual!)
- **Additional areas for grant making:** sustaining activism (such as wellness and care of activists, including therapy, group counselling, safe houses, etc.)

‘UHA!’ is eager to receive interesting, new and innovative proposals from the sexual minority community and its allies in East Africa. As such, you should not feel limited to submitting proposals for the activities listed above! Be innovative!

That’s great! So how much can my organisation apply for?

There are two types of grants being awarded in this first round of funding under the peer grants scheme.

The first is the **‘Msingi’** grant which is intended to support new work and new organisations, and larger organisations to undertake new work or one-off projects. The maximum award under this grant is \$2,000.

The second grant available is the **‘Tujenge’** grant for organisations and programmes developing and strengthening existing work or initiating larger activities. The maximum award under this grant is \$10,000.

When is the deadline for submitting my application?

The deadline for submitting 'Peer-Grant' proposal applications to 'UHAI' is the **13th February 2009.**

So how does my organisation apply for the 'Peer-Grant' funding?

Whether you are applying for the 'Msingi' or the 'Tujenge' grant you need to submit a proposal and budget.

What should be in the proposal and budget?

Remember that often the person reading your project proposal will not have the in-depth knowledge of your work, your region and the problems that you would like to tackle with your activities. Therefore, it's always best to assume that the person who will read your proposal will know nothing about you, your organisation or your work, so you need to provide a very detailed description to help them understand.

Make sure your proposal includes the following:

- **Accurate information**
- **A description of your organisation, its links with the sexual minority or MSM/WSW community and a brief history of the work you've successfully carried out before**
- **A clear picture of the problems to be solved or the challenges to be met and how you will do this**
- **Expected results of the project (meaning what you expect the project will achieve with the funding available)**
- **A detailed budget that clearly explains how much you are seeking and how you intend to use it.**

Below is one possible format for a proposal (although you may wish to use your own):

1. Title Page: including name of organisation, amount requested, contact details of key person, goal of project and banking/account details
2. Summary: a brief summary of the initiative
3. Introduction: a brief description of the project, the history, staffing, the main features of the project, the beneficiaries (the clients that benefit) and how they will benefit from the initiative
4. Problem Statement: describe the problem (and the context of the problem) that your organisation will address
5. Objectives: what does your organisation want to achieve with the funding
6. Activities: full details of all the activities of the project that are needed to achieve the objectives. Make sure you always describe HOW you will carry out an activity.
7. Implementing Organisation: list the details of the organisation, including contact addresses. The history of the organisation needs to be mentioned,

when and why it was formed. What activities have been carried out so far and with what results? If a previous activity failed, mention it and indicate what you have learned from it and how you will avoid it in the next initiative.

8. Collaborating organisations: which other organisations does your programme or organisation collaborate or work with?
9. Budget and initiative funding: list the total costs of the project; provide an estimate of future ongoing operating costs (sustainability), if applicable. Explain if you make any financial or in-kind contributions/services as organisation yourself. And last but not least: Explain if you are applying for other funds, how much and if the funds have been obtained already. **Be very clear about how you will use the funding!**

Where should I send my proposal?

Once you've discussed the proposal with your organisation and everyone is happy with it, you can send it by email to eashri@akibauhaki.org, post it to the address below or hand-deliver it to the Akiba Uhaki office (please only do one of these).

Who will decide if my proposal gets funding or not?

A 'Peer Grants Committee' will make decisions on grants. During the first year of grant-making this committee will be made up of a maximum number of 7 experts drawn from the sexual minority, human rights and women's rights movements, and the HIV/AIDS sectors.

The panel will be representative of the constituencies served, and aim to have women and men, people living with HIV/AIDS and (where possible) transgender people represented, as well as English and French language capacity.

There will be an open nomination process for the Peer Grants Committee. Criteria for participation will include a track record of work in the East African region and a stated commitment to sexual minority rights and principles of non-discrimination. Care will be taken to select reviewers who are knowledgeable of the sector and are not currently involved in full-time, field-based activism in the region. All committee members must sign and update a conflict of interest register. Participation on the committee is voluntary. Members will get an allowance for costs directly associated with committee meetings.

When will I know if my proposal has been successful or not?

Applicants will be informed by email if their proposal has been successful or not by the 17th March 2009. If you do not have access to email and require notification by post or telephone, kindly let us know in your application.

If my proposal is successful, when can my organisation expect to receive funds?

If your proposal is successful you will receive funds within two weeks *after* we have received all your documents, bank details and the grant contracts have been signed.

That's all great! But what if I have questions about the grant, my proposal or anything else? How do I get more information?

If you have any questions about 'UHAI', the Peer Grants, or want to talk through your proposal and budget before you submit it, you can contact Angus Parkinson via email (angusparkinson@gmail.com) or telephone (0721 429 939) who will coordinate the support team for applicants. Please note, if you wish to receive support with your proposal please contact Angus by Monday 2nd February, at the latest!

Our contact details are as follows:

Postal address to send proposals:

EASHRI Proposals
c/o Akiba Uhaki
P.O. Box 27611
00100 Nairobi
Kenya

Email address to submit proposals:

eashri@akibauhaki.org

Physical address to hand deliver proposals:

K-Rep Building
3rd Floor
Wood Avenue
Kilimani,
Nairobi

Our website address is www.akibauhaki.org and the office telephone numbers are +254 (0)20 244 1204 or +254 (0)20 244 1196.

N.B. We only need one copy of your proposal so please choose how you wish to send us your proposal and only send it once.

Many thanks and good luck from the 'UHAI': EASHRI team!