



CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

## Spark Fund Youth Panellist

**The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the world. You can be part of youth-led change focused on recovery and building a better future.**

**Global Fund for Children is recruiting youth participants to design and lead a new fund – supporting youth leadership in Lesotho, Namibia and Zimbabwe. Far too often, youth-led groups and initiatives are overlooked by donors or face barriers meeting funder requirements. The Spark Fund wants to change this.**

If you are aged between 18 and 30, live in Lesotho, Namibia and Zimbabwe, have an interest in how young people are tackling injustice and inequality, and want to be involved in making decisions, we want to hear from

you! Previous experience with making decisions about where funding goes is not necessary – we will offer training and support.

### The Opportunity

- Fund inspiring, innovative, youth-led initiatives in your region.
- Meet and collaborate with other youth changemakers.
- Share your perspective about the impact of the pandemic on children and youth and shape a fund that meets their needs.
- Learn more about grantmaking, civil society and how young people are taking action.

### Role Description

Panellists will work together to set up a new regional fund resourcing and supporting youth-led and youth-focused groups that are tackling injustice and inequality, driving forward transformational change and helping their communities in Lesotho, Namibia and Zimbabwe rebuild after the COVID-19 pandemic.

This will include:

- agreeing how you will make decisions together,
- deciding what issues and strategies are important to tackle inequality in your region,
- deciding what type of youth-led groups, collectives or youth-focused organizations the fund will support,
- deciding on the size of the grants available,
- testing out and supporting the design of a new funding technology platform,
- designing and actively supporting an outreach strategy, ensuring that the application reaches the youth leaders you want to fund,
- discussing and assessing groups to fund, and,
- making decisions on who should receive funding.

### Role Title

Spark Fund Youth Panellist

### Location and Language

All meetings will take place over Zoom and English will be our primary shared language. If internet or tech access is an issue, we will try to work with you to find a way for you to participate online.

### Commitment

The panel will run from February to May 2022 with a celebration event in May 2022, at the end of the sessions. You will also need to plan some time outside of these meetings to do some basic preparation, reflection and to review applications. We estimate that the total time commitment will be about around 3-5 hours per week although the exact amount may change somewhat throughout the panel process.

Applicants must be able to commit to five design sessions and be available to attend **all** decision making sessions. The meeting dates and times are:

### Fund Design Sessions

- **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February** – 16:00 – 17:30 CAT, SAST
- **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February** – 16:00 – 18:00 CAT, SAST
- **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March** – 16:00 – 18:00 CAT, SAST
- **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March** – 16:00 – 18:00 CAT, SAST
- **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March** – 16:00 – 18:00 CAT, SAST
- **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March** – 16:00 – 17:30 CAT, SAST

### Decision-Making Sessions

- **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May** – 16:00 – 18:00 CAT, SAST
- **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May** – 16:00 – 18:00 CAT, SAST
- **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May** – 16:00 – 18:00 CAT, SAST

### Celebration Event

- **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2022** – 17:00 – 18:00 CAT, SAST

## Recognition and Reimbursement

All panellists will receive a digital certificate of participation and recognition on our website. This is a short-term voluntary role and is unpaid.

GFC appreciates all of your time and experience in designing and delivering this Fund. As a form of recognition for this voluntary work, GFC will offer a communication stipend of \$120 and an honorarium payment of \$250 USD to each panellist at the end of the panel process. You are not obliged to accept this payment. This payment is not an employment contract and you are responsible for any tax, income or benefits implications in your own country.

## Training

You do not need to have any particular training or experience in making funding decisions to take part in the panel. We will provide all necessary training as part of your meetings.

## What you will need to do

Essential:

- Collaborate with other panellists, Spark Fund representatives and panel facilitators.
- Review all materials and documents in advance of panel meeting discussions.
- Keep an open mind, use your judgement and engage in group discussions.
- Take part in reflective learning activities to tell us about your experience of participation.
- Share the Spark Fund selection process with youth-led groups and organisations in your network.
- Attend a safeguarding workshop.
- Be able to attend all sessions.
- Get involved in telling people about the Spark Fund with us through communications and media channels.

## What we are looking for

Young people aged 18 – 30 living in Lesotho, Namibia and Zimbabwe with:

- An interest in youth-led change
- An understanding of social justice issues and the impact these have in your country or region.
- A willingness to work with other panellists, representing a broad spectrum of views, backgrounds and understandings of the way youth positively impact other children and young people and their communities.
- People with motivation to work independently between panel meetings.

We encourage applications from young people of all gender expressions, religions (creeds), physical abilities, or sexual orientations. We particularly welcome applications from young people from communities that face inequality and injustice.

Panellists may be eligible to apply for, or directly benefit from, applications made to the Spark Fund but will have to declare a conflict of interest and recuse themselves from parts of the decision making process.

## How to apply

You will need to fill out a short application to be considered for the panel. In your application, we would like to know what youth-led change means to you. We encourage video applications but you can also apply in writing if you prefer.

**Apply here:** <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SparkFundAppSouthernAfrica>

The deadline for applications is **midnight on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 CAT/SAST**. We will review applications and offer interviews to shortlisted candidates on a rolling basis.

We are hosting two information sessions on Zoom for potential applicants on:

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 17:00 – 18:00 CAT, SAST

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 17:00 – 18:00 CAT, SAST

If you would like to attend this information session, please register by emailing us at [sparkfund@globalfundforchildren.org](mailto:sparkfund@globalfundforchildren.org).

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the role further, please email us at [sparkfund@globalfundforchildren.org](mailto:sparkfund@globalfundforchildren.org) or message through WhatsApp on +1 (202) 677-8196

*Global Fund for Children (GFC) partners to build a world where all children and youth enjoy equal resources and opportunities in society and live free from violence, discrimination, and exploitation. To that end, GFC invests in innovative local organisations, helping them deepen their impact and build their capacity for social change. Together, GFC and its partners advance the rights of children and youth facing poverty and injustice and equip them with the tools and skills to reach their full potential. Since 1997, Global Fund for Children has invested \$43 million in nearly 700 organisations, reaching more than 10 million children and youth worldwide.*

[www.globalfundforchildren.org](http://www.globalfundforchildren.org)

