

Foundation Grant Application Template

Rise for Impact Program Funding Request

SECTION 1: ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Legal Name

Rise for Impact

Mission Statement

To mobilize Africa's next generation of climate action leaders by connecting youth with opportunities, skills, and networks to drive sustainable development.

Year Founded

2023

Tax Status

[Non-profit registration number/status]

Organization Type

- ☐ Non-profit organization
- ☐ NGO
- ☐ Community-based organization
- ☐ Social enterprise
- ☐ Other: _____

Geographic Focus

Pan-African (currently active in 8+ countries)

Contact Information

Executive Director: Claude Tomoh Ikfingeh

Email: claudio.ikfingeh@riseforimpact.org

Phone: +237 XXX XXX XXX

Website: www.riseforimpact.org

Address: [Physical address]

Primary Contact for this Application:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

SECTION 2: ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

2.1 Brief History

Rise for Impact was founded in 2023 by Claude Tomoh Ikfingeh, a Computer Science student from Southwest Cameroon—a region deeply affected by conflict and crisis. Having witnessed firsthand how lack of access to opportunities limits young people's potential, Claude created Rise for Impact to bridge the gap between African youth and the life-changing scholarships, fellowships, internships, and grants available globally.

What began as an Instagram page sharing opportunities has evolved into a comprehensive youth development platform reaching 5,000+ young people across 8 African countries.

2.2 Key Accomplishments

- **5,000+ youth engaged** across 8 African countries

- **200+ opportunities curated** and shared (total value exceeding \$10M)
- **50+ strategic partnerships** with universities, NGOs, and corporations
- **98% satisfaction rate** from program participants
- **10+ regional coordinators** driving grassroots engagement
- **Monthly newsletter** reaching 10,000+ subscribers

2.3 Organizational Capacity

Leadership Team:

- Claude Tomoh Ikfingeh - Founder & Executive Director
- [Additional team members with brief bios]

Board of Directors (if applicable):

- [Name], [Title/Affiliation]
- [Name], [Title/Affiliation]

Staff: [Number] full-time, [Number] part-time

Volunteers: [Number] active volunteers

Regional Coordinators: 10+ across Africa

Budget Size: [Annual operating budget]

SECTION 3: PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

3.1 Program Name

[Specific program seeking funding, e.g., "Rise for Impact Fellowship - Southwest Cameroon Cohort"]

3.2 Program Summary (250 words max)

[Concise overview of the specific program/project for which you're seeking funding]

3.3 Problem Statement

The Challenge: African youth face three interconnected barriers to realizing their potential:

1. **Information Asymmetry:** Life-changing opportunities exist globally, but information rarely reaches young people in underserved communities, especially those affected by conflict, poverty, or geographic isolation.
2. **Skills Gap:** Traditional education systems don't equip youth with the practical skills needed for climate action, social entrepreneurship, and global competitiveness in the 21st century.
3. **Network Isolation:** Young changemakers work in silos, unable to collaborate, learn from peers, or access mentorship from experienced leaders who've walked similar paths.

The Impact:

- 60% of Africa's 1.3 billion people are under 25, yet youth unemployment exceeds 30%
- Africa contributes <4% to global emissions but suffers disproportionately from climate change
- \$50B+ in scholarships and fellowships available globally, yet only 2% reaches African youth
- Millions of talented young people have their potential limited by circumstances beyond their control

Our Target Population: [Describe specific population this program serves - age range, geographic location, specific challenges they face, selection criteria]

3.4 Program Goals & Objectives

Overall Goal: [What is the ultimate change you seek to create?]

Specific Objectives:

1. **Objective 1:** [SMART objective - Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound]
2. **Objective 2:** [SMART objective]
3. **Objective 3:** [SMART objective]

Example:

- **Objective 1:** Train 100 youth from Southwest Cameroon in leadership and climate action skills over 12 months, with 80% completing the full program.
- **Objective 2:** Connect participants with 500+ vetted opportunities (scholarships, internships, fellowships) resulting in at least 30 successful placements.
- **Objective 3:** Facilitate launch of 10 community-based climate action projects led by program participants.

3.5 Program Activities

Activity 1: [Activity Name]

- **Description:** [What will you do?]
- **Timeline:** [When?]
- **Participants:** [Who's involved?]
- **Expected Output:** [What will be produced?]

Activity 2: [Activity Name]

- **Description:**
- **Timeline:**
- **Participants:**

- **Expected Output:**

Activity 3: [Activity Name]

- **Description:**
- **Timeline:**
- **Participants:**
- **Expected Output:**

Example Activities:

- **Recruitment & Selection:** Open application, review, interviews, final cohort selection
- **Kickoff Retreat:** 3-day intensive orientation building cohort bonds and setting foundation
- **Monthly Workshops:** Skills training (leadership, project management, communication, climate science)
- **Mentorship Matching:** Pair each participant with experienced mentor for guidance
- **Opportunity Curation:** Weekly sharing of relevant scholarships, fellowships, internships
- **Project Development:** Support participants to design and launch community projects
- **Mid-Program Review:** Assessment of progress, adjustments, celebration of wins
- **Graduation Ceremony:** Public recognition of completion, showcase of projects
- **Alumni Network:** Ongoing support and connection among cohort members

3.6 Theory of Change

IF we provide youth with access to opportunities, leadership training, and supportive networks,

THEN they will gain the skills, confidence, and resources needed to pursue

higher education and meaningful employment,

LEADING TO community-led climate action projects and sustainable development,

ULTIMATELY RESULTING IN reduced youth unemployment, increased climate resilience, and stronger, more empowered communities.

Key Assumptions:

- Youth have the motivation and capacity to engage when given opportunity
 - Skills training translates to real-world application
 - Network effects amplify individual impact
 - Early intervention creates long-term trajectory change
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SECTION 4: TARGET OUTCOMES & IMPACT

4.1 Expected Outcomes

Short-Term Outcomes (0-6 months):

- [Outcome 1 with target number]
- [Outcome 2 with target number]
- [Outcome 3 with target number]

Example:

- 100 youth complete skills assessment and personal development plan
- 80% report increased awareness of opportunities available to them
- 50% have applied to at least one scholarship or fellowship

Medium-Term Outcomes (6-12 months):

- [Outcome 1 with target number]
- [Outcome 2 with target number]

- [Outcome 3 with target number]

Example:

- 70% complete full program curriculum
- 30+ participants secure scholarships, internships, or employment
- 10 community climate action projects launched
- 90% report increased confidence and leadership capacity

Long-Term Outcomes (1-3 years):

- [Outcome 1 with target number]
- [Outcome 2 with target number]
- [Outcome 3 with target number]

Example:

- 60% pursuing higher education or in meaningful employment
- 20+ participants in leadership roles in their communities
- Climate action projects reach 5,000+ community members
- Alumni mentoring next cohort of participants

4.2 Impact Metrics

Metric	Baseline	Target	Measurement Method
Youth participating	0	100	Registration records
Program completion rate	N/A	80%	Attendance tracking
Opportunities accessed	0	30+ placements	Participant reports
Projects launched	0	10	Project documentation

Employment rate	[%]	70%	Post-program survey
Community reach	0	5,000+	Project reports

4.3 Sustainability & Long-Term Vision

Program Sustainability:

- Alumni become mentors and coordinators for future cohorts
- Partnerships with local organizations ensure continued access to resources
- Documentation and curriculum shared openly for replication
- Revenue generation through [specify any earned income strategies]

Organizational Sustainability:

- Diversified funding from multiple foundation, corporate, and individual sources
- Earned revenue through [platform subscriptions, corporate partnerships, events, etc.]
- Strong community ownership reducing dependency on external funding
- Scalable digital model allowing efficient expansion

Long-Term Vision: This program is pilot for model that can be replicated across Africa. Success here demonstrates proof of concept, allowing us to secure funding and partnerships to expand to 20+ countries, reaching 50,000+ youth by 2028.

SECTION 5: MONITORING, EVALUATION & LEARNING

5.1 M&E Framework

Data Collection Methods:

- Pre/post-program surveys assessing skills, confidence, knowledge
- Monthly attendance and engagement tracking
- Quarterly participant interviews and focus groups
- Application and placement tracking
- Project documentation and community feedback
- Long-term alumni surveys (6, 12, 24 months post-program)

Evaluation Questions:

1. Did participants gain the skills and knowledge intended?
2. Did participants access opportunities they wouldn't have otherwise?
3. Did participants launch and sustain community projects?
4. What barriers or challenges did participants face?
5. How can the program be improved for future cohorts?

Reporting Schedule:

- Monthly: Internal progress reports
- Quarterly: Funder reports with data, stories, challenges
- Annually: Comprehensive program evaluation with recommendations

5.2 Learning & Adaptation

We are committed to continuous improvement based on evidence and feedback:

- **Monthly team reflections** to identify what's working and what needs adjustment
- **Participant feedback loops** through surveys and open channels
- **External evaluation** (if budget allows) for independent assessment
- **Documentation** of lessons learned for organizational knowledge

- **Sharing** findings with broader youth development community
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SECTION 6: ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

6.1 Current Partners

- [Partner Organization 1]: [Nature of partnership]
- [Partner Organization 2]: [Nature of partnership]
- [Partner Organization 3]: [Nature of partnership]

6.2 Partnership Strategy for this Program

Program Implementation Partners:

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Resource Partners:

- [Organization](#): [Contribution - venue, equipment, expertise, etc.]

Referral Partners:

- [Organization](#): [How they'll help recruit participants or refer opportunities]
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SECTION 7: BUDGET

7.1 Total Program Budget: \$[Amount]

7.2 Amount Requested from [Foundation Name]: \$[Amount]

7.3 Budget Breakdown

Category	Description	Cost
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Personnel		
Program Coordinator	[FTE%, salary, period]	\$XX,XXX
Regional Coordinators	[Number, stipends]	\$XX,XXX
Administrative Support	[FTE%, salary, period]	\$X,XXX
Subtotal Personnel		\$XX,XXX
Program Delivery		
Participant stipends/support	[Number × amount]	\$XX,XXX
Training materials	[Description]	\$X,XXX
Venue rental	[Number of events × cost]	\$X,XXX
Technology (platform, tools)	[Licenses, subscriptions]	\$X,XXX
Mentorship program	[Mentor stipends, logistics]	\$X,XXX
Subtotal Program		\$XX,XXX
Operations		
Office & equipment		\$X,XXX
Communications	[Internet, phone]	\$X,XXX
Travel & transportation		\$X,XXX
Subtotal Operations		\$X,XXX
Evaluation		
M&E tools & surveys		\$X,XXX

Data analysis		\$X,XXX
External evaluation	[If applicable]	\$X,XXX
Subtotal Evaluation		\$X,XXX
Administrative (10%)		\$X,XXX
TOTAL		\$XX,XXX

7.4 Budget Narrative

Personnel: [Explain each position, why needed, FTE%, qualifications]

Program Delivery: [Explain major program costs, quantities, unit costs, rationale]

Operations: [Explain operational expenses necessary for program success]

Evaluation: [Explain M&E approach and associated costs]

7.5 Other Funding Sources

Source	Amount	Status
[Foundation/Corp 1]	\$XX,XXX	Committed/Pending/Planned
[Foundation/Corp 2]	\$XX,XXX	Committed/Pending/Planned
Earned revenue	\$X,XXX	Projected
Individual donors	\$X,XXX	Projected
In-kind contributions	\$X,XXX	Committed
Total Other Sources	\$XX,XXX	

Requested from [Foundation]	\$XX,XXX	
TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET	\$XX,XXX	

SECTION 8: TIMELINE

Program Implementation Timeline

Phase	Activities	Timeline	Milestones
Phase 1: Setup	Recruitment, selection, onboarding	Months 1-2	100 participants selected
Phase 2: Foundation	Kickoff, initial training, mentor matching	Months 3-4	All participants trained, mentors assigned
Phase 3: Development	Ongoing workshops, project planning	Months 5-8	Projects designed, applications submitted
Phase 4: Implementation	Project launch and support	Months 9-11	10 projects launched
Phase 5: Completion	Final workshops, graduation, evaluation	Month 12	80% completion rate achieved
Phase 6: Alumni Support	Ongoing network, mentorship	Months 13+	Alumni network active

SECTION 9: ORGANIZATIONAL FINANCES

9.1 Current Annual Operating Budget: \$[Amount]

9.2 Revenue Sources (current year):

- Foundation grants: \$XXX,XXX ([%])
- Corporate partnerships: \$XXX,XXX ([%])
- Individual donations: \$XX,XXX ([%])
- Earned revenue: \$XX,XXX ([%])
- Other: \$X,XXX ([%])

9.3 Financial Health

- [Number of] months operating reserve
- [Clean/qualified/etc.] audit for most recent fiscal year
- [Any relevant financial strengths or transparency measures]

9.4 Audited Financial Statements

[Attached/Available upon request]

SECTION 10: ORGANIZATIONAL GOVERNANCE

10.1 Board of Directors

[List board members with affiliations and roles]

10.2 Board Engagement

- Board size: [Number] members
- Meeting frequency: [Quarterly, monthly, etc.]
- Board committees: [Executive, Finance, Program, etc.]
- Board giving: [% of board giving financially, total amount if relevant]

10.3 Conflict of Interest Policy

- ☐ Yes, we have written conflict of interest policy
- ☐ Policy available upon request
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SECTION 11: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Required Attachments (check if included):

- ☐ IRS determination letter / Tax-exempt status documentation
 - ☐ Board of Directors list with affiliations
 - ☐ Current year operating budget
 - ☐ Most recent audited financial statements
 - ☐ Letters of support from partners (if applicable)
 - ☐ Photos or visual materials (if applicable)
 - ☐ Additional project documentation (if applicable)
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SECTION 12: SIGNATURES

Prepared by:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Approved by:

Executive Director Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Board Chair Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

SECTION 13: FOUNDATION-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

[Many foundations have specific questions. Include those here or in separate section]

Example questions that may appear:

1. How does this project align with our foundation's priorities?
 2. What makes your organization uniquely qualified to do this work?
 3. What would happen if this funding were not available?
 4. How will you ensure equity and inclusion in program delivery?
 5. What are the risks to successful implementation and how will you mitigate them?
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APPENDIX: SAMPLE SUCCESS STORIES

Story 1: [Participant Name]

[Brief narrative of participant's journey, challenges faced, program impact, current status]

Story 2: [Participant Name]

[Brief narrative of participant's journey, challenges faced, program impact, current status]

Story 3: [Community Impact]

[Brief narrative of community-level change resulting from program]

Rise for Impact

Empowering Africa's Youth. Driving Climate Action. Building the Future.

Template Version 1.0 | January 2026

NOTES FOR COMPLETING THIS TEMPLATE

1. **Tailor to each foundation:** Research foundation priorities and customize language/emphasis
2. **Follow their format:** If foundation has application portal or specific format, adapt accordingly
3. **Word limits:** Respect any word limits strictly - reviewers notice
4. **Specificity:** Use concrete numbers, names, examples rather than vague generalities
5. **Proofread:** Errors suggest lack of attention to detail
6. **Visuals:** Include photos, infographics, charts where allowed - makes memorable
7. **Authenticity:** Let your passion and personal connection show through
8. **Evidence:** Back up claims with data, testimonials, track record
9. **Clarity:** Write for intelligent non-expert reader - avoid jargon
10. **Call to action:** Make it easy for them to say yes - clear ask, compelling case