



VIEWFINDER

Accountability Journalism

Call for proposals: Cross-border investigative journalism projects from the SADC region

The Henry Nxumalo Foundation and Viewfinder are offering grants and a program of editorial support to journalists and editors within the [Southern African Development Community \(SADC\)](#) to pursue in-depth investigative projects. Proposals which contain cross-border elements will be favoured.

This opportunity is open to freelance journalists, permanently employed journalists, and editors who would like to nominate their centres or newsrooms for participation. Permanently employed journalists should seek approval from their line managers before submitting their pitches. Journalists and editors should be based within the SADC region.

This project aims to strengthen a network of mutual support amongst investigative reporters and centres in the region, while funding, supporting and coordinating the production of quality investigative journalism exposés. Recipients of the grants will be provided bespoke training and editorial support to realise the maximum potential, reach and impact of their exposés. They will also be encouraged to participate in regular stand-ups to share and learn from one another's experiences.

This opportunity was catalysed by the results of a survey of journalists conducted at the African Investigative Journalism Conference (AIJC) last year. Respondents, of which more than 100 were from SADC countries, highlighted pressing challenges: a

lack of revenue, time and latitude to pursue in-depth reporting projects and a lack of editorial support in applying investigative best practice to their story ideas.

Grant decisions will be made by the directors of HNF and Viewfinder. The adjudicators will favour work which is cross-border in nature, in the public interest, aims to reveal new information, is in-depth and investigative in approach and proposes the use of innovative techniques or tools.

Proposals can be submitted online via this [Google Form](#), which contains an investigation pitching questionnaire and additional guidelines.

The deadline for submissions is **8 July 2024**

An information session will be held at 4:00 pm CAT online on 2 July 2024. Anyone interested in attending the information session should email editor@viewfinder.org.za, including any questions, by 28 June 2024.

About the partners funding and supporting this opportunity

The [Henry Nxumalo Foundation \(HNF\)](#) is a non-profit company operating across the southern African region to fund and strengthen investigative journalism. For 17 years, the HNF has given more than 80 grants to individuals journalists and groups of journalists to do investigative work. It supports work that serves the public interest, exposes information that needs to be exposed and uses innovative investigative techniques and storytelling.

[Viewfinder](#) is a non-profit investigative journalism centre based in South Africa. The centre seeks to support journalists to bring international best practice in investigative journalism to bear on the reporting of public interest issues in South Africa and, of late, the broader southern African region. Viewfinder is the winner of a number of international awards for investigative- and public interest reporting, including a Global Shining Light Award in 2023.