



APPLY NOW

ADVANCING GENDER EQUITY WITH CIVIL SOCIETY LEADERS IN SOUTH AFRICA

OVERVIEW

Global nonprofit Rise Up Together will select a group of visionary local leaders in South Africa's Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal Provinces to participate in our Leadership and Advocacy Accelerator training from April 12 to April 17, 2027, to strengthen gender equity and justice. Through Rise Up Together's program, these leaders will advance transformative change in their organizations and communities, and champion improved national and local laws, programs, and funding for women, girls, and gender-nonconforming people.

Participants will join Rise Up Together's growing global network of more than 1,080 changemakers across Africa, Latin America, South Asia, and the United States.

Our fourth cohort in South Africa builds on Rise Up Together's work in the country over the past seven years, where 69 leaders across Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal Provinces have helped strengthen laws, policies, and institutional systems benefiting over 2.5 million people since 2020.



ABOUT RISE UP TOGETHER

Rise Up Together partners with local leaders and organizations by providing training, funding, and connection to a global network to achieve meaningful, lasting change. We are expanding our programming to intentionally incorporate climate alongside our work to improve education, health, and economic opportunity, and advance gender equity. The Accelerator will bring together leaders from organizations working across these interconnected issues and strengthen their ability to develop solutions that strengthen climate resilience, gender equity, and the broader issues affecting their communities.

Since 2009, Rise Up Together's powerful network of 1,080 leaders has successfully advocated for 246 new and improved laws, policies, and programs positively impacting more than 251 million people around the world (as of 2025).

The South Africa Leadership & Advocacy Accelerator will be held from April 12-17, 2027.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

APPLY NOW: riseuptogether.org/become-a-rise-up-leader
APPLICATION DEADLINE: November 30, 2026

For more information, email Rethabile Mphutlane, South Africa Country Representative, at SouthAfricaRep@riseuptogether.org.

To learn more about Rise Up Together and apply, visit our website at riseuptogether.org



STRATEGIES

■ Strengthening Leaders

Following a rigorous selection process, Rise Up Together will select a cohort of leaders from civil society organizations, universities, and groups in South Africa to participate in an intensive hybrid Leadership and Advocacy Accelerator training.

Rise Up Leaders receive tools for leadership, team building, political mapping, policy change, goal setting, strategic planning, messaging, proposal and budget development, and more.

■ Investing in Local Solutions

Following the Accelerator, Rise Up Leaders have the opportunity to apply for competitive seed funding to launch their strategies to advance gender equity in health, education, economic opportunity, and climate resilience.

■ Building Movements with Women, Girls, and Allies

Rise Up Together supports leaders to build relationships with peers, funders, decision-makers, and partner organizations.

Expanding their networks with partners and funders is essential for Rise Up Leaders' ability to grow and create change - and is integral for the movement we are building together.

Rise Up Together also provides access to speaking opportunities, conferences, and ongoing coaching to amplify leaders' voices.



ACCELERATOR DETAILS

- April 12-17, 2027
- 25 Participants
- Rise Up Together will cover all costs related to program participation, including travel, accommodation, resources, and materials.