



Rise Up Together Leader Selection Criteria

South Africa 2027 Cohort

Thank you for your interest in applying to become a Rise Up Leader in South Africa!

Each Rise Up Together cohort includes 25 participants. Leaders are selected through a competitive application review and interview process. We seek a diverse cohort of leaders representing different backgrounds, sectors, geographies, experiences, and perspectives.

Eligible candidates must meet the following selection criteria:

- Be at least 18 years of age at the time of the training.
- Currently working in Gauteng or KwaZulu-Natal.
- Demonstrate a commitment to advancing gender equity in one or more of the following areas: climate, health, education, and economic opportunity for women, girls, and gender-diverse people.
- Work closely with or represent socially and economically marginalized communities, including women and girls, persons with disabilities, ethnic or religious minorities, and other historically disadvantaged populations.
- Be able to fully participate in the Accelerator activities during March and April 2027. This includes an orientation, three virtual sessions in March, and a six-day, in-person residential workshop from April 12–17, 2027 (plus arrival and departure days). Rise Up Together will cover eligible program-related costs, including travel, accommodation, meals, and training materials.
- Be a founder, co-founder, staff member, or volunteer of a nonprofit organization, civil society organization, or academic or research institution, serving in a coordination, management, or other decision-making role.
- Have the support of your organization's leadership to participate in Rise Up Together's Leadership and Advocacy Accelerator.
- To be eligible for a grant, Rise Up Together requires organizations to be legally registered in country and set up to receive international funds. Entities that are not registered can be sponsored by another financial entity or fiscal sponsor. **Note:** Government organizations are not eligible to receive grants through this program.
- Rise Up Together strongly encourages people of color, immigrants, LGBTQ+ individuals, gender nonconforming individuals, and formerly incarcerated people to apply.
- Proficient in oral and written English.

For more information, please contact **Rise Up Together's South Africa Country Representative, Rethabile Mphutlane** at SouthAfricaRep@riseuptogether.org