

## EXTERNAL RESEARCH COLLABORATOR PROGRAM



### ROLE OF COLLABORATORS

Collaborators will be expected to attend quarterly virtual meetings and engage in at least one of the following in their thematic area of expertise:

- Participate in co-authoring research papers and/or other written pieces (i.e., commentaries, evidence briefs, blogs) with Council researchers and fellow collaborators.
- Contribute to research and/or methodological advancement by working with the team on existing data and advising on analysis plans and ensuring studies are methodologically sound.
- Co-mentor young researchers focused on adolescents and/or peer-reviewing the work of young researchers in your area of expertise.
- Co-drafting funding applications with other collaborators and Council researchers in your area of expertise.
- Co-convening conferences, online seminar series, or dissemination events related to your area of research expertise on adolescents.
- Other: we are open to other forms of collaborative outputs and activities. Please list them in your application Cover Letter.

### BENEFITS OF BECOMING A COLLABORATOR WITH THE GIRL CENTER

The GIRL Center Collaborators program was founded in 2022. This is a call for the second round of Collaborators. Being a Collaborator confers a number of benefits including:

- Opportunities to engage and work with a multi-disciplinary team of Council researchers and Collaborators from around the world who are focused on adolescent research.
- Opportunities to contribute to Council-led research, jointly incubate research ideas and co-author papers.
- Opportunities for joint fundraising for co-conceptualized work.
- Engagement in capacity exchange and sharing with researchers from around the world, including the previous rounds of collaborators.
- Inclusion of your research in dissemination and research uptake activities with policymakers and funders through the Center's communication channels including social media, website, policy briefs, events, quarterly newsletter, and press engagement.
- Invitations to co-convene and/or participate in GIRL Center-led webinars, conferences, and dissemination events.
- A space to share and learn new methods and explore emerging topics on adolescent empowerment, development and well-being.
- A small honorarium for your participation in the network.
- Potential funding for dissemination and/or publication of co-created outputs.

**The GIRL Center is seeking a second round of External Research Collaborators to join our network of global researchers to deepen and drive research on adolescents' wellbeing, empowerment and development in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) and foster collaboration amongst researchers from different institutions working on adolescent-related themes. Specifically, we are looking for collaborators in one of five areas: 1) adolescents and climate; 2) adolescent mental health; 3) adolescent migration; 4) adolescents and the digital age; and 5) adolescent economic empowerment (with a focus on paid and unpaid care work).**

### ABOUT

The Girl Innovation, Research & Learning Center ([The GIRL Center](#)) at the Population Council is a cross-cutting research hub, established in 2017. It leverages the Council's 20 years of research and programming expertise in adolescent girls and brings together today's leading scholars in adolescence to generate, synthesize, and translate evidence effectively for decision-making. Through rigorous research about what works — and what does not — we aim to ensure that investments in adolescent girls are based on evidence. Working with country counterparts in governments and NGOs, we are identifying best practices, refining the critical elements of girl-centered programs, and using solid evidence to help organizations and donors allocate scarce resources to the most effective programs.

### PURPOSE

The GIRL Center is seeking a second round of External Research Collaborators to join our network of global researchers to deepen and drive research on adolescents' wellbeing, empowerment and development in LMICs and foster collaboration amongst researchers from different institutions working on adolescent-related themes. Specifically, we are looking for collaborators in one of five areas: 1) adolescents and climate; 2) adolescent mental health; 3) adolescent migration; 4) adolescents and the digital age; and 5) adolescent economic empowerment (with a focus on paid and unpaid care work).

## REQUIRED EXPERIENCE/ QUALIFICATIONS

To qualify for the program, Collaborators must meet the following requirements:

- Completed a Ph.D. at least one year prior to application.
- Strong commitment to empirical research on adolescent wellbeing, empowerment and development, with a focus on low- and middle-income countries.
- Strong commitment to understanding how gender plays a role in vulnerability among adolescents.
- Demonstrated engagement in research uptake activities, including presentations at conferences and webinars and participation in policy forums and technical groups.
- Publications in high impact journals.
- Evidence of a strong potential for collaboration and mentorship of junior researchers.

We are particularly interested to hear from candidates from LMICs and welcome applications from researchers at all career stages.

We welcome multi-disciplinary researchers, as well as those with PhDs in public health, anthropology, sociology, economics, demography, public policy, environmental sciences, communication, information technology or digital media. GIRL Center Collaborators should have subject matter expertise on adolescents and existing or emerging work in at least one of the following areas:

- Climate change
- Economic empowerment (with a focus on paid and unpaid care work)
- Mental health
- Digital technology
- Migration (forced or unforced)

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Please submit your CV and a 1–2-page cover letter briefly describing the following:

1. Please describe your area of research and objective during your time in the Collaborator program.
2. How do you envision that the Collaborators program would help you achieve this objective?
3. What output do you envision will be the focus of our collaboration in this program? (If this includes a particular dataset or funding opportunity you would like to collaborate on, please provide details of the opportunity).

All materials should be submitted to [girlcenter@popcouncil.org](mailto:girlcenter@popcouncil.org) with the subject line: COLLABORATOR PROGRAM APPLICATION. **The deadline to apply is November 29, 2024.**

### Have questions?

Email us at [girlcenter@popcouncil.org](mailto:girlcenter@popcouncil.org) with the subject line: COLLABORATOR PROGRAM APPLICATION QUESTIONS or register to join us at an upcoming virtual open house to learn more about this program on:

**November 14 at 5:00 AM EST/  
1:00 PM EAT/3:30PM IST**

[Join here](#)

**November 14 at 10:00 AM EST/ 6:00PM  
EAT/8:30 PM IST**

[Join here](#)