

A group of philanthropic organizations are forming a partnership to provide up to \$5 million for efforts to increase the participation, quality, and relevance of secondary education for marginalized children, especially girls, in developing countries. The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, The MasterCard Foundation, Douglas B. Marshall Jr. Family Foundation and an anonymous donor will identify and support innovative initiatives that provide learning opportunities and life and livelihood skills for underserved youth between the ages 12-19 in East Africa (Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda), Nigeria, and India.

The collaborating organizations will jointly select projects focused on pilot interventions that offer innovative solutions to improve learning and access to education for marginalized groups of children; research to build a rigorous evidence base regarding the barriers to providing quality, relevant secondary education to underserved populations and policy relevant solutions for overcoming these barriers; and planning for scaling-up successful models.

Interested organizations must submit an initial letter of inquiry no later than July 5, 2012. More information about the call for proposals and the selection process is available [here](#) .

Source: MacArthur Foundation Web Site.