THE ISSUE

Humanitarian crises and threats to peace and security are of a more urgent scale and nature than ever before. An unquestionable evidence base has emerged over the past decade demonstrating that women’s meaningful participation results in more sustainable peace.

UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security (2000) recognized women’s right to full participation in peace and security decision-making. Two decades on, however, such participation remains minimal, and data confirms that financial resources fall dramatically short of political commitments.

Only 4.9 percent of aid to fragile and conflict-affected countries in 2016-2017 targeted gender equality as a principal objective. In 2015, the OECD reported that only one percent of all funding to fragile states went to local women’s groups or women’s ministries.

THE RESPONSE

The Women’s Peace & Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) mobilizes critical funding for local women’s organizations working on the frontlines of conflict and crises.

The only global financing mechanism dedicated exclusively to supporting local women’s participation in peacebuilding and humanitarian action, WPHF is a flexible and rapid financing tool supporting grassroots civil society organizations to enhance the capacity of women to prevent conflict, respond to crises and emergencies, and seize key peacbuilding opportunities. Established in 2016, this first-of-its-kind global partnership of the United Nations, governments and civil society organizations is working to empower women in fragile contexts around the world to be a force for crises response and lasting peace.

THEORY OF CHANGE

The localized interventions that WPHF supports are anchored in six key pillars that contribute to its principle goal of creating a world of peaceful and gender-equal societies.

Enhance women’s meaningful participation in conflict prevention

Strengthen women’s engagement in humanitarian action

Create an enabling environment for the effective implementation of laws and policies on Women, Peace and Security

Increase women’s meaningful representation in formal and informal peace negotiations

Protect women and girls’ basic human rights and their freedom from sexual and gender-based violence

Advance women’s leadership in economic recovery efforts

WPHF Goal: Peaceful & Gender-Equal Societies
A United Nations & Civil Society Partnership

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES

The WPHF Funding Board decided on a longlist of 24 countries (groups of countries) based on the peace and security and humanitarian situation, potential value added and the needs of civil-society organizations on the ground. Out of 24 eligible countries, 12 are currently receiving WPHF support.*

AFGHANISTAN
AFGHANISTAN
BURUNDI *
BURUNDI *
BANGLADESH
BANGLADESH
C.A.R.
C.A.R.
COLOMBIA *
COLOMBIA *
D.R.C. *
D.R.C. *
HAITI
HAITI
IRAQ *
IRAQ *
JORDAN (SYRIA CRISIS) *
JORDAN (SYRIA CRISIS) *
LIBERIA*
LIBERIA*
MALAWI*
MALAWI*
MALI *
MALI *
MYANMAR
MYANMAR
NIGERIA*
NIGERIA*
PALESTINE*
PALESTINE*
PAPUA NEW GUINEA
PAPUA NEW GUINEA
THE PACIFIC (Fiji, Palau, Tonga, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu)*
THE PACIFIC (Fiji, Palau, Tonga, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu)*

SOMALIA
SOMALIA
SOUTH SUDAN
SOUTH SUDAN
SRI LANKA
SRI LANKA
TURKEY
TURKEY
UGANDA*
UGANDA*
UKRAINE
UKRAINE
YEMEN
YEMEN

INVESTING IN WOMEN WORKING TO BUILD PEACE & RESPOND TO CRISES

The 20th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) in October 2020 constitutes a bold new milestone in recognizing and showcasing the concrete contributions made by women peacebuilders and humanitarian responders to communities around the world. In 2018, WPHF launched a global campaign aiming to mobilize USD $40 million by the end of 2020 to support community-based, grassroots women’s organizations across its 24 eligible countries.

Already more than half-way towards its ambitious funding target, WPHF is engaging with government donors, individuals, companies and celebrities to raise awareness and support.

Learn more about our global campaign and how you can contribute at WPHFund.org/40by20

KEY RESULTS

By the Numbers

95 CSOs funded
60 projects supported
76,000 women and girls directly impacted
$28 million approved budget mobilized
12 contributing donors
(Austria, Australia, Canada, Ireland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Spotlight Initiative, United Kingdom)
2 celebrity advocates
(American actress Kristen Bell & French Recording Artist Louane)
3 corporate partners
(Dell, Starbucks & 180LA - plus volunteer & financial support from additional companies)
**IRAQ**: Enabling the implementation of WPS commitments

In Iraq, WPHF is financing CSO projects that support an enabling environment for the implementation of the government’s WPS commitments, while providing funding for women’s deepened engagement in conflict prevention and responding to violent extremism.

The experiences of women and girls in Iraq have been dramatically shaped by decades of war, protracted conflict, violent extremism and displacement. WPHF is funding grassroots projects that are strengthening the implementation of Iraqi National Action Plan (INAP) 1325 at both Federal and Kurdistan levels, which have resulted in the training of 40 women on monitoring, evaluation, and accountability mechanisms to ensure government WPS commitments.

A total of 20 women CSO members were trained on UNSCR 1325 and early-warning signs of conflict, and 61 community members were trained on establishing community committees for women. WPHF financing also contributed to the training of 50 women journalists on UNSCR 1325 and women’s enhanced participation in peacebuilding.

In Iraq, WPHF funding has contributed to more meaningful participation of women in conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts, benefiting 2,230 people across the country.

**BURUNDI**: Enhancing the meaningful participation of women in conflict prevention

In Burundi, WPHF supports a nationwide network of women mediators in a range of conflict prevention, effective early warning and economic recovery efforts.

The people of Burundi face internal conflict, poor governance and socio-economic instability. Many have fled to seek refuge in the region, while others struggle to find peace and security within the country. WPHF financing supports a nationwide network of 516 women mediators in their conflict prevention and economic recovery efforts across all 18 provinces of Burundi.

This powerful network of women mediators functions as a women-led, community-based early warning system that has helped to address 21,800 local conflicts since the programme’s inception. The network has successfully engaged 1.2 million community members in dialogues on peace and security and socio-economic recovery.

**THE PACIFIC**: Increasing participation of women in humanitarian planning and programming

In the Pacific region, WPHF is supporting women’s enhanced engagement in humanitarian action as well as their protection against sexual and gender-based violence across Fiji, Palau, Tonga, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu.

The humanitarian situation in the Pacific is marked by a range of increasingly urgent natural disasters, such as cyclones and volcanic eruptions, to which women are playing crucial roles in local community response.

---

1 All key results reflect data up to and including the 2018 reporting cycle
WPHF is contributing to women’s deepened engagement in humanitarian action, funding community radio campaigns and technical trainings for women spanning early-warning systems, emergency preparedness, crisis response and recovery. WPHF-supported projects are helping to mainstream gender in humanitarian action, financing technical trainings for grassroots women on planning for and responding to SGBV in emergencies.

WPHF-funded programming has served **11,573 women and girls** and **1.9 million indirect beneficiaries** across Fiji, Palau, the Solomon Islands, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu.

---

**COLOMBIA: Empowering women to participate in economic recovery efforts**

*In Colombia, WPHF supports women's meaningful participation in the implementation of the peace agreement and projects to ensure women's active engagement in economic recovery efforts.*

Decades of conflict and various negotiations have resulted in a Peace agreement signed in November 2016 between the Colombian Government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia guerrilla group (FARC). This Peace agreement contains important gender provisions to address grave inequalities in the country.

In Colombia, **976 women** and **204 men** have benefited from local economic empowerment initiatives as a result of trainings supported by WPHF projects. WPHF funding has also contributed to the establishment of **two Funds** to provide credit for economic initiatives led by women resulting in the launch of **35 local savings and credit groups**, directly benefiting **358 women** and **145 men** in conflict-affected communities.

---

**JORDAN: Ensuring women and girls’ safety and security**

*In Jordan, WPHF is investing in joint economic empowerment initiatives of women Syrian refugees and Jordanian host communities in 5 Governates, while supporting CSO projects working to protect women against sexual and gender-based violence.*

Since the Syrian conflict erupted in 2011, neighboring Jordan has become a host country for countless Syrians seeking refuge, many of who are women and girls who face critical challenges and barriers to life-saving services and information.

In Jordan, WPHF-supported projects have benefited a total of **6,162 women and girls among Syrian refugee and Jordanian host communities** through the establishment of clinics on sexual and reproductive health and trainings on emergency contraception, early-marriage prevention, psychosocial services and legal support.

---

**CONTACT**

Ghita El Khyari, Head of Secretariat: ghita.khyari@unwomen.org

Learn more about the Women's Peace & Humanitarian Fund at WPHFund.org