



## The WPHF Global Community of Practice

### Driving Innovation. Building Community.

The [Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund \(WPHF\)](#) is a global partnership mobilizing critical financing for local women-led and women's rights organizations to prevent conflict and sexual and gender-based violence, respond to crises and emergencies, and seize key peacebuilding opportunities in fragile settings. Since its launch in 2016, WPHF has established itself as a highly relevant and credible multi-partner trust fund, channeling urgently-needed support to over 200 local civil society organizations (CSOs) working on women, peace and security and humanitarian action in 25 countries around the world.

In fulfillment of its mandate to serve as a global knowledge center for local civil society organizations working on the front lines of conflict and crises, the WPHF Secretariat in 2020 led the design and launch of a global Community of Practice - fostering a dynamic, innovative, and collaborative online space for its CSO grantee partners. Designed, developed and implemented in pro-bono partnership with [Dell](#)



[Technologies](#), the [WPHF Global Community of Practice \(CoP\)](#) enables local women peacebuilders and humanitarian activists from around the world to connect with each other, collaborate, strengthen their networks, share information and best practices, exchange experiences and deepen their skills and capacity.

The WPHF CoP constitutes the [WPHF Community \(WPHF-C\) Digital Platform](#) and the [WPHF Capacity Building & Peer Exchange Programmes](#). The WPHF Secretariat has leveraged the various channels and features of WPHF-C to disseminate a wide range of capacity building resources, knowledge products and exchange opportunities in multiple formats and languages to serve its growing network of WPHF CSO grantees and UN country office focal points.

### WPHF Community (WPHF-C)

WPHF-C is a password-protected digital laboratory designed exclusively for WPHF CSO grantee representatives and UN country office focal points, who make up the WPHF Community. Leveraging Microsoft Office, Social Media and Outlook Exchange technology, WPHF-C provides CSO partners with secure opportunities for interactive dialogue, mutual learning and qualitative knowledge exchange.

The primary features and digital channels of WPHF-C include:

- Community Member Directory
- Library of Knowledge Products
- Global Calendar of Events
- Capacity Building Portal
- Social Media Integration
- Community Email Distribution Group
- Community Help Desk
- Linkages to External Resources and Funding Opportunities

## WPHF Capacity Building & Peer Exchange Programmes

In May 2020, WPHF conducted an online survey to assess the capacity building needs and priorities of its active CSO partners. Building on the results of this initial assessment - which engaged 67 local organizations from 8 countries across 4 continents - the WPHF Secretariat designed a comprehensive global capacity building and peer exchange strategy, focusing particular emphasis on the pillars of accessibility, CSO ownership, information exchange and non-duplication of efforts at country level.

The global **WPHF Capacity Building Programme** is structured around various learning modules, articulating a range of training topics designed to enhance the institutional capacity of local CSOs working in crises-affected contexts, such as Results-Based Management, Data Collection Methods, Communications, Technology, Strategic Planning and Resource Mobilization tactics.

With the intent to help local CSO partners become stronger organizations in and of themselves, as opposed to stronger WPHF grantees, these capacity building resources at the global level are

purposefully designed to enhance institutional skills and capacity of local organizations, and do not aim to focus on improving organizations' compliance with WPHF or other UN administrative processes.

In addition to the development of capacity building resources, the Secretariat has launched the **WPHF Peer Exchange Programme**, whereby the secretariat facilitates interactive peer exchange opportunities spotlighting the expertise, experiences and knowledge products of WPHF-supported civil society partners. These global exchange opportunities will enhance the visibility of WPHF-supported projects, research and advocacy work led by CSOs on the ground, develop solidarity among local civil society leaders and forge new synergies and productive alliances between local peacebuilding movements across the globe.

The WPHF Capacity Building Programme and Peer Exchange Programme will also contribute to reinforcing learning, connection, dialogue and community for local women peacebuilders and humanitarian activists - in alignment with the goals of the WPHF **1,000 Women Leaders** campaign, launching in March 2021.

## WPHF Community of Practice by the Numbers

(As of January, 2021)



The WPHF Global Community of Practice is actively engaging and connecting **200** local civil society representatives working in conflict-affected areas of **22** countries across **4** continents around the world – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burundi, Colombia, DRC, Fiji, Haiti, Iraq, Jordan, Liberia, Mali, Myanmar, Nigeria, Palau, Palestine, Samoa, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, Vanuatu, and Yemen.

Since its launch in April 2020, the WPHF Secretariat has developed and launched **9** virtual capacity building webinars and related training guides and resources, deepening the institutional capacity of its civil society partners.

WPHF has collected, made available and is actively promoting through all WPHF-C digital channels over **280** knowledge products, toolkits and training resources relevant to the projects of local organizations working on women, peace and security and humanitarian action. As of January 2021, over **12,400** site visits have been registered on the WPHF-C platform, underscoring the growing engagement and participation of this growing online community of civil society organizations working to build peace and respond to humanitarian crises around the world.

WPHF civil society partners have already begun to highlight the added value of the WPHF-C digital platform and its accompanying virtual training and exchange opportunities as a meaningful way to keep in close and regular contact with fellow women peacebuilders and humanitarian activists facing similar challenges across countries and regions. Participating as an active part of the WPHF Global Community of Practice has provided women civil society leaders with invaluable insight and information, allowing them to explore and deepen their knowledge on a range of topics relevant to their organizations' critical work on the front lines of crises.

**“A new way of exchanging experience with partners from other continents.”**

-WPHF CSO Partner from DRC

**“All the information is useful, and I hope to continue with other webinars.”**

-WPHF CSO Partner from Iraq

**“An excellent mix of panel members and the questions from participants created some good discussions.”**

-WPHF CSO Partner from Fiji

**“The topic discussed is very useful to my organization.”**

-WPHF CSO Partner from Liberia

## For More Information:

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