

# UKRAINE REGIONAL RESPONSE

February 2024



Women's Peace & Humanitarian Fund

A United Nations & Civil Society Partnership

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## Background

Active in Ukraine since March 2022, the WPHF has allocated over 17.2 million USD to provide financing to 76 projects with 147 civil society organizations that support women and girls in Ukraine and Ukrainians displaced in Moldova as part of its regional response to the war. This response is directly reaching over 20,000 people to date (94% women and girls) and 2.2 million indirectly. Civil society projects enhance women's participation in humanitarian and crisis response, promote the protection of women and girls and contribute to the political participation and economic recovery of Ukrainian women and girls displaced by the war. Women and girls have benefitted from immediate life-saving humanitarian support, mental health support, improved access to information on protection and socioeconomic services, enhanced legal aid to report protection concerns and cases of conflict-related sexual violence, better access to economic support (such as cash assistance) and support to develop income-generating activities for themselves and their families.

WPHF provides flexible programmatic and institutional financing for Ukrainian women's organizations to bring about deep structural change and respond to the current crisis:

- ▶ **Programmatic funding stream** to finance programmatic activities by civil society organizations from 30,000-500,000 USD aimed at increasing the participation and leadership of women in humanitarian planning and response, enhancing the safety, security and mental health of women as well as advancing their human rights, conflict resolution, and improving the socio-economic recovery and political participation of displacement women and girls due to the war.
- ▶ **Institutional funding stream** from 2,500 USD to 30,000 USD to reinforce the institutional capacity of women-led and women's rights civil society organizations responding to the crisis in Ukraine.

**Current Funding Gap: 12 million USD**

## WPHF in Numbers (as of Feb 1, 2024)



**76** projects with **147** civil society organizations supported (86% women's rights/led and 13% youth focused/young women led). Of which:

- ▶ 92% support refugees and IDPs
- ▶ 11% target adolescents and youth
- ▶ 13% support women living with disabilities



**65%** of projects are implemented at the local and sub-national levels

**13 WHRDs** supported through advocacy and safety net grants



**\$17.2 million USD** allocated to support local women peacebuilders and human rights defenders working in forced displacement contexts

**42%** of CSOs financed for the first time through the UN

## 2022 Project Highlights

- ▶ **Rural Women Business Network** supported the economic empowerment of 52 women in Ukraine through the capacity development of small businesses.
- ▶ **Ukrainian Women's Fund** economically empowered 35 conflict affected IDP women in Ukraine to relocate, resume or establish small businesses.
- ▶ **NGO Pislyzavtra** provided mental health and psychological services to 100 women during the war.
- ▶ **Positive Women** enhanced the safety, security, protection and mental health of 86 women living with HIV/AIDs through the provision of safe spaces as well as health and social protection services.
- ▶ **NGO Center Women's Perspectives** enhanced the capacity of 364 women IDPs to participate in decision-making processes related to humanitarian response through the development of local action plans.
- ▶ **Ukrainian Foundation for Public Health** reached 5,060 women, 170 girls and 57 men with specialized psychological, social and legal services through their online platform SafeWomenHUB.

### Center Women's Perspectives

#### Providing advocacy support of internally displaced women in western regions of Ukraine

**Location:** Lviv, Ternopil, Rivne and Khmelnytskyi  
**Funding:** \$249,995      **Duration:** 12 months

This project aims to support IDPs to participate in decision-making processes in humanitarian response through i) training on advocacy approaches for inclusive planning in the crisis; ii) supporting the development of humanitarian action planning for the integration of IDPs in the crisis; and iii) raising public awareness through the media. A series of multi-stakeholder dialogues are conducted to advocate for appropriate response for women and IDPs, including safe shelter, food security, and healthcare.

### NGO Pislyzavtra

#### Eliminating mental war trauma of Ukrainian women affected by the war

**Location:** Ukraine  
**Funding:** \$170,000      **Duration:** 9 months

This project aims to improve the mental health and enhance the capacities of local women by providing them with access to online capacity-building sessions with professional psychologists, SGBV specialists (psychologists and lawyers), career support consultants, mentors, and coaches. These sessions seek to enhance the knowledge and provide practical skills to women leaders on various topics — including conflict resolution, networking, project management, and SGBV prevention strategies — to build their capacity and confidence in acting as agents of change in the crisis.

### Ukrainian Foundation for Public

#### Enhancing safety, security and mental health of women and girls

**Location:** Lviv and Zakapatya regions  
**Funding:** \$149,158      **Duration:** 8 months

This project aims to enhance the access to in-person and online mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and legal and referral services — including referrals for accommodation and mental health services — for displaced women and girls, survivors of SGBV, and victims of human trafficking during the crisis in Ukraine. The organization uses its SafeWomenHub platform to raise awareness of these services across the country, build the capacity of local CSOs in the prevention of and response to SGBV, and help them adapt to the crisis and identify survivors.

### Ukrainian Women's Fund

#### Promoting economic opportunities for Women affected by conflict

**Location:** Ukraine

**Funding:** \$250,000      **Duration:** 12 months

This project aims to enhance the economic recovery of women IDPs through establishing and strengthening small businesses and providing capacity-building training and grants to start and/or relocate their businesses. This initiative also supports the expansion of women-led businesses to include jobs for women IDPs, as well as provide three local CSOs with tools to monitor businesses, serve as business support hubs, and network with employment and humanitarian coordination centers in their regions.

### Public Union "Rural Women Business Network"

#### Promoting a safe economic environment for rural women

**Location:** Zaporizhzhia, Dnipro and Lviv, Ukraine  
**Funding:** \$250,000      **Duration:** 12 months

This project aims to improve the livelihoods of rural women through the establishment and strengthening of small businesses in rural areas. The project supports displaced women and their families to establish and strengthen 20 businesses/cooperatives focusing primarily on food safety through the use of environmentally sound practices. A series of meetings and roundtables is conducted to facilitate exchanges between women in rural areas, host communities, and local authorities. The project also aims to map/catalogue women who need assistance and consult with other CSOs on updating their organizational strategies and carry out training on risk management and recovery, humanitarian support, legislation, and financial opportunities.

### Public Association Katalyst

#### Strengthening the Institutional Capacity to Enhance the Food Security of Women in Forced Displacement

**Location:** Chisinau, Moldova  
**Funding:** \$30,000      **Duration:** 8 months

The project will target 23 staff, including refugees and aims to retain its staff through the payment of salaries and payment of office costs so that it can continue to provide its programming of addressing food security for women in forced displacement. Specifically, the project will i) both the retention of staff and ensuring payment to refugees who have joined the organization, including women-headed households and women living with disabilities; ii) develop two internal policy documents on safeguarding and gender sensitivity and provide training to their team on such policies to better respond to women-specific needs; and finally, iii) develop new resource mobilization strategies to expand its financial resources.

### Roma Women's Platform (ROMNI)

**Strengthening the role of the Roma Women's Platform "ROMNI" to advocate for the rights of, and accountability towards Roma women in Moldova and their inclusion in national, regional and international processes around the WPS**

**Location:** Chisinau, Moldova

**Funding:** \$30,000 **Duration:** 12 months

The project aims to support the institutional capacity of the organization to strengthen the role of the Roma Women's Platform "ROMNI" to advocate for the rights of, and accountability towards Roma women in Moldova – including Roma women refugees from Ukraine currently living in Moldova. This includes strengthening its internal structures, procedures, and protocols and developing a new strategic plan to integrate the humanitarian response of the Ukraine crisis. Specifically, the project will focus on building the capacity of staff in resource mobilization, updating its strategic plan to better integrate refugee issues, as well as develop a new PSEA policy and communications and fund-raising plan.

### Association Motivatie

**Together for solidarity**

**Location:** Chisinau, Moldova

**Funding:** \$30,000 **Duration:** 6 months

The project aims to improve the well-being of staff through the provision of training on stress-relief strategies and managing burnout which will be conducted by a psychologist. In addition, to strengthen the organization, additional training will be provided on proposal writing to support the growing needs on the ground due to the influx of projects to support Ukrainian refugees and those displaced by the crisis. The organization will also develop a new strategic plan to adapt to the new realities as well as a new webpage.

### Women Political Club 50/50 (Platform for Gender Equality)

**Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of the Platform for Gender Equality from Moldova**

**Location:** Chisinau, Moldova

**Funding:** \$30,000 **Duration:** 8 months

The project will support the development of good governance policies and strategic documents focused on Women, Peace and Security (WPS), and the escalating crisis of those displaced due to the war in Ukraine. This will include addressing the organization's structure due to its growing membership, the development of a communications strategy taking into account principles of humanitarian action as well as covering the salaries of the of the secretariat team and equipment needed by the organization.

### Women for Women

**Supporting women's and girls' leadership and social cohesion in peacebuilding contexts**

**Location:** Chisinau, Moldova

**Funding:** \$149,074 **Duration:** 12 months

The project aims at improving the socio-economic recovery and civic participation of women and girls in peacebuilding contexts. To achieve this, the project aims to support Ukrainian refugee women and girls, as well as women and girls from Moldova through a series of innovative and interactive capacity-building activities. These activities will focus on professional, economic, and personal development followed by supporting the launch and development of small women-led businesses. An important component will be represented by the mentoring support that women will receive from experienced leaders in order to launch or develop their own financial and entrepreneurship activities.

### About WPHF

The United Nations Women's Peace & Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) mobilizes critical support for local and grassroots civil society organizations working on women, peace and security and humanitarian action. WPHF is a flexible and rapid financing mechanism supporting quality interventions designed to enhance the capacity of women to prevent conflict, respond to crises and emergencies, and seize key peacebuilding opportunities. Since its launch in 2016, WPHF has funded over 1,200 local women's rights and led organizations working to support women to be a force for crisis response and lasting peace in 44 countries. In addition, WPHF has supported the participation and the protection of over 450 women human rights defenders and women peacebuilders in 22 countries.

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