

Call for Proposals Palestine

Call Opens:	19 December 2022
Deadline for Submissions:	31 January 2023
Send Application package to:	WPHFapplications@unwomen.org

1. Objectives and Purpose of the Call for Proposals

The overall purpose of this call for proposals is to provide grants to local women and young women's civil society organizations in Palestine focused on increasing the meaningful participation and decision-making of women in conflict prevention processes and response in conflict and humanitarian contexts.

The call for proposals specifically contributes to **WPHF Impact Area 2: *Increased meaningful participation and decision-making of women in conflict prevention processes and response***. It is aligned with the overall goal of contributing to peaceful and gender equal societies and UN Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security.

2. Country Context Linked to Call for Proposals

The situation in Palestine remains tense, with no major changes to the issues that create instability, insecurity, and a protracted humanitarian crisis. This includes over 55 years of Israeli military occupation of the West Bank including East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip, the latter also under a 15 year-long blockade, and the Palestinian political split. The combination of continued occupation, violence, settlement construction, economic crisis, weak Palestinian institutions, internal divisions, a radicalized public discourse, and mounting regional tensions, has had a profound chilling effect on peace efforts, particularly in light of the repeated failures of previous initiatives and their often-negative aftermath.¹ At the same time, there is growing concern that, in the absence of a political process and given the negative trends on the ground, the window for achieving a two-State solution is closing rapidly.

In Gaza, during the most recent escalation between Israel and Palestinian armed groups in August 2022, 49 Palestinians were killed, of whom at least 26 were civilians, including 17 children and 4 women.. The escalation further increased the trauma of a population still coping with the aftermath of the May 2021 escalation

In the West Bank, incidents that resulted in Palestinian casualties continue to raise concerns about Israeli forces rules of engagement related to the use of force. Between 1 January and 7 December 2022, 141 Palestinians were killed, including the Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, sparking international condemnations, including by the UN Women Executive Director. Driven by the effects of the long-standing Israeli occupation, access restrictions, and limitations on movement, the West Bank is in a state of a chronic crisis, driven primarily by economic and protection concerns. The marginalization of certain locations, including those in Area C, the parts of Hebron city classified as H2, and specific

¹ UN Women Palestine, "A Future at Stake: Recommendations to Include Palestinian Women and Youth in Political and Peace Processes", 2022

population groups within East Jerusalem is also one of the key drivers of need and vulnerability in the West Bank, with an estimated 630,000 people assessed to be in need of humanitarian assistance.²

The security situation, food shortages, an unemployment rate of 56% and the global financial crisis all combine to mean the role of the UN in preventing any further conflict is all the more important. The humanitarian community estimates that in 2023, approximately 2.1 million Palestinians across the OPT will require humanitarian assistance. 1.3 million of these people are in the Gaza strip, representing 58 per cent of its population. In Gaza, 29 per cent of households are categorized as in 'catastrophic' or 'extreme' conditions, compared to 10 per cent in 2022³.

In October 2022, UN Women and the General Union of Palestinian Women hosted the 2022 Open Day on Women, Peace Security in Palestine around the theme of: "What Palestinian women want: a women-centred vision for a viable independent state". The event reviewed the efforts from Palestinian civil society, particularly feminist organizations, on building solidarity and pursuing accountability and justice, in a context of underrepresentation of women in political processes. For instance, there are currently no women included in the ongoing reconciliation talks between Palestinian factions in Algeria.

3. Scope (Location and Duration)

The WPHF will fund qualifying projects in the West Bank (including East Jerusalem) and the Gaza Strip. Qualified applicants from East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip are particularly encouraged to apply.

Multi-country projects, or projects outside the geographical focus will NOT be accepted.

CSOs can apply for a maximum of 2 years.

4. Eligibility

4.1. Who can apply and receive funding?

- In-country registered national, local/grassroots women or young women led, women's rights, youth rights, feminist, or civil society organizations with a proven track record working with women, young women and girls are eligible to apply.
- International non-governmental organizations can be partners as co-implementing or consortium partners, if the lead applicant meets the eligibility criteria (see points 4.2 and 4.3).

Women's Rights or Feminist Organization: The organization's official mission/vision statement must reflect its commitment to addressing multiple/intersecting forms of discrimination and advancing gender equality and women's rights. The organization must aim to address the underlying drivers/systems/structures, including patriarchy and gendered power dynamics, and work to transform these.

Women-Led Organization: must be headed by a woman as director/head of organization.

Youth Focused Organization: To be considered "youth focused", the organization's core mission/vision must focus on supporting the social, economic and political participation of young women and young men and addressing multiple/ intersecting forms of discrimination against young women and men. WPHF will provide specific attention to youth focused organizations supporting young women, advancing gender equality and peacebuilding.

Young Women Led Organization: must be headed by a young person aged between 18 - 29 years old who serves as director/head of organization

² OCHA oPt, "Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA)", July 2022

³ OCHA oPt, Humanitarian Response Plan 2023, publication forthcoming

The following are **NOT** eligible to apply for a grant from the WPHF:

- Government agencies or institutions;
- UN agencies or UN Country Teams;
- Private individuals;
- Private sector entities;
- Universities, Think Tanks or Education or Research Institutions

4.2. Do we need to be legally registered as an organization in our country to apply?

YES, for the lead applicant. The lead applicant organization must have legal status with the competent national authority in the eligible country of project implementation and must submit proof of legal registration with the application package. Note that articles of incorporation are not proof of legal status.

NO for co-implementing or consortium partners. Co-implementing partners are not required to provide legal registration, only the lead applicant organization.

4.3. Can we apply in partnership or consortium with other organizations?

YES. Joint projects with other local women’s rights, youth focused organizations, women or young women led civil society organizations are encouraged. For joint projects, only the lead organization is required to meet the eligibility criteria.

For joint projects, the roles and responsibilities of each organization must be clearly detailed within the application template.

4.4. May we apply for funding for an ongoing or existing initiative or project?

YES. The WPHF accepts proposals for ongoing projects funded by other donors. However, the specific value added of the contribution should be clearly outlined.

4.5. Does my organization have to contribute to the project budget?

NO. Civil society organizations are not required to contribute to the budget.

5. Type of Funding and Requirements

Under this call for proposals, WPHF is accepting applications for both institutional/core funding and programmatic funding.

An organization (lead applicant or co-implementing partners) can submit one application for institutional funding AND/OR one application for programmatic funding. Organizations who apply for both institutional and programmatic funding need to submit two separate applications packages based on the related templates of each stream as noted in Section 7.

Institutional Funding: Stream 1 (USD \$5,000 - \$30,000)

Aims to reinforce the institutional capacity of women’s rights/led organizations working on gender specific issues in peace and security and humanitarian contexts, to ensure they are able to sustain themselves and to improve their impact. Prospective applicants will need to demonstrate how the current context affects their institutional and financial capacities and how the funding would support them as an organization. It will finance a limited range of activities to support the development or strengthening of a CSO’s institutional capacity. The purpose of this funding stream IS NOT to finance programmatic activities.

AND/OR apply for:

Programmatic Funding: Stream 2 (USD \$30,000 - \$200,000)

This funding stream will finance projects which aim specifically to fund programmatic activities aligned with the following impact area:

- WPHF Impact area 2: *Increased meaningful participation and decision-making of women in conflict prevention processes and response.***

Please read through the WPHF Indicator Tip Sheets for guidance on the result framework (Section 9 below) and required indicators in the attached proposal template.

6. Application Package and Procedures

Applicants are required to use only the WPHF templates provided. DO NOT submit photos or additional documents other than the ones listed.

- WPHF Proposal Template (attached, no more than 10 pages, excluding Annex A and B)
- Results Framework (Proposal Template Annex: A)
- Project Budget (Proposal Template Annex: B)

AND

- Proof of valid legal registration or status of the lead organization (if you are in the process for renewal, please share proof)

Submission: Application packages should be emailed to WPHFapplications@unwomen.org by 31 January at 11:59pm (Palestine time zone).

Please Note:

- Applications can be submitted in English or Arabic. Only applications in these languages will be accepted.
- Applications can be submitted in .doc or .docx format.
- Legal registration certificates can be submitted in jpeg, doc., docx., or pdf format.
- All documents should be submitted together as one package.
- You may not make changes to your application after it is submitted.
- Incomplete applications, or use of different templates will not be considered.
- Please DO NOT resend your application unless you do not receive a confirmation of receipt within three days.

7. Obtaining More Information about the Call for Proposals

An information session will be organized with prospective applicants on 16 January, 10:00-12:00 am online. To register, please use the following link: <https://unwomen.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEpce2pqTsqHNDldH949aMGmyRTuL5cGh-7>

Questions about this CfP can be sent to the UN Women Country office at: palestine.registry@unwomen.org no later than Tuesday 24 January 2023. Please allow a minimum of 48 hours for responses to any questions.

8. Evaluation Criteria

As you write your proposal, keep in mind that proposals will be evaluated against the following criteria:

Institutional Funding Evaluation Criteria (Stream 1)	Programmatic Funding Evaluation Criteria (Stream 2)
<p>Project Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Alignment with the WPHF’s theory of change, particularly with respect to institutional capacity building. <input type="checkbox"/> Clear articulation of experience of organization and rationale how the current crisis affects their institutional and financial capacities <input type="checkbox"/> Definition of clear objectives and expected results and outputs focused on strengthening CSOs institutional capacity and how the organization will be sustained <input type="checkbox"/> Identification of risks and appropriate mitigation measures 	<p>Project Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Alignment with the WPHF’s theory of change, particularly with respect to a specific impact in its results framework. <input type="checkbox"/> Definition of clear objectives, results, and outputs, taking account of best practices of gender-responsive approaches. <input type="checkbox"/> Ensuring meaningful participation of groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, such as those marginalized and excluded due to poverty, ethnicity, disability, age, geography, migratory status, among others which are in clear alignment with Agenda 2030 of leaving no one behind. <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership and/or capacity development of local women’s organizations to deliver programme results. Joint projects are strongly encouraged. <input type="checkbox"/> Complementarity with other Funds and Programmes.
<p>Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Budget is consistent across all documents and detailed per output in the result framework <input type="checkbox"/> The budget includes indirect operational costs at the allowed level (no more than 7%) <input type="checkbox"/> The budget is sufficient and reasonable for the activities proposed and takes the scale of problems into account 	<p>Programme Management and Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Identification of comprehensive risks and appropriate mitigation measures <input type="checkbox"/> Realistic activity schedule and implementation strategy to achieve objectives within the time frame. <input type="checkbox"/> Identification of relevant and appropriate monitoring and evaluation approaches based on the results framework and indicators
	<p>Sustainability and National Ownership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Promotion of national and local ownership in developing and establishing activities, and specific objectives to build the capacities of national and local players. <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability of the programme beyond the financing period and (where applicable), how to reproduce it and improve it over time. <p>Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Budget is consistent across all documents and detailed per output in the result framework <input type="checkbox"/> The budget includes indirect operational costs at the allowed level (no more than 7%) <input type="checkbox"/> The budget is sufficient and reasonable for the activities proposed and takes the scale of problems into account

9. Useful Resources

- The WPHF’s website www.wphfund.org
- Indicator Tip Sheet Impact Area 2: Conflict Prevention: [\[English\]](#) [\[Arabic\]](#)
- Indicator Tip Sheet Institutional Funding: [\[English\]](#) [\[Arabic\]](#)
- [Results Based Management Capacity Building Webinar](#)
- The Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund’s [Operations Manual](#)
- M&E and Results Based Management Terms. The OECD/DAC Glossary of Key Terms in Evaluation available in English, French and Spanish. <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/29/21/2754804.pdf>

About the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF)

The WPHF is a global pooled funding mechanism which aims to stimulate a significant increase in financing for women's participation, leadership, and empowerment in peace and security processes and humanitarian response. The WPHF is a flexible and rapid financing mechanism. It supports quality interventions designed to enhance the capacity of local women to prevent conflict, respond to crises and emergencies, and seize key peacebuilding opportunities. The overall goal of the WPHF's theory of change is to contribute to **peaceful and gender equal societies**. Achievement of this goal will require that women are empowered to participate in, contribute to, and benefit from conflict prevention, crisis response, peacebuilding, and recovery. Since its launch in 2016, WPHF has been supporting over 900 civil society organizations and is present in 32 countries or group of countries.

The WPHF is governed by a Funding Board at the global level, which is comprised of four UN entities (currently UN Women, UNHCR, UNFPA and PBSO), four donor Member States (currently Norway, Germany, Sweden and Australia), as well as 4 Civil Society Organizations (currently Feminist Humanitarian Network, Kvinna till Kvinna, Action Aid and Women's Refugee Commission).

At the country level, the final selection of shortlisted proposals will be undertaken by a National Steering Committee, which is comprised of UN agencies, civil society organizations, donor representatives and governments.