Q&A on the Women’s Peace & Humanitarian Fund’s Call for Proposal in Ukraine

Please find below a collection of questions that have been asked during the public information sessions hosted by the UN Women Country Offices in Ukraine on 10th January 2023 on the WPHF Call for Proposals in Ukraine to support civil society organizations working to increase women’s participation in humanitarian and crisis response, enhance the protection of women and girls, and improve the socio-economic recovery and political participation of women and girls displaced by the war in the Ukraine.

1. **Where can we download the application and budget templates?** The application and budget templates can be downloaded from the WPHF website under the specific Call for Proposals in English ([here](#)) and Ukrainian ([here](#)).

2. **Is there a limited number of regions in Ukraine that projects can target?** – Any geographical region in Ukraine is eligible for implementation and there is no limited number of regions that projects can target in Ukraine.

3. **Can project staff work outside of Ukraine while project activities will take place inside the country?** – Yes, project staff can work outside of Ukraine but all project activities need to take place inside of the country and reach women and girls in Ukraine as main beneficiaries.

4. **Can project target beneficiaries outside of Ukraine through online activities?** - The WPHF will fund projects activities in Ukraine only that target women and girls in Ukraine as main beneficiaries.

5. **How many proposals will be selected as part of this Call for Proposal?** – There is no fixed number of total grants awarded nor a maximum amount for each stream. The number of grants awarded will be decided by a Regional Steering Committee (composed of UN agencies, WPHF government donor representatives and civil society organizations) and is dependent on the total budget allocated for the Call for Proposals. The WPHF has raised approximately 6,25 million USD for this Call for Proposals. An organization (lead applicant or co-implementing partners) can submit one application per stream: one for institutional funding and one application for programmatic funding.

6. **Can larger or international organizations also apply for funding under this Call for Proposals?** – Yes. International, national, regional or 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 in forced displacement, are eligible to apply. 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, and education or research Institutions.

7. **Are youth organizations eligible for funding under this call?** – Yes, youth-focused organizations and young women led organizations are eligible and encouraged to apply. 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. To be considered a “young women led organization” the organization must be headed by a young person between 18-29 years who serves as director/head of the organization.

8. **Is there a minimum time period that the organization must be established for?** – No, there is no minimum time period that organizations must be established for.

9. **Is it possible to apply to both programmatic and institutional funding and potentially be selected for both?** – Yes. An organization (lead applicant or co-implementing partners) can submit one application for institutional funding and one application for programmatic funding (for one of the three impact areas). Organizations who apply for both institutional and programmatic funding need to submit two separate applications packages based on the related templates of each funding stream as noted in Section 6 of the [Call for Proposals in Ukraine](#).

10. **What is the maximum size of the budget available?** – Institutional funding ranges from 5,000 USD to 30,000 USD and programmatic funding ranges from 30,000 USD to 500,000 USD.

11. **How long can institutional funding be implemented for?** – Institutional funding can be implemented for a maximum of 12 months.

12. **How long can programmatic funding be implemented for?** – CSOs can apply for a maximum of 7 months for programmatic funding under Impact Area 3 (Humanitarian and Crisis Response) and Impact Area 5 (Protection of Women and Girls). CSOs can apply for a maximum of 24 months for programmatic funding under Impact Area 6 (Peacebuilding and Recovery of Forcibly Displaced Populations).

13. **When are projects funded under this Call for Proposals expected to begin implementation?** – Projects are expected to begin implementation by April 2023.

14. **Is there a preferred ratio for the amount of beneficiaries targeted under the programmatic funding stream, for example the amount of IDPs vs host community members?** – For all programmatic funding the majority of beneficiaries should be women and girls. For projects under Impact Area 6 (Peacebuilding and Recovery of Forcibly Displaced Populations) the majority of beneficiaries should be women and girls that are internally displaced by the war in Ukraine.

15. **Should the beneficiaries for projects under Impact Area 6 (Peacebuilding and Recovery of Forcibly Displaced Populations) be only IDP women or also local women from host communities (non-IDPs)?** – The majority of direct beneficiaries should be IDP women but projects can also target host-communities (non-IDP women) as direct beneficiaries if their involvement promotes the participation and leadership of IDP women and girls.

16. **Can you explain what beneficiaries are vs the target audience?** – Beneficiaries and target audience are the same. Women and girls should be the main beneficiaries/target audience.

17. **Can projects also target children and men?** – The focus of the projects should be on women and girls and the majority of beneficiaries should therefore be women and girls. Men and boys can...
be direct beneficiaries if the project clearly shows how their involvement promotes the participation and leadership of women and girls. Men and boys can also be indirect beneficiaries.

18. Can organizations that do NOT work exclusively for women and the protection of their rights apply for institutional funding? – Institutional funding is available for civil society organizations with a proven track record working with women and girls in forced displacement. The applicant needs to demonstrate that it has (i) a specific focus on women and girls in forced displacement; and/or (ii) women and girls in forced displacement as staff members. Organizations that do not focus on displaced women and girls will not be considered for institutional funding. A track record in protection is not required to apply for institutional funding under this Call for Proposals.

19. Is it a sufficient condition for applying for institutional support if the organization is headed by a woman? – No. Institutional funding is available for civil society organizations with a proven track record working with women and girls in forced displacement. The applicant needs to demonstrate that it has (i) a specific focus on women and girls in forced displacement; and/or (ii) women and girls in forced displacement as staff members. Organizations that do not focus on displaced women and girls will not be considered for institutional funding.

20. Does institutional funding cover office equipment and rent? – Yes, office equipment and rent can be part of your application to the institutional funding stream.

21. Can an organization applying for institutional funding propose to purchase office space for the organization? - Yes, under institutional funding, costs for rent, buildings/space, etc. can be included, as well as utilities and equipment for the space. However, please note that WPHF will fund projects to support organizations that have been affected by the crisis. For example, if the organization’s office was destroyed or staff had to relocate somewhere else due to the conflict. If there is no link with the crisis, the proposal would not qualify for funding.

22. Under institutional funding, is the repairs of buildings damaged as part of the war acceptable for funding? – Yes, repairs of buildings damaged by the war can be funded. Other activities under institutional funding may include (but are not limited to) covering an organization’s utility, rental, or staff salaries, capacity building of staff, developing a new policy or procedure for the organization to better respond to the needs and emergencies, and purchasing new office/staff equipment or devices. Tip Sheets and indicators with examples can be found under the following link: Indicator Tip Sheet Outcome 1.

23. Are formal partnerships allowed under the institutional funding stream? – No, partnerships are not allowed under the institutional funding stream. Please note that formal partnerships are only allowed under programmatic funding.

24. If a proposal includes a partnership under the programmatic funding stream, should there be a dedicated section of the budget for the partner? – Formal partnerships with co-implementers should consider transfer of funds to co-implementing partners. Please include any transfer of funds in the budget under the “transfers and grants to counterparts” budget line of the application template.
25. **Can projects partner with a government ministry?** – Projects can collaborate with government ministries but they cannot transfer funds to government ministries (as co-implementing partners). Government agencies are not eligible for funding under this Call for Proposals.

26. **Do lead applicants need a memorandum of understanding with co-implementing or consortium partners?** – Any kind of officially signed agreement is appropriate. Please note that organizations do not need to submit any agreements between lead applicants and co-implementing partners as part of the application package.

27. **Can a project pay salaries for staff or provide incentives for volunteers?** – Yes, a project can pay salaries to staff and provide incentives for volunteers supporting the implementation of the project.

28. **Can projects procure equipment under this funding?** – Yes, projects can procure equipment under this funding.

29. **What is the maximum percentage of indirect costs as part the budget?** – Indirect costs should not exceed 7% and can include costs related to utility, rent, or any other management costs. Please note that Indirect operational costs do not relate to staff and personnel costs. There is a specific budget category in Annex B of the application template for staff and personnel cost. There is no maximum for staff and personnel costs.

30. **Does this funding cover travel to European capitals to discuss humanitarian aid?** – No, the WPHF will fund projects that implement all activities in Ukraine only.

31. **Where should projects place the cost of rent in the budget?** – Rent should be included under line 7 of the budget (“General Operating Expenses and Other Direct Costs”) in Annex B of the application template.

32. **Is capacity building compulsory as part of the project proposal?** – Capacity building with local or grassroots women’s rights organizations is not compulsory but it should be included if it is part of the project’s design and intervention.

33. **Can projects include grant giving or a mini-grants programmes?** – Yes, projects under the programmatic funding stream can include grant giving or mini-grants programmes if they are aligned with one of the themes/Impact Areas eligible under this Call for Proposals: (1) Humanitarian and Crisis Response (Impact Area 3), (2) Protection of Women and Girls (Impact Area 5), (3) Peacebuilding and Recovery of Forcibly Displaced Populations (Impact Area 6).

34. **Can the project under Impact Area 6 (Peacebuilding and Recovery of Forcibly Displaced Populations) include small grants for displaced women?** Yes, as long as the organization explains in the proposal how displaced women receiving small grants will be selected/identified and what they will be doing with them.

35. **Can you give some examples of projects funded under the institutional funding stream?**

   Institutional funding projects that are aimed at reinforcing an organization’s institutional capacity may include (but are not limited to) activities such as covering an organization’s utility, rental, or staff salaries, capacity building of staff, developing a new policy or procedure for the
organization to better respond to the needs and emergencies, purchasing new office/staff equipment or devices, among others. The main direct beneficiaries of funding should be the organization’s staff members. Please consult **Indicator Tip Sheet Outcome 1** for relevant indicators and examples.

36. **Can you give some examples of projects funded under the programmatic funding stream for Impact Area 6 (Peacebuilding and Recovery of Forcibly Displaced Populations)?** - Projects aimed at socio-economic recovery of forcibly displaced women and young women can include, for example, (but are not limited to) activities, such as business, entrepreneurial and apprenticeship trainings for women, among others. Please consult Appendix 1 of the **Call for Proposals in Ukraine** and the **Indicator Tip Sheet Outcome 6** for examples and indicators.

37. **Can you give some examples of projects funded under the programmatic funding stream for Impact Area 3 (Humanitarian and Crisis Response)?** - Projects focused on enhancing the participation and leadership of women in humanitarian planning and response can include, for example, (but are not limited to) humanitarian aid delivery, women-led advocacy campaigns, community dialogues, social media campaigns, among others. Please consult **Indicator Tip Sheet Outcome 3** for relevant indicators and examples.

38. **If a project aims to address Impact Area 3 (Humanitarian and Crisis Response), does the project need to consider Appendix 1 as part of the Call for Proposal (i.e. the Funding Initiative on Forced Displacement)?** – No, Appendix 1 is only relevant for applicants who apply for programmatic funding under Impact Area 6 (Impact Area 6: Peacebuilding and Recovery of Forcibly Displaced Populations).

39. **Are ongoing projects funded by other donors eligible?** - Yes, WPHF accepts proposals for ongoing projects funded by other donors. However, the specific added value of the WPHF contribution to the project should be clearly outlined in the proposals.

40. **Is it necessary to have some baseline and set a goal for impact indicators?** We would recommend that the baseline is 0, unless you have previous data for the same indicator. Targets are tentative estimates. If you have targets, we encourage you to include them. If not, your proposal will not be affected as successful applicants will have an opportunity to update their results frameworks.

41. **Is it necessary to have means of verification for impact and outcome levels?** Yes, we encourage you to think through the means of verification (methodology in which you will get the information) for each indicator.

42. **Do projects need to prescribe a baseline and target for each result?** – Projects are encouraged to include baselines and targets for each result. We would recommend that the baseline is 0, unless you have previous data for the same indicator. Targets are tentative estimates. If you have targets, we encourage you to include them. If not, your proposal will not be affected as successful applicants will have an opportunity to update their results frameworks.

43. **Can projects under Impact Area 6 (Peacebuilding and Recovery of Forcibly Displaced Populations) provide medical services for IDPs?** – The objective of the is Call for Proposals is the
economic and political participation and leadership of IDPs and any services need to promote this objective to be considered for funding.

44. **Do CSOs need to showcase financial history and/or grant making history?** – Organizations are welcome to describe their financial and grant-making history in the rationale section of the application template.

45. **By what criteria are project partners considered official?** – Partners are official when partner agreements (PCAs) are signed between UNWomen and the partner organization.

46. **If we need to stamp and sign the first page of the proposal, can I scan this page?** – The first page should be signed and scanned or photographed. A stamp is optional.

47. **Will unsuccessful candidates be notified?** – Only successful candidates will be notified.

48. **Will the same evaluation committee evaluate both proposals received in Ukrainian and English?** – Yes, proposals will be evaluated by WPHF using the evaluation criteria listed in the Call for Proposals.

49. **It is said DO NOT resubmit your application if you do not receive confirmation of receipt within three days. Does it mean that after three days without receiving confirmation it is possible to do so?** – If you do not receive confirmation of receipt within three days, please resubmit your application to WPHFapplications@unwomen.org

50. **Can you clarify some of the reasons organizations aren’t selected by the WPHF?** – Organizations are evaluated based on the evaluation criteria listed in the Call for Proposals in Ukraine. If organizations do not receive high scores across these criteria, they will not be shortlisted for funding.