UNLOCKING THE POWER & SCALING UP THE IMPACT OF WOMEN’S CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS ON THE FRONT LINES

ANNUAL REPORT 2022
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<td>AEDH</td>
<td>Agir Ensemble pour les Droits Humains</td>
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<td>BMZ</td>
<td>German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development</td>
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<td>CBO</td>
<td>Community-Based Organization</td>
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<td>CFP</td>
<td>Call for Proposals</td>
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<td>CRVS</td>
<td>Conflict-Related Sexual Violence</td>
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<td>Civil Society Organization</td>
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<td>D.R.C</td>
<td>Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
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<td>EMHRF</td>
<td>Euro-Mediterranean Foundation of Support to Human Rights Defenders</td>
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<td>ERW</td>
<td>Emergency Response Window</td>
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<td>EREW</td>
<td>Early Warning and Emergency Response</td>
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<td>Gender-Based Violence</td>
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<td>GNWP</td>
<td>Global Network of Women Peacebuilders</td>
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<td>GPAAC</td>
<td>Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict</td>
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<td>ICAN</td>
<td>International Civil Society Action Network</td>
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<td>IDP</td>
<td>Internally Displaced Persons</td>
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<td>IGA</td>
<td>Income Generation Activity</td>
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<td>International Non-Governmental Organization</td>
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<td>LAC</td>
<td>Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
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<td>LGBTIQ+</td>
<td>Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender, Intersex, and Queer</td>
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<td>L-HUB</td>
<td>Global Learning Hub</td>
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<td>NAP</td>
<td>National Action Plan</td>
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<td>NEID</td>
<td>Network of Engaged International Donors</td>
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<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-Governmental Organization</td>
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<td>NIMD</td>
<td>Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy</td>
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<td>UN Peacebuilding Support Office</td>
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<td>Personal Protective Equipment</td>
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<td>PSEA</td>
<td>Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse</td>
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<td>Rapid Response Window on Women’s Participation in Peace Processes and the Implementation of Peace Agreements</td>
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<td>Sorcery Accusation Related Violence</td>
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<td>Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights</td>
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<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
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<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
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<td>United National Security Council</td>
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<td>Violence Against Women and Girls</td>
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<td>Village Saving and Loan Association</td>
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<td>WHRD</td>
<td>Women Human Rights Defender</td>
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<td>WHW</td>
<td>Women Have Wings</td>
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<td>WILPF</td>
<td>Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom</td>
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<td>WPHF</td>
<td>Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund</td>
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<td>Women Peace and Security</td>
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<td>Women Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action</td>
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<td>Women’s Refugee Commission</td>
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<td>Youth Peace and Security</td>
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In Solidarity with Women Responding to Crisis & Building Peace for All

Foreword by the Head of the WPHF Secretariat

2022 was a year marked by unprecedented global challenges in every corner of the world. From Ukraine, to Afghanistan, from Myanmar to Haiti, intractable conflict and multidimensional crises continued to drive instability and forced displacement. Threats to the fundamental rights of women and girls, LGBTIQ+ communities and other marginalized groups saw an alarming rise, exacerbated by the global climate crisis, increased food insecurity, violent extremism and the reverberations of the deadliest global pandemic in a generation.

This past year was also one of profound adaptation and progress for the United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF). Together with its growing network of Government, UN, Civil Society and Private Sector partners, WPHF continued to prove its relevance and unique added value as an effective, strategic and responsive instrument supporting local women’s organizations and women human rights defenders in fragile settings across the globe.

In 2022, WPHF mobilized 43.8 million USD, the highest since the Fund was launched in 2016, and an increase of 15% compared to 2021, with additional funding raised in multi-year pledges until 2027. Germany continued to be WPHF’s largest donor, showing a strong commitment to conflict prevention, conflict resolution and forced displacement issues while WPHF continued to consolidate and broaden its donor base and attract new resources from corporations, foundations and high net-worth individuals.

In 2022 alone, WPHF launched 31 calls for proposals - its highest number in a given year - four of them under its emergency track process (Ukraine, Haiti and Ethiopia), resulting in 198 new grants approved in support of 344 civil society organizations (CSOs). This has brought to 914 the total number of civil society organizations funded through WPHF since 2016, almost half of which are receiving funding from the UN for the first time. WPHF also continues to serve as a powerful localization tool, with 72% of our partners operating at the subnational and local levels.

WPHF launched its new Funding Window for Women Human Rights Defenders, which aims at promoting the participation and protection of Women human rights defenders from crisis countries. The window was fully operational in September 2022 and has already supported a total of 83 WHRDs for their advocacy work and protection, including their 221 dependents.

The Rapid Response Window on women’s participation in peace processes and the implementation of peace agreements, which was launched in 2020 to address technical, financial and logistical barriers to women’s participation in peace processes and the implementation of peace agreements, has reached in 2022 its full maturity. In 2022, the Rapid Response Window supported 20 proposals directly targeting Track 1 and Track 2 peace processes or the implementation of peace agreements in countries such as Cameroon, the D.R.C, Eswatini, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mozambique, South Sudan, Palestine, Syria, Yemen, Colombia, Guatemala and Venezuela.

In 2022, the WPHF Global Learning Hub (L-HUB) which fosters capacity building, knowledge sharing, peer learning and movement building across WPHF grantees engaged over 918 participants from 245 civil society organizations in 31 countries. WPHF transferred over 35.7 million USD in 2022 to CSOs and for WPHF funding windows, which constitutes 95.9% of the 37.2 million USD of income from the previous year thanks to the key convening role of WPHF’s National Steering Committees chaired by the United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinators as well as the ability of UN Women Country Offices to expertly manage partnerships with civil society organizations.

Women civil society leaders and their local organizations bring deep structural change to address the underlying causes of conflict and inequality on the front lines. The WPHF mandate is more relevant than ever before as it works to address the unique needs and amplify the expert voices of frontline women civil society leaders of all ages and diversities, leveraging their added value and unlocking their power to reach the most marginalized communities and effectively break the silos between the world’s most pressing peace and security, humanitarian, development and human rights challenges.

The world is at a profound crossroads and the daunting challenges that lie ahead require bold leadership and decisive action. Conflicts and humanitarian crises and emergencies are dramatically increasing in numbers and complexity exacerbated by acute climate crises and global food insecurity.

More than 22 years after UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security first established the right of women to full participation in peace and security decision-making, we must work together to live up to our shared values, step up financial commitments, forge new and innovative partnerships, and scale up support for local women’s organizations in crisis settings to unlock women’s vast potential to respond to crises and build lasting peace for all.

As you read this WPHF 2022 Annual Report, I invite you to celebrate the incredible victories of WPHF civil society partners as they prevent and mediate conflict, respond to humanitarian emergencies, broker peace processes, end sexual and gender-based violence, lift their communities out of poverty, and fight back against discrimination in all its forms with expertise, creativity and determination.

As we look forward to the next chapter, WPHF will continue to steward this innovative financing mechanism – making it fit for purpose to fulfill its critical mission to serve women and girls and provide quality financial and capacity support for local women’s civil society organizations in conflict and crisis settings across the globe.

In solidarity with our partners and with profound thanks to our donors for their dedicated support.

Ghita El Khyari
Head of the Secretariat
United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund would like to thank its donors, Board members and partners for their leadership and generous support.

DONORS

Governments:
- Germany
- Belgium
- Canada
- Ireland
- Italy
- Liechtenstein
- Norway
- United States of America

Private Sector:
- The Clementine Fund
- The Anara Fund
- WPHF Resource Mobilization Committee Co-Chairs: Cynda Collins Arnouault & Lisa Valone

Corporations & Philanthropy Networks:
- Dell Technologies
- Visionary Women
- Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP)
- Cordaid

Civil Society:
- Women’s Refugee Commission (WRC)
- ActionAid International
- Feminist Humanitarian Network
- The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation

UN Agencies:
- UN Women
- UNFPA (Board Chair)
- UNHCR
- UN Peacebuilding Support Office

2022 WPHF FUNDING BOARD MEMBERS

Governments:
- Germany
- Australia
- Norway
- Sweden

Global Initiatives
- The Spotlight Initiative, a multi-year partnership between the European Union and the United Nations:
- Global Action Network on Forced Displacement: Women as Agents of Change, funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

PRO BONO, CIVIL SOCIETY, FIDUCIARY & CELEBRITY PARTNERS

Corporations & Philanthropy Networks:
- Every.org
- Grameen America
- UN Foundation (UNF)
- UN Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP)

Fiduciary Partners:
- UN Foundation (UNF)
- UN Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP)

Founding CSO Board Members:
- Kristen Bell

WPHF Global Advocate:
The United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) is a global pooled funding mechanism working to re-energize action and stimulate a significant increase in financing for women’s participation, leadership and empowerment across peace and security, humanitarian response, development and human rights. WPHF aims to break silos between peace and security, humanitarian response, development and human rights, enabling civil society organizations working on the ground to put forward comprehensive and innovative solutions to the world’s most pressing and complex crises.

The establishment of WPHF is the result of years of advocacy from civil society and was a recommendation of the Global Study on the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325 (2000). It was also acknowledged by the Security Council in its resolution 2324 and by the UN Secretary-General in all of his reports on women, peace and security since 2015. WPHF was established based on the evidence that women’s meaningful participation is vital to successful peacebuilding, peacekeeping, and humanitarian action, despite that investment in women’s participation and leadership in peacebuilding and humanitarian action continues to remain alarmingly low.

WPHF is anchored in a theory of change with the overarching goal to contribute to more peaceful and gender equal societies. Achievement of this goal requires women who are empowered to participate in, contribute to, and benefit from conflict prevention and resolution, inclusive humanitarian response, protection, peacebuilding, and recovery. Results in these areas constitute the six key outcomes of the WPHF theory of change.

### WPHF OVERVIEW

**Scaling Up the Transformational Impact of Local Women’s Organizations Worldwide**

In 2022, WPHF was structured around 4 funding windows - the Regular Funding Cycle, the COVID-19 Emergency Response Window, the Rapid Response Window on women’s participation in peace processes and the implementation of peace agreements, and - launched in June 2022 - the Window for Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs). At the end of 2022, the COVID-19 Emergency Response Window (ERW) was closed as approved by the Funding Board.

### WPHF FUNDING WINDOWS

**Dynamic and Flexible Financing Opportunities for Women’s Civil Society**

- **Regular Funding Cycle**
  - Established in 2016 in response to UNSC 1325 to increase women’s meaningful participation across the WPS-HA agenda. Grants range from 2,500 – 200,000 USD for a maximum of 24 months. 
  - Represents 80% of WPHF investments.

- **COVID-19 Emergency Response Window**
  - Established in April 2020 in the wake of the global pandemic to strengthen the institutional capacity and finance women’s rights organizations contributing to humanitarian action and respond to the impacts of COVID-19 on the front lines. Grants range from 2,500 – 200,000 USD.
  - Represents 6% of WPHF investments.

- **Rapid Response Window on Women’s Participation in Peace Processes and the Implementation of Peace Agreements**
  - Established in September 2020 to support women’s rights organizations contributing to conflict resolution processes. Funds channelled through two streams – direct support and short-term grants - managed by INGO partners.
  - Represents 9% of WPHF investments.

- **Window for Women Human Rights Defenders**
  - Established in 2022 to contribute to the protection and participation of WHRDs from crisis and conflict settings. Funds channelled through two streams – direct support for advocacy initiatives and safety net grants, managed by NGO partners.
  - Represents 5% of WPHF investments.
COUNTRY PRESENCE AND INVESTMENTS  Global Reach, Local Impact
2016-2022

- **Active Countries**
- **Reserve Countries**
- **Regional Response**
- Regular Funding Window
- COVID-19 Emergency Response Window
- Rapid Response Window
- Window on WHRDs

Investments for RRW and Window on WHRDs are not included.
“IT TAKES A GLOBAL VILLAGE

Voices of our UN, Government & Civil Society Partners

‘The United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund has reached close to 17 million people around the world and has proven its agility to respond to new and emerging crises.’

António Guterres
Secretary-General of the United Nations

‘(WPHF is) the best tool that we have in the United Nations to channel funds to women’s organizations in conflict-affected countries.’

Sima Bahous
UN Under Secretary-General and UN Women Executive Director

‘The new WPHF Funding Window for Women Human Rights Defenders is a strategic, multi-stakeholder tool that’s making a difference in the lives of women defending rights on the front lines. As members of the United Nations family, we must work together to support women’s human rights defenders in fragile settings.’

Ib Petersen
UN Assistant Secretary-General and UNFPA Deputy Executive Director

‘As we step-up, we do so in partnership with women and girls; recognizing their resilience and leadership. All women and girls have the right to be fully and equally part of peacekeeping operations, peace negotiations and political processes. And we need the capabilities, insights, strength and transformative leadership of diverse women and girls to attain and sustain peace. Australia invests in such partnerships by, for example, supporting the Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund.’

Deputy Ambassador Fiona Webster
Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations

‘We will continue to support women peace builders, peacekeepers and women-led organizations. They are the ones working day to day towards equal, just and peaceful societies, often putting themselves in danger in their pursuits. We need to listen to them, support them and protect them... Germany will continue supporting the Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund, serving as their largest donor since 2021.’

Ambassador Antje Leendertse
Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nation

‘At the international level, we have strengthened our partnership with the UN system in favor of women and girls. We support the action of the UN agencies on the ground to uphold the full realization of SDGs and we have also increased our financial support to the United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund.’

Ambassador Maurizio Massari
Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations
**WPHF by the Numbers**

### Since 2016:

**Key Results at A Glance**

- **Funds Mobilized**
  - $129.6 million USD
  - Grants: 545
  - CSOs Supported: 914
  - Direct Beneficiaries: 4,497,141
  - (73.9% women & girls)
  - CSOs working at the local level: 49.4%

- **People Served**
  - Direct: 941,631
  - (79.8% women and girls)
  - Indirect: 14,300,061

### In 2022:

- **Number of proposals received**
  - 2,556

- **Streams**
  - Institutional Funding: 19.9%
  - Programmatic Funding: 80.1%

- **People Served**
  - Direct: 941,631
  - (73.9% women & girls)
  - Indirect: 14,300,061

- **CISOs led by a person who is forcibly displaced**
  - 21.5%

### By Region

- **Africa**: 33.4%
- **Europe & Central Asia**: 8.6%
- **LAC**: 14.3%
- **Asia & Pacific**: 27.1%

- **Outcome 1: Enabling Environment for WPS**
  - 8.2%

- **Outcome 2: Conflict Prevention**
  - 11.2%

- **Outcome 3: Humanitarian & Crisis Response**
  - 15.4%

- **Outcome 4: Conflict Resolution**
  - 5.4%

- **Outcome 5: Protection of Women & Girls**
  - 32.8%

- **Outcome 6: Peacebuilding & Recovery**
  - 27.0%

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*WPHF Fund Level Indicators*

1. This includes funds that are pledged or transferred.
2. Refers to the number of unique lead CSOs and their co-implementing partners.
3. Amount allocated for active projects in 2022, direct support costs, allocated for RBW direct support, and transferred to WHRDs.

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**Austria will continue to support the efforts the Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund and its Rapid Response Window on women’s participation in local peace processes, including in Afghanistan, Liberia, Mali and South Sudan.**

**We need funds like the WPHF to strengthen women’s participation and leadership in decision-making spaces, and make their voices heard in international platforms.**

**We heard our cry and gave us voice to express our issues and concerns. We came to them and they responded. The support WPHF provides to women peace mediators is so important; it puts them at the heart of all activities (and ensures) they’re trusted within the community.**

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*WPHF Annual Report 2022*
KEY WPHF IMPACT IN 2022

Measuring Concrete Steps Towards A More Peaceful & Equal World

WPHF Key Programmatic Results 2022

Outcome 1a: Enabling Environment for Women, Peace and Security (programmatic funding)
- 37 CSOs involved in NAP1325 design, budgeting, implementation and monitoring and evaluation in Myanmar and Philippines

Outcome 1b: Enabling Environment for Women, Peace and Security (institutional funding)
- 61 women’s rights organizations have increased their institutional capacity and sustained their organizations for a combined 260 months and retained 238 staff or volunteers through core funding

Outcome 2: Conflict Prevention
- 8,313 women participated in decision-making in conflict prevention processes and response in Burundi, Iraq, Palestine, Philippines and Uganda, resolving, averting or referring over 25,000 conflicts to various community and legal mechanisms

Outcome 3: Humanitarian and Crisis Response
- 1,365 women from 38 women’s rights organizations in nine countries actively participated in decision-making in humanitarian planning and crisis response for communities in crisis, including populations who have been forcibly displaced

Outcome 4: Conflict Resolution
- 290 women and young women peacebuilders and activists participated in Track 1 and Track 2 peace process negotiations or the implementation of peace agreements. In addition, 431 women in Colombia have participated in peace processes

Outcome 5: Protection of Women and Girls
- 1,177 women’s rights organizations jointly coordinated efforts to advocate and implement interventions to protect women and girls’ human rights and mental health, and end SGBV in 13 countries

Outcome 6: Peacebuilding and Recovery
- 3,787 women/youth women with increased agency and resilience as a result of new economic productive resources, including those who are forcibly displaced due to conflict or crisis. 3,304 women participated in political and decision-making processes in 12 countries

Recognizing and Addressing Intersectional Approaches

- 40% of projects focus on improving the situation of women who are forcibly displaced and creating social cohesion with host communities
- 41% of projects focus on programming and services for survivors of SGBV
- 21% of projects aim to improve the lives of people and women living with disabilities
- 22% of projects target youth women’s active participation in their communities
- 6% of projects focus on improving the inclusion and participation of LGBTQI+ communities in conflict and crisis settings
- 6% of projects focus on improving the rights and inclusion of indigenous and ethnic minorities

4 Based on 296 active grants under the Regular Funding Cycle, RRW and COVID-19 ERW in 2022.
The WPHF Index is a composite measure of 12 indicators across three key domains of peace, security and humanitarian contexts, gender equality, and space for women’s civil society organizations. The WPHF Index is a useful tool for the Fund to analyze the context in regions it supports and track trends over time towards the achievement of more peaceful and gender equal societies. An additional objective of the index is to help inform funding allocation decision making and to advocate for increased funding to WROs in crisis and conflict-affected countries worldwide.

The 2021 index highlights a diverse performance against key indicators across targeted regions. The global indicators, drawn from OECD-DAC, IDMC, UNHCR, ILO and WPHF Annual CSO survey, demonstrates that across all domains there is still a long way to go toward achieving peaceful and gender equal societies, with an overall value of 0.547 (1.000 being the highest score that can be obtained).

The situation for women’s civil society organizations is scored lowest among the three domains with an index score of 0.434, including measures of aid towards feminist and women’s rights organizations, CSOs at risk due to lack of funding, CSOs that have faced threats for their work, and CSOs who are consulted in WPS-HA. This is followed by gender equality with an index score of 0.548, captured by measures of women’s leadership and participation, the female labor participation rate, women and girls who have experienced intimate partner violence and the female labor participation rate. Finally, in peace, security and humanitarian contexts, an index score of 0.630 was noted from measures related to conflict and humanitarian disasters in the last year, refugee and internally displaced persons (IDP) displacement, and women feeling safe to walk alone at night in their communities.

Despite the gains made since UNSCR 1325 and global calls for enhanced women’s leadership and participation in WPS-HA, the index demonstrates that there is still a long way to go to achieving peaceful societies and gender equality. To increase the values, it is essential to invest across all three domains.

In 2023, WPHF will produce its second Index showcasing trends across time. Please refer to WPHF Index for further details.

In 2022, WPHF conducted its third global survey with 282 local women’s organizations and civil society partners represented across Africa, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Central Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean with the objective to uncover and understand the unique contexts and risks related to local women’s organizations’ work, participation in women, peace and security and humanitarian action (WPS-HA), and the impacts of the current crises, conflicts and political situations in their countries. 18% of participating CSOs this year were headed by someone forcibly displaced (refugee, IDP, returnee, or asylum seeker).

The findings reveal that just under half of the CSOs surveyed feel that their work is negatively impacted by a current crisis, conflict or political context. Another 75% of local organizations across WPHF targeted regions continue to be impacted in their ability to carry out their mandates due to a lack of programmatic and/or institutional funding for local women’s organizations working on WPS and/or humanitarian action. This represents a 6% point increase from 2021, where 69% of organizations reported high or very high impact of risk.

A number of organizations (44%) also reported that the amount of funding available to them in the past two years has decreased, and the lack of access to multi-year programmatic or institutional funding is a key concern for local women’s organizations in fragile and crisis contexts, with an alarming 75% of local women’s organizations noting this as a core challenge. 32% of organizations also highlight that more broadly there is insufficient funding available specifically for WPS-HA work and overall half (51%) of organizations stress that the lack of multi-year programmatic or institutional funding compromises their ability to carry out their mandates effectively.

Local women’s organizations operate in complex crisis and fragile contexts, where the activities of their organizations, security of their staff and rights of their communities are often at dire risk. They continue to serve their communities despite these risks and even targeted threats or retaliation as a result of their advocacy and work in WPS-HA. Almost half of all CSOs (47%) reported that their organization and staff have received threats as a result of their work in WPS-HA in the last 12 months. This trend is consistent with 2021 data, whereby 46% of women’s organizations reported the same, demonstrating the continued risk that local women’s organizations often face in engaging in WPS-HA work in their contexts.

Despite the challenges persistently faced by local women’s rights organizations working in conflict and crisis settings, the survey demonstrates that CSOs are slowly being seen as legitimate and credible stakeholders in the WPS-HA space, with 65% of them being consulted or invited to engage on policy or action plans in WPS-HA at local, regional or national levels. While a positive result, this is a slight, however concerning, decrease from 2021 where 72% of organizations noted their engagement.
FINANCING WOMEN AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE YEAR’S GLOBAL EMERGENCIES

Overview of WPHF Emergency Response

With a year marked by continued crisis and new conflicts, WPHF mobilized its partnerships and rapidly responded to emergencies in Afghanistan, the D.R.C., Haiti and Ukraine, capitalizing on adaptive funding mechanisms to support local women’s organizations, peacebuilders and humanitarians on the front lines.

In direct and rapid response to the war in Ukraine, WPHF activated an emergency regional response to the crisis in 2022, supporting women’s organizations in Ukraine and Moldova. By February 2023, the invasion in Ukraine had already displaced 7.9 million people – 88% of which were women - and the UN had verified the killings of over 2,200 women and girls. WPHF launched two emergency targeted calls for proposals.

Figure 1: WPHF Emergency Fast-Track Process (Ukraine)

- With thanks to contributions from the governments of Canada, Germany, and Ireland - channeling over 8.3 million USD to local women’s organizations and WHRDs working on the frontlines of humanitarian response, protection, peacebuilding, and recovery as well as to strengthen their institutional capacity.

As part of WPHF’s emergency response fast-track process, projects were rapidly approved within less than one month after the official launch of the Ukraine response (see Figure 1). Following this, WPHF opened two additional calls for proposals as part of its Regular Funding Cycle, with a focus on supporting local women’s organizations advancing socio-economic recovery, leadership, and political participation of forcibly displaced women and girls.

14 CSOs selected across 2 target Emergency CfPs

- 8 CSOs from Ukraine and 6 CSOs from Moldova
- Total amount allocated USD 2.5 million

The fall of Kabul to the Taliban and the resulting crisis in Afghanistan in August 2021 continued to severely impact and threaten women and women’s rights organizations across the country. In December 2022, WPHF launched an Emergency Funding Appeal to address the USD 9 million funding gap needed to respond to the humanitarian and protection needs of women and girls, followed by the launch of a call for proposals focusing on both institutional and programmatic funding.

Haiti has continued to be plagued by multiple overlapping crises, including high inflation, poverty, political instability, and widespread gang violence and insecurity. The UN estimates that at least 1.5 million people have been affected by unrest and riots, which broke out on 12 September over a fuel price hike announced by the country’s government. In response, WPHF launched an urgent funding appeal for 9 million USD to support local women’s organizations in Haiti to respond to the humanitarian and security crises. As of December, 4 million USD had been raised. WPHF launched a targeted call for proposals in December for pre-identified women’s rights organizations with an initial investment of 1 million USD, focusing on humanitarian and crisis response, protection of women and girls and peacebuilding and recovery.

In the D.R.C., the resumption of violent hostilities in October 2022 between the March 23 Movement (M23) armed group and the Democratic Republic of the Congo’s Army (FARDC) in Eastern Congo has caused significant human suffering, deaths and injuries among civilians as well as significant numbers of newly displaced persons, leaving the country on the brink of a humanitarian disaster. Women constitute the majority of conflict survivors in the D.R.C. As a result, WPHF launched an urgent funding appeal on 15 December for 9 million USD to support local women’s organizations in the D.R.C. to respond to the multidimensional humanitarian and security crises.

A rapid and flexible emergency fast-track process financing women first responders

In order to rapidly respond to evolving crisis and conflict, WPHF continued to draw on its emergency fast-track mechanism that accelerates the speed in which funds are channeled to local women’s rights organizations in situations of acute crisis. Selection and contracting of CSOs is fast-tracked by issuing a targeted call for proposals to a limited number of pre-identified organizations having passed UN capacity assessments in the past two years and by streamlining the decision-making process directly through the RC/HC, rather than a National Steering Committee.

6  A funding gap refers to the difference between the available funds available for a specific CfP/country versus the amount requested through shortlisted/successful proposals and which cannot be funded due to the funding limitations.

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The emergency track has enabled countries such as Haiti and Ukraine/Moldova to receive and select projects within a shorter time period, ensuring CSOs can implement urgent interventions quickly. Moving forward, WPHF will also establish an emergency reserve fund to be able to rapidly activate this track in reaction to unexpected crises and reach grassroots organizations as rapidly as possible.

**Rapid resource mobilization for emergency response**

WPHF mobilized new resources from Member States, the general public, and high-net-worth individuals, diversifying contributions to new WPHF emergency funding appeals for local women’s organizations in Afghanistan, Haiti, Ukraine, and the D.R.C. In 2022, a total of 13.5 million USD was mobilized specifically for emergency funding appeals.

**Do no harm**

Recognizing women’s rights organizations and WHRDs as key actors operating in high-risk contexts, WPHF applied flexibility and protected all data as part of its Do No Harm approach. For example, to ensure women’s rights organizations can continue to operate safely, WPHF adapted its processes to reach and fund local women’s rights organizations in Myanmar and anonymized information of its partners in Afghanistan and Myanmar from public documents. Alternative means of communication was also used to protect the information of and secure WPHF’s reach to WHRDs, including the use of encrypted emails and application processes.

### AFGHANISTAN CRISIS

The crisis in Afghanistan, which began in August 2021, has continued to severely impact and threaten women and women’s rights organizations across the country. On 24 December a new decree was issued by de facto authorities barring women from working with CSOs. In the face of these new challenges, WPHF partners have remained steadfast in attempting to continue their project implementation, while WPHF has worked with UN country offices to ensure its partners’ protection and well-being. While WPHF has committed to continue paying CSO staff salaries, some project activities had to be either adjusted or paused as female staff adapted to their new realities, often working online or from home.

### IN FOCUS

**Supporting Women Working for and alongside the Forcibly Displaced**

The number of people in forced displacement globally has reached a historic level with over 100 million displaced persons estimated in 2022. As new crises and conflicts emerge and intensify, UNHCR estimates that over 117 million people could be forcibly displaced or stateless by the end of 2023. Women and girls are disproportionately impacted by forced displacement as they face increased safety and protection risks, including multiple forms of gender-based violence (GBV) and conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV), including human trafficking. Displacement also increases the number of women-headed households and women who shoulder the responsibility of ensuring their families’ economic survival and resilience facing already strained resources.

At the same time, women and young women in forced displacement are critical actors and change agents for the management and resolution of crises and conflicts across the globe. They serve as political activists and advocates to inform long-term peace and security efforts, promote social cohesion within their communities, and demand access to more equitable social, economic and political decision-making mechanisms at home and abroad.

In 2022, WPHF supported 208 CSOs through 117 grants aimed at addressing the impacts of forced displacement and ensured that over 570,000 women and girls who are forcibly displaced were able to access critical resources, services and leadership opportunities to enhance their safety, wellbeing and participation.

**In Focus**

- **$6.5 million USD** invested in projects focused on forced displacement
- **29 grants** strengthened the institutional capacities of CSOs working in forced displacement
- **117 grants** by 208 CSOs in 23 countries addressed the impacts of forced displacement
- **688,574 people directly reached, focusing mainly on women or populations that are forcibly displaced**

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10 Investments for forced displacement refer to those only through BMZ funding. All other statistics are across all windows and outcomes.
11 Approved grants in 2022. A total of 13 institutional funding grants were active in 2022.
The WPHF Funding Initiative on Forced Displacement was a key focus in 2022, with an initial investment of 20.5 million EUR by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), aiming to accelerate the agency and leadership of women and girls in forced displacement. The initiative is linked to BMZ’s Action Network on Forced Displacement – a visionary network that brings together women leaders who are actively engaged on behalf of and together with displaced women worldwide. The Action Network has been an important partner of WPHF in the thematic orientation of CPs, the selection of countries, preselection of projects for funding, and supporting the women’s organizations receiving funding in terms of knowledge sharing and visibility.

In 2022, as part of the WPHF Regular Funding Cycle, the initiative on forced displacement has been active in 10 countries (Colombia, Nigeria, Yemen, Bangladesh, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Moldova). It has provided support to local civil society organizations with institutional and programmatic funding to promote the socio-economic recovery, participation, leadership and agency of women in forced displacement. This funding has put local and displaced person-led organizations at the center of promoting displaced women’s and girls’ agency and leadership.

For example, in Ukraine, over 15,000 women and their children, especially from vulnerable groups (women and children with disabilities, women with HIV/AIDS, survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and women from rural communities) accessed immediate humanitarian support, including psychosocial services and food and hygiene kits. In addition, 82 displaced women resumed or expanded their small businesses through small grants, strengthened knowledge and skills on starting businesses and applying new technologies and services, including environmentally sound practices. Rural displaced women developed networks among themselves and with local authorities and expanded their businesses in the areas of cold chain storage, product cleaning/packaging, branding, and food safety.

In Yemen, a CSO partner launched a series of community dialogues between internally displaced persons (IDPs) and members of the host community (38 IDPs, 37 host community) to promote peace and social inclusion of displaced persons in a refugee camp. As a direct result, a school that did not accept displaced girls due to a shortage in teachers agreed to recruit qualified IDP women as teachers and to accept displaced girls as students. In Colombia, over 50 displaced women started income-generating activities to sustain themselves and their families with initiatives in the areas of poultry and breeding (hens, chickens, pigs), food processing, structuring of nurseries for food production, and marketing projects for stationary, clothing, crafts, and beauty products. Finally, the WPHF Global Learning Hub (L-HUB) provided mentoring and training support to women’s rights organizations focused on forced displacement. By leveraging the expertise of women leaders through the Action Network, L-HUB carried out a series of online capacity sharing webinars, where local women leaders contributed their experience and expertise on forced displacement, including advocacy approaches with policy makers, resource mobilization strategies to support displaced women affected by conflict, and creative approaches such as engaging their communities with storytelling and theatre performances to boarded awareness. In addition, ten partners were supported through joint initiatives with other peer CSOs working with displaced communities.

IN HER OWN WORDS: One Ukrainian Refugee’s Mission & Cause for Hope in Moldova

Tatiana12 came to Moldova from Ukraine with her mother, leaving behind her husband, son and home. At the time, she did not even know where her daughter was. But through it all, Tatiana not only managed to survive but helped other refugees through her work with the ‘Association Motivație’ from Moldova, a women’s rights and women-led partner organization that is implementing the ‘Solidarity and Activism for Peace Project’ with financial support from WPHF and technical support of UN Women.

Originally from Mykolaiv oblast, in Southern Ukraine, Tatiana saw her husband off to war on 27 February 2022. In March, when the fighting was getting closer to her village, she took her mother, who has a mobility impairment, and together they travelled to Moldova. “The volunteers got my mother off the bus in their arms,” says Tatiana. “We didn’t know what we were going to do or where to go, but we were greeted warmly, and we’ve been helped from the first moment we arrived.”

Even though Tatiana did not know whether her children were safe or whether her husband was still alive, she offered to help other women refugees from the first day she arrived in Moldova. She connected with other volunteers from ‘Association Motivație’ who were working on the ground with refugees, particularly those with special needs, with accommodation, food packages, first aid and psychological counselling. Together, Tatiana and the Association have worked to tirelessly address the impact of war on refugees and have helped thousands of Ukrainian women and girls navigate their new ‘refugee’ status in Moldova. The colleagues from ‘Association Motivație’ from Moldova eventually offered her a paid job and taught her how to approach people who needed help in sensitive ways.

Since arriving in Moldova, Tatiana has worked with the local organization to better understand the crisis and how to remain effective during tense times with high flow of people, including those with special needs, whom she describes as being confused by the uncertainty they now find themselves in because of the war. She confessed that only when she started earning her own money, she regained confidence and a slight sense of normalcy.

Along with her colleagues from ‘Association Motivație’ from Moldova, Tatiana has travelled across the country with aid packages and kind words to help local authorities and civil society groups better understand the situation of refugees in Moldova. She has received thousands of calls for help and moral support. She says that helping them makes her feel better, and she is grateful for the opportunity to do something necessary and useful during this challenging time.

After taking a journey that was far from safe – travelling across Ukraine, from Poland and France – Tatiana’s daughter finally reunited with her mother and grandmother in Moldova and also joined the volunteers. Today, she works and continues her studies online, even though there are sometimes no classes for weeks because of missile strikes and power outages in Ukraine. Tatiana also reunited with her husband and son after the Christmas holidays for the first time in ten months. Shortly thereafter, her village was liberated, yet the public utilities had not yet been reconnected and she is afraid to see what might have been left of her home. Recently, she adopted a puppy from a shelter in Moldova and named her Mira, the street where she lived before the war. It is also the Ukrainian word for peace. Tatiana is full of hope.


13 Consent by Tatiana and Association Motivație has been provided to share this story.
THE WPHF REGULAR FUNDING CYCLE: FINANCING WOMEN DRIVING TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE AROUND THE WORLD

The Regular Funding Cycle makes up 80% of investments and is WPHF’s largest funding window, with 275 active grants in 2022 and the largest number of approved grants in a year since the Fund’s establishment in 2016. In 2022, it was active in 27 countries across Africa, Asia, the Arab States, Latin America and Europe & Central Asia, and provided institutional funding between 2,500 and 30,000 USD and programmatic funding between 30,000 - 250,000 USD to local women’s organizations across 6 outcome areas.

Since 2016

- 478 grants approved
- 782 CSOs supported
- 31 countries
- 68.9 million USD allocated

Window at a Glance (2022)

- New grants approved: 181
- Initiatives supported: 275
  - Stream 1 (Institutional Funding): 61 (22%)
  - Stream 2 (Programmatic Funding): 214 (78%)
- Number of CSOs supported: 431
- Localization: 62.3%
- First time UN funding: 46.4%
- Refugees led organizations: 29.8%
- Total allocated: $36,272,060
- Direct beneficiaries: 329,854
  - (66.9% women & girls)

Countries in which grants were actively implementing in 2022:

- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Brazil
- Cameroon
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- D.R.C.
- Egypt
- Ethiopia
- Haiti
- India
- Indonesia
- Iraq
- Jordan
- Kenya
- Lebanon
- Liberia
- Mali
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Nepal
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Peru
- Philippines
- Poland
- Portugal
- Pakistan
- Qatar
- Russia
- Rwanda
- Senegal
- South Africa
- Sri Lanka
- Tanzania
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom
- Vanuatu
- Vietnam
- Yemen
- Zambia

14 Countries in which grants were actively implementing in 2022.
15 Unique CSOs.
16 Of 275 initiatives supported in 2022.
17 Includes 64 who identify as LGBTIQ+.
18 The ceiling for the Ukraine was increased to 350,000 USD on an exceptional basis.
KEY RESULTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Enabling Environment for WPS

17 CSOs actively involved in NAP1325 design, budgeting, implementation and monitoring and evaluation in Myanmar and the Philippines.

In the Philippines, CSO partners strengthened local networks in Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), which advocated for and ensured that the National Action Plan (NAP) 1325 has more champions in lobbying and affecting critical policy action points in the region. A total of 207 women-led civil society organizations (CSOs) have been reached and 16 have actively been involved in the monitoring and implementation of the NAP (2023-2033). In addition, ten youth monitors are campaigning for accountability and initiating citizen’s engagement in monitoring WPS and youth, peace and security (YPS) government policy and program implementation at the local level.

In 2022, In 2022, WPHF supported 9 women’s rights organizations under programmatic funding working towards a more inclusive environment for WPS, including the monitoring of National Action Plans (NAPs), directly reaching over 1,780 people (93.6% women and girls) and indirectly benefiting close to 7,000 people across various locations.

In 2022, a series of capacity building sessions on NAP 1325 design, budgeting, implementation, and monitoring led to a shared vision among CSOs and collective commitment to ensure that the WPS Agenda is adapted, sustained, and localized. CSOs have also developed seven evidence-based and participatory research outputs to support policy documents and propositions on the WPS Agenda, including two that will directly contribute to the policy formulation of the new NAP on Women, Peace, and Security (2023-2033) and of the Bangsamoro Regional Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security (2023-2033), including recommendations around youth, women-led early response (EWER) and a focus on women mediators. The National Action Plan (NAP) and Regional Action Plan (RAP) for WPS will serve as multi-year roadmaps to ensure the commitments on the WPS agenda are adopted and sustained.

Moreover, in Myanmar, a CSO19 has built the capacity of ten young women leaders who are now participating in multi-stakeholder engagements on women peace and security, including with cultural leaders, in their communities.

19 The name of the CSO has been anonymized for security and protection.

INSTITUTIONAL FUNDING: SUSTAINING THE SURVIVAL OF WOMEN’S OPERATIONS ON THE FRONT LINES

The WPHF 2022 Annual Survey found that 63% of CSOs feel that their organizations’ existence is at high or very high risk due to limited institutional funding or core funding in the WPS and humanitarian sphere, an increase of 6% from the previous year. First launched in 2020 under the WPHF COVID-19 Emergency Response Window, an institutional funding stream was established by WPHF to support women’s rights and women-led organizations’ core funding needs and to safeguard their existence, strengthen their capacities and support them to adapt in conflict and humanitarian contexts. Since then, institutional funding has become part of WPHF regular Calls for Proposals (CFPs). In 2022, a total of 61 local women’s organizations from 15 countries were supported with WPHF institutional funding, representing 20% of active grants, including a grant to CARE International to provide technical support to 18 organizations in Papua New Guinea (PNG) in project design and monitoring and implementation. Cumulatively, 35 organizations have received institutional funding across 22 countries since 2020.

This institutional funding has resulted in 238 staff and volunteers being retained over the past year through staff remuneration, stipends and payment of office costs to sustain their operations; the development of core disaster management strategies, policies or plans for work in WPS-HA; and the strengthening of organizations’ governance structures. Training to staff on financial management, project monitoring, and resource mobilization has also resulted in several organizations’ ability to apply and secure new funding. On average, local women’s rights-led organizations have been able to sustain themselves for a combined 260 months, with an average of 8.1 additional months each. Office repairs were also carried out in Ukraine and Haiti that were severely impacted by violence and crisis.

Moreover, the organization submitted eight proposals to donors, and secured funding of approximately $800,000, ensuring the organization’s sustainability for at least 24 months. As a result, the organization has been able to sustain their operations through the purchase of new mobile devices, laptops, and software to carry out their work more efficiently, including enabling their abilities to work remotely to reduce risks, carry out data collection and strengthen their financial management systems with 28 organizations installing new software or upgrades to their systems. The Center for Civil Society Strengthening (CCSS) in Haiti, for example, upgraded their IT capabilities and are using Kobo Toolbox for data collection. They also procured a generator and new ecological equipment to support the organization in transforming biodegradable waste into coal briquettes to generate income that furthered their sustainability.

17 CSOs actively involved in NAP1325 design, budgeting, implementation and monitoring and evaluation in Myanmar and the Philippines.
8,313 women participated in decision-making in conflict prevention processes and response in Burundi, Iraq, Palestine, Philippines, and Uganda, resulting in 25,210 conflicts being averted, resolved or referred through local and regional gender-responsive mechanisms.

Under WPHF’s conflict prevention outcome, 28 grants implemented by 56 women’s rights/led and youth focused organizations actively strengthened conflict prevention mechanisms in Burundi, Iraq, Palestine, Philippines, and Uganda, and effectively promoted and advocated for women’s participation in conflict prevention processes, including the monitoring of early warning signals of conflict and violent extremism. These initiatives directly reached over 34,700 people (67% women and girls) and indirectly benefited 2.5 million people at local and sub-national levels.

Specifically, in Burundi, women and young women continued to be engaged in conflict prevention initiatives within their communities through the ‘Women Mediators Network’ and join safety committees. In 2022, 27% of women mediators were elected to leadership roles within provincial hill committees aimed at strengthening the role and recourse of community reconciliation processes and as a way to alleviate the courts and tribunals in hearing cases of conflict. More than 500 cases of conflict have been averted, resolved or referred (over 11,000 in the past two years) through these mechanisms and by women and girls who are members of the Network, of solidarity/cooperative groups and from ‘HeForShe Clubs.’

In addition, CSOs in Burundi, Iraq, Palestine, Philippines, and Uganda established or strengthened 28 different gender-responsive conflict prevention mechanisms at local and regional levels, including land monitor networks, refugee welfare committees, community case monitoring and management systems, women-led early warning systems and gender peace champion networks. In Uganda, for instance, the ‘Women and Rural Development Network’ (WORUDET) established community structures at the sub-county and district level including SASA groups, refugee welfare committees, child protection committees and peace and land groups, which apply newly learned skills within their communities and are now able to respond to early warning sights to prevent conflict. ‘Meeting Point Hoima’ (MPH) also improved case reporting and monitoring through the development of a comprehensive dashboard, which stores cases of identified conflict reported by women’s groups and are used to follow up on pending and referred cases.

In 2022, over 8,300 women participated in conflict prevention decision-making processes across four countries, as mediators, monitors and representatives in various community monitoring mechanisms. This participation has resulted in 25,210 conflicts being averted, resolved or referred to various community and legal mechanisms. Conflicts ranged from land disputes, unlawful evictions, inheritance disputes, conflicts between communities and cases of SGBV.

The peace coordinators have managed to identify, refer, and resolve over 200 cases of conflict in their communities. Mary remembers one of them especially well:

"Poverty is often behind domestic violence. A couple used to have a business selling vegetables. They would sell near a church that collected many people but when COVID-19 hit the church was closed and people disappeared. The wife got very frustrated that the husband was not able to provide for the family and said she would leave. This caused the husband to be mad and hit the wife. I spent 5 hours with them to settle the case and followed up with them four months later. I managed to negotiate and resolve the issues between the couple. They are now happy."

The peace coordinators also conduct community outreach and speak on the local radio to reach the wider community and explain the importance of involving women in conflict resolution and prevention processes. By the end of 2022, these efforts had reached over 10,000 people. Mary explained how the training changed her life:

"I am thankful for the knowledge I have gained. I even got confidence to apply for the District Women Counsellor. I didn’t get selected yet, but whenever I go and speak on the community radio the community thanks us for speaking out and that is a big thing for me."
Humanitarian and Crisis Response

1,365 women and young women participated in humanitarian and crisis response decision-making in 9 countries

In 2022, WPHF supported 24 projects implemented by 60 women’s rights-led and youth-focused organizations working on humanitarian and crisis response under its regular funding cycle in Ethiopia, Jordan, Liberia, Myanmar, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu, and through a regional emergency track in Ukraine and Moldova. These initiatives directly reached over 47,000 people (86% women and girls, including LGBTIQ+, refugees and IDPs) and indirectly benefited 1.3 million people in these countries.

In Liberia, 300 female-headed households and women living with disabilities across Grand Kru, Maryland and River Gee Counties received food assistance through cash transfers of 25 USD each per month. This aid contributed to lessening the rise in food insecurity among these most vulnerable groups, and recipients were able to reinvest in farming activities and petty businesses for generating more income that would sustain their well-being.

In Myanmar, 538 women have strengthened their leadership skills and participation in humanitarian coordination efforts, including IDP camp discussions, and advocating for family reunification, integration of women living with disabilities in coordination mechanisms, land and housing issues, improving camp conditions, and ensuring equal access to humanitarian aid. Despite restrictions on access to IDP camps imposed by the de facto authorities in certain parts of the country, CSOs have effectively collaborated to raise these issues in humanitarian cluster meetings at state level.

INVESTING IN LOCAL WOMEN’S GROUPS RESPONDING TO THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Increasing climate-related shocks drive and exacerbate humanitarian crises, including forced migration and displacement, deepen conflict and political instability – all of which have disproportionate effects on women in girls who are at greater risk of health threats, GBV, sexual assault and trafficking. Despite the impact of climate change on women and girls, women continue to remain undervalued and underrepresented in key decision-making processes related to climate security and climate-related disasters.

Women’s equal and meaningful participation is vital for sustaining long lasting peace alongside addressing the escalating climate-related security risks in their communities, thus showcasing the need for the WPS agenda to consider climate change as a security issue in terms of a triple nexus and both the immediate and longer-term effects on women’s lives. Humanitarian-peace-climate-gender equality as a nexus requires the examination of violent conflict, humanitarian disaster and the various vulnerabilities and adaptive capacities of women and men to rapidly evolving environmental change. The WPS Agenda affirms the critical role of women in addressing security threats, and calls for women’s equal participation in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and peacebuilding efforts.

In 2022, an increasing number of WPHF countries were impacted by climate-related crises such as the Cyclone Nalgae in the Philippines, Cyclone Cody in Fiji, severe flooding in Bangladesh, and droughts in Ethiopia, the D.R.C, Nigeria and Sudan. Local women’s organizations in these contexts are critical not only as leaders in response and recovery from climate-related shocks, but to building resilience to conflict by reducing social and gender inequalities through targeted implementation and by contributing to conflict prevention through broad support for economic development.

To date, WPHF has supported 18 projects implemented by 24 women-led, women’s rights and young women-led organizations working on climate security since 2020. To further accelerate women’s leadership on climate issues, climate security is one of WPHF’s new strategic areas of focus. This prioritization aims to build upon WPHF’s related work to date, to further enhance targeted support for local women leaders to address the humanitarian-peace-climate-gender equality nexus, and to strengthen women’s and girls’ participation and leadership in decision-making in these areas.

In Vanuatu, WPHF supported Santo Sunset Women’s Environment Network (SSWEN) to implement its project “Transforming Women’s Resilience through Community Disaster and Climate Change Mobilization,” aimed at strengthening women’s and girls’ capabilities to prepare for and respond to the increasing threat of climate change and disasters across the region. Ranked 1st in terms of disaster risk globally by the World Risk Report in 2021, Vanuatu is highly vulnerable to climate affected disasters such as tropical cyclones, floods and droughts. Through capacity initiatives, SSWEN directly supported 568 people—including those living with disabilities—to build resilience to climate change and disasters and enhance knowledge on early warning and climate-related data collection. As a result, 28 women-led Community Disaster Climate Change Committees (CDCCCs) were established across remote villages of Western Santo, appointing local women leaders as resilience champions and focal points for their communities. Now recognized as a reliable source of local climate and disaster information, women resilience champions are contributing to the delivery of climate and hazard data to local and national stakeholders, including to the National Disaster Management Office, embedding new coordination pathways to support their vision of women-led humanitarian responses to climate change.

In Mali, WPHF-financed CSO partner ‘Kilabo’ supported women’s associations with skills on modern gardening techniques and diversification of resilient and ‘climate smart’ crops for enhanced food security. As a result, these associations have seen improved harvests with less pests or disease, and multiple sale cycles with profits ranging between 7,460 and 9,950 USD. They also now produce on an area of one hectare, equipped with a solar pump to power drainage with irrigation canals between plots and use organic manure, which was a requirement advocated by local women’s groups.

In Ukraine, over 9,870 people (99% women and girls), including women living with HIV and their children and the elderly, benefited from humanitarian response from women’s rights organizations, including access to accommodation and shelter, health and social protection services. Women’s organizations and local networks have also addressed the most acute needs of women living with disabilities in various Oblasts, including temporary stay for internally displaced persons impacted by the war, psychosocial and legal services and information. In addition, 27 women were evacuated from more dangerous regions to established shelters. Furthermore, CSOs in Moldova coordinated gender-responsive humanitarian aid to ensure that the needs of Ukrainian refugees and host communities were addressed. A network of mobile ‘crisis cells’ was established to provide vouchers for families to access food and hygiene products. In addition, an e-platform for Gender Equality connecting 44 organizations and activists was established and strengthened by ‘Gender Centru’, offering capacity opportunities and resources to respond to the humanitarian crisis, including access to education, health and social assistance for refugees.

Finally, in Jordan, Syrian refugee families and vulnerable women-headed households from host communities in East Amman benefited from cash assistance, enabling them to meet their basic survival needs including food, water, and sanitation. Psychosocial support and referral services for SGBV support was also accessed by 169 individuals through a hotline established by the ‘Athar Association,’ and 15 CBOs have improved their knowledge on gender equality and supporting survivors of GBV in humanitarian settings.

SUPPORTING WOMEN AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE FIGHT AGAINST FOOD INSECURITY

“Food insecurity has greatly affected women and girls, as many women have become the breadwinners, especially after the outbreak of the war. Many of the men who were supporting their families were killed. So, after the death of the man, the woman became the one looking for safe food for herself and her children. The war destroyed many Yemeni families and most women and girls do not find their daily sustenance.” – A WPHF-supported CSO partner in Yemen.

The magnitude and severity of acute food insecurity has reached alarming levels. Although food insecurity is gender neutral, its impacts are not. Armed conflicts, soaring inflation and economic shocks, climate change and displacement – all constitute underlying drivers of increased food insecurity – have shown to impact women harder than men, driving millions to the brink of starvation. Food insecurity has also proved to be a major barrier to sustainable peace, which is unattainable without gender equality, highlighting the humanitarian-peace-food security-gender equality nexus.

For example, the conflict in Ukraine has caused reverberating impacts on global food, fuel, and fertilizer supplies, disrupting an already fragile global food system still reeling from the effects of the pandemic and ensuing global economic decline, with disproportionate impacts on women and girls. The Horn of Africa region is facing the world’s worst acute food insecurity emergency, with one of the worst droughts in recent decades, compounded by conflict, poverty and soaring inflation, and causing the increased displacement of families. Women and girls, especially in rural communities, continue to bear the brunt of the climate crisis that exacerbates pre-existing inequalities, jeopardizes their food security, and fuels instability and migration. Today, it is estimated that 150 million more women and girls could be starving than men in the world. 22

In 2022, WPHF conducted a survey with CSO partners in Afghanistan, Burundi, the D.R.C, Haiti, Nigeria, Malawi, Mali, Uganda and Yemen to understand how communities are impacted by food insecurity and their organizations’ role in responding to acute food insecurity in crisis and conflict settings. Findings revealed that women’s rights organizations see themselves as having a critical role in contributing to improved food security, not only because they are custodians of food and food preparation in their households, but also because of their critical roles as advocates for more gender-responsive food systems and equal land rights. The role of women’s rights organizations range from capacity building in modern agriculture techniques; supporting small enterprises; advocating for women’s involvement in food production systems; influencing food policies and strategies to integrate the specific needs of women and girls; addressing the impacts of food insecurity, such as SGBV and in intra-community conflict; and facilitating access to agriculture inputs and financial services to improve incomes.

For example, in Liberia, CSO partner Community Sustainable Development Organization (COSDO) provided food assistance through cash transfers of 25 USD per month to 300 female-headed households and women with disabilities. The food assistance contributed to improved food security among the most vulnerable groups in 30 communities, who have also resolved to reinvesting part of the assistance in farming activities and petty businesses to generate more income, meet their daily needs and sustain their wellbeing, including sending children to school, healthcare and feeding their families.

In Colombia, with the support of Asociación Flor Kinde, 157 Nariño rural women and their families have guaranteed their food security as a result of new agroecological processes and productive initiatives promoted by the WPHF-supported project, including sustainable production systems, seed banks and linkages with the Family Agriculture Network.

With the gender gap in food security growing, promoting women’s and girls’ agency, participation, leadership and decision-making and enhancing their engagement in responding to food insecurity is essential, particularly in crisis, conflict and humanitarian contexts. In an effort to amplify the impact of women’s leadership in the fight against hunger, WPHF has made food security one of its strategic areas of focus for the next 3 years with a view to support local women leaders and their organizations in advancing food security.

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Conflict Resolution

431 women and young women influenced or participated in formal or informal peace processes or negotiations in Colombia with various strategies used to contribute to peace processes

Under WPHF’s conflict resolution outcome, five grants in Colombia were implemented by 17 women’s rights, women-led and youth-focused organizations. These projects, while still in their initial phases, actively promoted the inclusion of gender provisions in peace agreements and conflict resolution mechanisms. To date, these initiatives directly reached over 580 people (82% women and girls) and indirectly benefited over 2,000 people at local and sub-national levels.

Advocacy actions by ‘Yo Puedo’ for the Territory Renewal Agency – ART and an exchange of experiences among women leaders from different areas of the country in Programas de Desarrollo con Enfoque Territorial (PDET) 23 sub-regions, led to strengthened coordination among organizations and women’s networks to influence the implementation of the Peace Agreement. These processes also included the development of gender-responsive strategies by CSO partner ‘CPDH’ for peacebuilding in PDET territorial focus zones, including advancing the creation of the Network of Ombudsmen with a gender lens and an advocacy proposal for disseminating information related to human rights and peacebuilding in the territory through community radio, as well as by raising complaints and positioning women’s issues in public debates.

Protection of Women and Girls

1,177 CSOs including local women’s organizations and autonomous social movements coordinated efforts to advocate and implement interventions to protect women and girls’ human rights and ending SGBV in 11 countries. 1,166 local women’s organizations with increased influence and agency to advance gender equality and protect women and girls.

Under WPHF’s protection outcome, 85 projects implemented by 137 women’s rights or youth-focused civil society organizations actively strengthened their coordination and influence in preventing and responding to the violation of women’s and girls’ human rights and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in 11 crisis and conflict countries including Afghanistan, D.R.C, Ethiopia, Haiti, Malawi, Mali, Moldova, PNG, Nigeria, Uganda, and Ukraine. These initiatives directly reached over 228,610 people (62% women and girls) and indirectly benefited 3.7 million people at local, sub-national and national levels.

Through its partnership with the Spotlight Initiative (SI), WPHF also channeled funding to civil society organizations working on eliminating violence against women and girls (VAWG) in seven conflict-affected and humanitarian settings, notably the D.R.C, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Uganda, Haiti and PNG.

In Ukraine, for example, the capacity of CSOs working on responding to sexual violence and exploitation against women and girls was enhanced and their services adapted to the crisis situation. Over 5,330 women and girl survivors accessed psychosocial and health services, and new gender equality advocates have strengthened their ability to advocate for SGBV prevention and response strategies in emergency situations, gaining self-confidence and skills in project management. A new online platform, ‘Safe Women Hub’, provided specialized psychosocial, legal and referral services to deal with trauma as a result of the war and for the prevention of sexual exploitation and trafficking of displaced women and girls affected by the conflict.

The National Women’s Lobby and Rights Group (NAWALOG) in Malawi, has been instrumental in enhancing coordination among 205 CSOs and local service providers for ending violence against women and girls (VAWG) and improving sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Through engagement with existing district level gender working groups, CSO networks, and community victim support units, and championing relationships between police and communities to promote safe spaces, there has been a 40% reduction in GBV cases in the target areas. In addition, thanks to new mechanisms such as the Young Women’s Advocate group in Blantyre, over 2,600 women and adolescent girls and boys accessed SRHR services such as counselling, mental health education and modern contraception and were linked to service providers.

CSOs in Nigeria, ‘Ambassadors of Dialogue, Climate and Reintegration’, has increased inter-agency collaboration to deliver gender-responsive services in Borno State as seen through the establishment of the Network of CSOs working to end violence against women and girls (NETEVAWG) where agencies work together to advocate, mitigate and respond to SGBV.

Members are using new knowledge on legal and policy frameworks to advocate for justice for survivors and ensure that perpetrators are held accountable in the region. They were also actively involved in consultative processes leading up to the domestication of the Violence Against Person’s Act that was adopted.

Finally, in Papua New Guinea, ‘RUP Women for Peace’ enhanced awareness of Kundiawa communities on various legal instruments through the production of a law toolkit covering various protection acts, including those related to sorcery accusation related violence (SARV), child protection, family and sexual violence.

As a result, new unreported cases have been brought forward. ‘Voice for Change’ has equally strengthened referral pathways and services in Jiwaka and notably the organization facilitated a peace treaty between tribes in the Western Highlands, resolving a 25-year-old conflict.
**IN HER OWN WORDS: A Survivor’s Story of Resilience in Nigeria**

Asabe24 from Nigeria was 16-years-old when her father removed her from school and forcefully married her off to a 65-year-old man.

“I have never seen him before in my life and I didn’t love him at all,” she recounted.

When she was taken to his house, she met three other wives old enough to be her mother. The man was brutal and sexually assaulted and raped her continually. Every night he forced himself on her resulting in severe pain and bruises, causing physical and emotional harm. Whenever she tried to resist, she would be beaten severely. She attempted running back to her parents but was sent back by her father with strong warning that she no longer belongs to them.

Asabe managed to escape from sexual abuse and slavery with the assistance of the Initiative for the Development of the Needy, Orphaned, Less Privileged and Widows (INOL), which intervened and provided critical support. The case was also referred to the International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) for additional support. Her case was taken to court and the marriage was successfully dissolved, and both father and husband were charged for sexual assault and child abuse and jailed for 2 years with a fine of NGN 200,00 (approximately 500 USD).

Asabe gained her freedom from her violent environment and attended training in tailoring and fashion design. She was also connected by INOL for livelihood support from the Ministry of Women Affairs Yobe. As a result of her new professional skills, she was employed as an instructor for other survivors’ training at a Women’s Empowerment Hub to build their capacities and strengthen their resilience and improved economic status. Asabe now uses her experience to counsel other survivors on human rights and access to justice.

24 Name has been changed for protection and security.

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**Peacebuilding and Recovery**

**3,787 women increased agency as a result of access to new economic and productive resources. 3,304 women participated in political and decision-making processes in 12 countries**

In 2022, WPHF supported 65 grants implemented by 128 women’s rights-led and youth-focused organizations. Together, they actively strengthened peacebuilding and recovery efforts, including those for forcibly displaced communities, in Colombia, Haiti, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Mali, Palestine, Ukraine, Yemen, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Tajikistan. These organizations supported the economic recovery of women in crisis settings and advocated for women’s participation in political processes and leadership positions with the aim of transforming their environments and closing the gender gap in this space.

The initiatives directly reached over 13,330 people (82% women and girls and 5% LGBTIQ+) and indirectly benefited over 3.8 million people at local, sub-national and national levels.

For example, in Lebanon, over 260 women and young women participated in local political processes following the Beirut Blast in 2021 and provided spaces for dialogue on women’s inclusion in decision-making processes and recovery, including LGBTIQ+ communities. As a result, service providers and local authorities implemented 12 key issues, including increasing women’s participation in local planning, development of gender-sensitive disaster management plans and establishing new dialogue mechanisms for citizen voices to be heard. CSOs also leveraged social media and video as an advocacy tool to ensure women’s and girls’ needs are met in peacebuilding and recovery process.

In addition, 29 women’s rights organizations informed a comprehensive gender media audit report and a study assessing response efforts after the Beirut Port Explosion, supporting the actors towards a more inclusive and responsive aid. This resulted in 18 donor organizations increasing their commitment to gender inclusive policies in the recovery response in Beirut.

The rise in forced displacement in Ukraine prompted CSOs to support 87 IDP women to expand small business initiatives through access to sub-grants, skills strengthening, and applying new technologies such as cold chain storage, food safety protocols and branding, as well as by establishing new networks among local rural women, women IDPs and local authorities. In addition, over 66 conflict-affected and internally displaced women were relocated and supported to scale-up their small businesses through women’s business support centers established by CSOs, and equipped with the tools to organize, mentor and monitor training on entrepreneurship for women.

Moreover, in Palestine, organizations have supported the socio-economic recovery of women and young women through vocational and on-the-job training, improving their employability and income-generation skills. WPHF-supported partner “YWCA,” for example, has strengthened local committees comprised of representatives from local councils, community-based organizations (CBOs) and young women-led activities from eight areas, including Al Aroub Refugee camp. These committees have served as a platform for advocacy and lobbying to promote young women’s leadership in local decision-making processes.

In Mali, there have been significant increases in women’s economic empowerment through various group-based and cooperative income-generating activities in small-scale trade, food processing, dyeing, gardening and soap-making. To support economic recovery, new village saving and lending associations (VSLAs) have also been established providing community-based solutions for savings and lending to women to start or strengthen income generating activities. Initiatives by ‘Klabo’ for instance have also used environmentally friendly practices, such as solar pumps for drainage and irrigation canals between agricultural plots, to improve water systems, as well as organic manure to improve the diversification of resilient crops for enhanced food security. These impacts have also resulted in the improved social cohesion of communities and the improved status of women as influencers. Women’s associations supported by this organization have generated revenues of approximately 7,460 USD for six harvest cycles of high nutrient vegetables.
In November 2022, Anastasia read an announcement that the country would be under martial law. She decided to use whatever equipment and rented premises for manufacturing. Her husband borrowed money, purchased essential goods, and rented a place for production. After they had settled in Ternopil, Anastasia and her husband were able to continue their work while being able to generate income to support their young daughter.

But the family did not want to completely lose their livelihood and decided to take only a hand tool that makes it possible to produce high-quality products. With the grant, she bought a needed machine with a triple press for heavy materials. Such equipment makes it possible to produce high-quality products and expand the production line. Anastasia and her husband are now able to continue their work while being able to generate enough income to support their young daughter.

Before the start of the war, Anastasia Symonenko lived with her husband and daughter in Melitopol. They had a family business that manufactured leather haberdasher goods. On February 24, 2022, Anastasia’s life changed drastically, as her city was occupied, leaving the family in a situation of complete confusion for several weeks, asking “what to do next?”

At the beginning of April, Anastasia with her husband and child managed to leave occupied Melitopol. Their friends, who had left earlier, said that it would be impossible for them to transport their equipment through checkpoints controlled by Russian forces. But the family did not want to completely lose their livelihood and decided to take only a hand tool that fit in a small suitcase and a small box of cut leather for making 20 purses with them. After they had settled in Ternopil, Anastasia and her husband borrowed money, purchased essential equipment and rented premises for manufacturing. In November 2022, Anastasia read an announcement on a social network that the Women’s Business Support Center in Ternopil was recruiting IDP women to attend a business course. She registered and participated in the four-day training, where she received answers to all of her questions about entrepreneurship in her new place of residence. The trainer’s mentoring and motivational support was particularly useful.

Immediately after the training, Anastasia submitted a business plan to participate in a grant competition. “When the winners were announced, I cried with happiness – for the first time since the beginning of the full-scale invasion,” mentioned Anastasia.

With the grant, she bought a needed machine with a triple press for heavy materials. Such equipment makes it possible to produce high-quality products and expand the production line. Anastasia and her husband are now able to continue their work while being able to generate enough income to support their young daughter.

Consent has been provided for use of her full name.

IN HER OWN WORDS: Rebuilding Women’s Livelihoods Amid Conflict in Ukraine

CONSORTIUM FOR WOMEN’S PEACEBUILDING

WPHF Regular Funding Cycle
## THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE WINDOW: SUPPORTING WOMEN BUILDING BACK BETTER FROM A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

### 2016-2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<td>Number of grants</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of CSOs supported</td>
<td>75</td>
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<td>Women’s rights/led</td>
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<tr>
<td>Localization</td>
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<td>Direct beneficiaries</td>
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<td>% women and girls</td>
<td>72.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect beneficiaries</td>
<td>8,113,460</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### COVID-19 ERW Thematic Focus

- **50%** of projects focused on women's leadership in decision-making processes in response to COVID-19
- **50%** of projects focused on women's economic support
- **31%** of projects aimed at improving access to critical health services for women and girls
- **65%** of projects for the prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence
- **19%** of projects supporting IT upgrading to adapt to the pandemic

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Based on 48 COVID-19 ERW grants between 2020-2022.
The COVID-19 ERW, which was launched in April 2020 and closed at the end of 2022, channeled funds to a total of 75 civil society organizations through 48 grants in 18 countries. Reaching over 1.6 million people (72% women and girls), these initiatives have strengthened the resilience of women and their families through improving access to health services, providing hygiene and food kits to meet their immediate needs, and expanding the availability of information on prevention of COVID-19 through innovative and broad-reaching social media campaigns.

KEY RESULTS

In its final year, the COVID-19 ERW has seen significant results in reducing the negative gender impacts of the pandemic while simultaneously increasing the active participation of women and young women in ensuring gender-responsive humanitarian planning and assistance. Initiatives have not only integrated women into local structures, but have demonstrated the expertise, wide reach and effective leadership of local women’s organizations and peacebuilders at the forefront of humanitarian planning and response in their communities. The emergency window also continued to respond to women’s and young women’s immediate needs, with approximately 28,983 hygiene kits distributed by CSOs across 18 countries. For example, in Bangladesh, notable impacts were seen on women’s participation in decision-making as a result of new income generation and improved knowledge with 32% of Rohingya refugees reporting that they were able to contribute to their family and just over 29% of women from host communities and Rohingya camps reporting that they were actively participating in decision-making processes at both the household and community levels. Women and adolescent girls who were at a heightened risk of discrimination and gender-based violence due to the crisis accessed critical response services in refugee camps and ten new information hotlines were established.

Despite both the emergency health situation and volatile political environment and ongoing threats leading up to the Taliban takeover in August 2021 in Afghanistan, CSO partners were able to fully deliver on all planned activities. Interventions reached over 4,200 women and girls living with disabilities, essential COVID-19 prevention messaging and advocacy campaigns were broadcasted on radio and television outlets reaching an estimated 80,000 community members, and health workers on the frontlines received critical support. In addition, families impacted by the pandemic enhanced their socio-economic conditions through vocational skills-building and the establishment of new income-generating activities (IGAs).

In Jordan, CSOs enhanced services for survivors of SGBV in host communities and Syrian refugee communities with the provision of psychosocial services, group counselling, referrals, peer education and access to 24/7 hotlines, and over 300 women received necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) and hygiene kits during the pandemic. To sustain themselves during the health crisis, vulnerable women also benefited from cash assistance to meet basic survival needs including food, water and sanitation.

While the COVID-19 ERW closed at the end of 2022 - with restrictions now lifting in many countries - the impacts of women’s rights organizations leading gender-responsive interventions have reverberated and been deeply felt and long lasting among communities two and a half years later. These organizations have strengthened not only the immediate needs of women and their families - with access to critical health services, the provision of hygiene, food kits and PPEs or ensuring access to information on prevention of COVID-19 on a wide scale - but have strengthened the resilience of women and households most affected.

The rapid establishment of the Window has demonstrated the unique flexibility of WPHF to adapt and respond to emerging global crises, ensuring local women’s rights organizations have the space and support to mainstream gender-responsive approaches in humanitarian settings. Moreover, for the first time, institutional and core funding was integrated into the Fund, providing local organizations on the brink of closing due to pandemic restrictions with opportunities to strengthen their institutional disaster management response and sustain their operations critical to the communities they serve. As the first global funding call for proposals of WPHF, lessons learned from the COVID-19 ERW in ensuring access to financing for local women’s organizations on a global scale has already been integrated into WPHF’s regional calls and, looking forward, to its future calls for proposals on food and climate security.
RAPID RESPONSE WINDOW ON WOMEN’S PARTICIPATION IN PEACE PROCESSES AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PEACE AGREEMENTS: CHAMPIONING WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP IN PEACE PROCESSES WORLDWIDE

Window at a Glance (2022)

- Number of countries: 15
- Proposals received: 302
- Number of initiatives supported: 20
- Number of CSOs supported: 45
- Direct beneficiaries: 26,667
- % women and girls: 71.8%

Track 1: 3
Track 2: 8
Peace Agreement: 2
Peace Agreement & Track 1/2: 7
Women remain significantly underrepresented in peace and transitional processes worldwide. Recognizing the limited progress made on accelerating women’s meaningful participation in peace processes across the globe, the Rapid Response Window on women’s participation in peace processes and the implementation of peace agreements (RRW) was established in 2021 based on the recommendation of the UNSG’s October 2019 annual report on WPS and after consultations with women peacebuilders, stakeholders and various UN and civil society experts. The RRW is a funding mechanism that addresses a gap in urgent, practical support to increase women’s participation in formal peace processes, specifically Track 1 & 2 and the implementation of peace agreements. It provides financial, expert and logistical support to women’s civil society organizations to participate in peace talks or to address the immediate barriers women often face to accessing and influencing peace processes. The RRW is managed in partnership with seven INGOs - Conciliation Resources, Cordaid, Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN), Inclusive Peace, Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD) and the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF). These partners support the implementation of selected RRW projects, in the management of grants, and provide technical and strategic support to CSOs.

**RAPID RESPONSE WINDOW IN FOCUS: THE ALL NDIAN PEACE CONFERENCE IN CAMEROON**

In Cameroon, Reach Out Cameroon (ROC), a grassroots women’s organization working with the indigenous people of the Ndian Division, called for the All Ndian Peace Conference in April 2022 to seek lasting solutions not only to the crisis plaguing the Ndian Division but also to contribute towards the end of the Anglophone crisis, in line with resolutions of the Major National Dialogue of 2019. ROC sought the Direct Support of the WPHF RRW to enable 5 indigenous women of Ndian to take part in the conference led by the Prime Minister and to amplify the voices of grassroots women in their calls for lasting peace. The 5 representatives jointly drafted a Paper on behalf of all women in the conference to state their position with regards to peacebuilding with key recommendations, including the equal participation of women and men in all peace processes and the development of activities in the Ndian division. The conference provided a fundamental opportunity for these 5 grassroots women to engage fully in providing solutions to deescalate tensions and violence, ensuring they are visible as key actors and continue to gain recognition and legitimacy to merit their inclusion in the wider Track 1 and 2 peace processes geared towards resolving the Anglophone Crisis and in their communities.

**KEY RESULTS**

In 2022, the RRW supported 20 civil society initiatives by 45 organizations in 15 countries, involving 290 women peacebuilders and activists participating in formal peace processes, negotiations or peace agreement implementation, and directly benefiting over 26,000 people (72% women).

The majority of interventions under the RRW focused on Track 2 peace processes (47%) and the implementation of peace agreements (41%). Overall, 290 women in D.R.C., Libya, Yemen, Cameroon, Syria, Ethiopia and Eswatini participated in either formal peace process, negotiations or the implementation of peace processes.

Increasing direct participation in peace talks, coalition building and knowledge generation on women’s influence on peace processes

Women’s rights organizations and activists who were recipients of RRW direct logistical and technical support demonstrated the rapid support enabled them to seize opportunities for their participation in high-level peace negotiations, but furthermore, to develop inclusive peace agreements and accountability mechanisms. Women peacebuilders and women’s rights organization from the D.R.C and Yemen, for example, engaged in Track 1 peace processes, while organizations in Cameroon and Ethiopia improved their influence on the implementation of peace agreements by building coalitions and engaging key political actors and stakeholders.
IN HER OWN WORDS: Women Dismantling Barriers to their Participation in Peace Processes in Mozambique and Palestine

In Mozambique, the Institute for Multiparty Democracy (IMD), with technical support from NIMD and financing from the WPHF RRW, influenced the Maputo Accord for Peace and National Reconciliation between the government of Mozambique and Renamo signed in August 2019 and the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) process. Based on a study carried out by the CSO on challenges and opportunities for women’s inclusion in the implementation of the Peace Agreement and DDR Process, a national conference was carried out in September 2022, offering a safe platform for more than 114 women peacebuilders and representatives from women’s rights organizations to reflect on the findings and discuss concrete strategies and priorities to advocate for their effective participation in peace and security processes in the country. As a result, an advocacy strategy was developed, focused on approaches to engage with government officials and relevant stakeholders and to ensure that women from diverse backgrounds are part of the implementation of the Maputo Accord and DDR process, including those from civil society, women of political parties and women affected by the armed conflict.17

In Palestine, in partnership with GPPWC, the WPHF RRW supported the Palestinian Centre for Peace and Democracy (PCPD), which was instrumental in engaging young women in the Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process and the internal Palestinian Reconciliation Process between Fatah and Hamas. The findings of this research informed the legal, policy and institutional levels and new perspectives of their role in peace processes.

“I grew more confident and capable of conducting dialogue sessions and communicating with decision-makers… we learned that Palestinian women are as capable as men on all levels, and how we must work towards integrating them in political participation and decision-making processes.”

“I want to be more involved with the concept of political development in Palestine. As a future journalist, I also want to employ Palestinian women’s political participation dilemma in my career, as I want to meet more unknown, dismissed female decision-makers and shed light on them through my camera. Moreover, I want to spread awareness on this topic and use my newly adopted skills and knowledge to further tangible change in Palestinian society.”

The initiative also resulted in a seminal research piece on the ‘Future of Palestinian Women’s Active Political Participation’, highlighting the existing hindrances in women’s participation in the peace process and identifying strategies to improve effective influence of women in the Palestinian-Israeli and Palestinian-Palestinian negotiations between Fatah and Hamas. The findings of this research aims to inform the legal, policy and institutional framework of the peace process to enhance women’s leadership and participation in formal and informal peace and decision-making bodies and processes in the country.

Increasing gender provision of peace agreements, inclusive monitoring mechanisms and commitments of key actors

In 2022, the RRW supported 14 Short-Term grant initiatives to address urgent gaps to women’s meaningful participation and influence a lasting inclusive peace process in several parts of the world. Most of these initiatives have been devoted to Track 2 processes and the implementation of peace agreements. As a result, women’s rights organizations have developed concrete recommendations and key actions to influence peace processes and include women’s voices. This has resulted in innovative strategies to raise awareness and inform stakeholders; and to enhance gender provisions of peace agreements and their implementation. Key actors have been able to mobilize concrete and efficient solutions to improve women’s influence in a sustainable way, especially through the establishment of monitoring mechanisms in different parts of the world.

Track 1 Peace Processes:

- In the D.R.C., seven women from Africa Women Leadership Network and Focus Drut et Acce participatet in the third round of consultations on the recommendations for effective measures on the Disarmament, Demobilization and Community Rehabilitation Program in November 2022 as part of the Narobi Peace Talks process.
- Five women leaders were at the table of negotiations in Libya in August 2022 during the dialogue between Libyan armed groups in Norway with the participation of the European Union.
- In Yemen, six women — including women living with disabilities — from AMENA Foundation were engaged in a workshop with the office of the UN Special Envoy on how to engage with decision makers and effective approaches to influence peace process in the country.
- Five indigenous women in Cameroon from Reach Out Cameroon (ROC) participated in the N’djamena Peace Conference led by the Prime Minister and traditional leaders in April 2022.

Track 2 Peace Processes:

- Badael engaged 16 women activists in Syria — including key national actors, civil society leaders, international stakeholders and media representatives — to establish linkages and facilitate coalitio building and knowledge exchange between peace process advisors to identify mechanisms, institutions and opportunities available for women inside Syria to participate in the peace process. As a result, over 170 women peacebuilders presented recommendations to members and co-chairs of the Constitutional Committee for the Syrian Negotiation Board and The Syrian National Coalition for Revolutionary and Democratic Forces.
- In Ethiopia, 70 women activists engaged by the Ethiopian Women’s Coalition (EWC) established a network and community of women peacebuilders for women’s inclusion in National Dialogue processes.
- Two women representatives in Eswatini from Women Unlimited Eswatini (WUE) participated in the Regional Women Peace and Security workshop led by the Southern African Development Countries- SADC, ensuring Eswatini women’s experiences are shared and resolved at decision-making tables.
- In Cameroon, 40 women peacebuilders from Reach out Cameroon (ROC) were also engaged in the National Dialogue mechanisms to ensure gender-sensitive monitoring was carried out of the implementation of the Dialogue.

WPHF RRW-supported women peacebuilders also contributed to the existence of gender-responsive elements/provisions in peace agreements, dialogues, and/or decision-making processes. In 2022, 13 evidence-based advocacy agendas, policy papers, strategic engagement action plans and studies channeling the needs of women peacebuilders and their recommendations on effective mechanisms to increase their influence on formal and informal peace processes were developed and disseminated amongst international community representatives and key decision makers from Yemen, Cameroon, Mali, the D.R.C, Eswatini, Mozambique, Syria (2), Palestine, Libya, Colombia and Guatemala.

17 A video about the participation of women in the DDR process in Mozambique can be found at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e2yI5iPB.
WPHF officially launched its Window for WHRDs in January 2022. This launch took place on the margins of the first ever UN Security Council open debate, chaired by Norway, on the protection of woman human rights defenders and peacebuilders. The Window for WHRD’s overall objective is to provide rapid, flexible assistance to protect WHRDs working in and/or from conflict and crisis settings, as well as to advance their advocacy efforts. The Window is comprised of two streams: Advocacy Support and Safety Net.

Funding under the Advocacy Support stream provides logistical support to WHRDs to facilitate their meaningful participation in local, national, regional, or international events, or other forms of decision-making. WPHF directly arranges this logistical assistance, including costs for flights, visas, ground transportation, daily subsistence allowances, and interpretation.
Under the Safety Net Stream, emergency funding of up to 10,000 USD is provided to WHRDs who are at risk as a result of their activism and human rights work. WPHF delivers these protection grants in partnership with five NGO partners, which review and verify applications, as well as facilitate financial transfers.

In only six months of operational implementation, the Window for WHRDs supported 83 WHRDs from or working in 17 countries facing crisis or conflict (29.8% young women between 18-29 years), plus 221 of their dependents.

A total of 19 WHRDs (21.1% young women between 18-29 years) received Advocacy Support through 11 individual and delegation requests. This funding assisted participants to share their valuable insights and recommendations at forums, which they may not have otherwise been able to access. For example, a WHRD who briefed the UN Human Rights Council helped persuade this body to adopt a resolution that a WHRD who briefed the UN Human Rights Council had not have otherwise been able to access. For example, a WHRD who briefed the UN Human Rights Council helped persuade this body to adopt a resolution that a WHRD who briefed the UN Human Rights Council had not have otherwise been able to access.

Under its Safety Net stream, the Window for WHRDs supported 64 WHRDs (31.1% young women between 18-29 years) with funds primarily used to support livelihoods, relocation, and mental health support (Figure 2).

A smaller proportion of WHRDs were supported with security and protection, equipment, travel and legal assistance. While the requests have been varied, the Window has demonstrated it is flexible enough to meet these urgent and diverse needs. Responding to an urgent funding gap, this financing has helped protect and support these women to continue their activism in the most challenging and threatening contexts around the world.

**WINDOW FOR WHRDs IN FOCUS: AMPLIFYING VOICES OF REFUGEE WOMEN AND YOUTH FROM ETHNIC MINORITIES IN UKRAINE**

Two young Ukrainian WHRDs, who had been actively engaged in facilitating the relocation of Ukrainian Roma refugees, delivered recommendations to German and EU authorities at the ‘Roma Genocide Remembrance Initiative’, through advocacy support granted by WPHF’s Window for WHRDs. They urged decision-makers to include Ukrainian youth and Roma civil society organizations in consultation processes, to increase understanding of and ensure policymaking addresses the diverse needs of Ukrainian refugees and internally displaced people. Through this initiative, the delegation was also able to strengthen its partnerships with other civil society organizations working on Roma issues, allowing them to share and plan joint activities that will enhance visibility on Roma women’s concerns in Ukraine, as well as to help this community access socio-economic and capacity-building opportunities.

**WINDOW FOR WHRDs IN FOCUS: PROTECTING THE MENTAL HEALTH OF A WHRD IN EXILE**

A young WHRD received a Safety Net grant to overcome her precarious mental health situation during her exile in a second country. A national activist and prominent on social media, the WHRD provides a platform for young women to converse on gender equality, gender-based violence and other social taboos. As a result of her activism, she has been the target of multiple threats, both online and indirectly through her family, forcing her to leave her country. The applicant had been planning to continue her activism from abroad, calling for an end to violence across the region. However, the continuation of threats and online trolling, compounded by hostile speech and practices related to her refugee status, took a toll on her mental health. Safety Net funding has allowed her to address her urgent medical needs, as well as those of her family, so she can regain the strength to continue defending women’s rights and intersectionality in her region.

Overall, in the first six months of operations, the sheer volume of applications (over 1,500 requests received) underscore the critical need for this type of support for WHRDs working on / from crisis-affected countries worldwide. The broad diversity of personal identity and thematic work profiles among participants demonstrates that the Window for WHRDs is proving accessible to a range of intersectional audiences. Feedback from anonymous post-support surveys among Advocacy Support partners equally highlights the value of this new funding mechanism.

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28 The name, country and all identifying details have been removed for the security and protection of the WHRD.
In 2022, the WPHF Global Learning Hub (L-HUB) realized a wide range of capacity building, peer exchange and peer learning initiatives for civil society partners, further realizing its mandate to serve as a global hub of knowledge for women’s rights organizations working on WPS-HA issues worldwide. Through these interactive sessions and the companion resources produced and made accessible across L-HUB digital platform and channels, CSO partners enhanced their competencies in data collection, digital security, research, anti-corruption, youth mainstreaming, advocacy, resource mobilization, feminist peace processes, climate change resilience, conflict-related sexual violence and coalition building, among others. According to the WPHF 2022 CSO Survey, 82% of WPHF partners reported using new knowledge and skills acquired through L-HUB initiatives in their organizations.

In 2022, a total of 33 training and knowledge exchange webinars were conducted involving 918 participants from 31 countries. This is a marked increase of 307 participants from 2021, demonstrating how the L-HUB’s scope has expanded to engage additional partners including from the WPHF RRW and Window for WHRDs. Additionally, WPHF leveraged the expertise of 21 CSO partners and 17 external panelists to share their knowledge based on themes from CSOs’ priorities, which were identified in the WPHF Annual CSO Survey.
In an effort to build the capacity of local CSOs, WPHF provides opportunities for Management Entities (MEs) to dedicate 5% of country allocations to carry out country-level capacity building initiatives with WPHF CSO partners in order to strengthen their capacity in various areas, such as financial management, monitoring and evaluation, or thematic priorities and projects implementation.

In 2022, UN Women Bangladesh conducted a series of trainings for WPHF CSO partners under the COVID-19 ERW on financial management, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) in partnership with the Inter Sector Coordination Group, project and partnership management, gender equality, monitoring, reporting and communications. In addition, regular field visits were conducted to further support CSOs’ staff capacity and one CSO partner was supported to develop their strategy to prevent and respond to PSEA.

In Colombia, UN Women ME provided technical assistance to 25 CSOs based on risk-based capacity assessments and Organizational Capacities Indexes (ICO). As a result of the identified challenges, UN Women provided training on monitoring and evaluation tools and systems and prevention and response to sexual exploitation and abuse. Individualized technical support to CSOs was also carried out to support the development and updating of administrative and financial processes to align with national regulations and to mainstream gender equality and a women’s rights-based approach into their project designs and implementation.

UN Women Lebanon conducted training sessions with 16 WPHF CSO partners on gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation and results-based reporting, Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), finance and procurement, and communications. In addition, UN Women conducted monitoring visits to assess the quality of project implementation. Through the capacity building project, seven organizations addressed their organizational gaps including updating their financial manuals and procurement policies, developing policies on data protection, updating their internal manuals on conflict of interest, contributing to the efforts of PSEA in the humanitarian field, and succeeded to enhance resource mobilization to sustain their projects.

CSO TESTIMONY ON GLOBAL L-HUB CAPACITY BUILDING PEER EXCHANGE AND KNOWLEDGE CAFÉS

“We are very happy to have the chance to strengthen our skills thanks to the quality of the exchanges and the documentation shared during the webinars.”
CSO partner from Uganda

“The L-Hub is a wide and useful educational address. The webinars all have been in accordance with the needs. We hope that the activities will expand and continue as they are a strong support for women and human rights organizations of Afghanistan.”
CSO partner from Afghanistan

“We get inspired by women’s organizations all over the world through this same Hub and their wonderful work.”
CSO partner from Malawi

Under the L-HUB peer learning and mentorship initiative, WPHF supported the development of long-term relationships among 20 local CSOs working in pairs through the implementation of the CSO Peer Learning Awards in collaboration with Women Have Wings (WHW). These tandems facilitate exchange on best practices and the implementation of joint initiatives on various WPS-HA themes.
Key Results of L-HUB Peer Learning Awards

▶ In Uganda, the CSO tandem empowered 220 persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV, youth and women IDPs to demand their land rights and participate in climate-related decision-making processes.

▶ In Jordan, the CSO tandem exchanged feminist tools and approaches to mobilize gifts with disabilities in their projects and developed a paper on feminism in humanitarian contexts. The project involved 800 members of the local communities.

▶ In the D.R.C, the CSO tandem mobilized 3,747 youth in the 16 Days of Activism campaign on the elimination of gender-based violence, HIV/AIDS prevention and promotion of the UNSCR 2250 on youth, peace and security.

▶ In Nigeria, the CSO tandem trained each other on disaster risk reduction approaches and GBV in emergencies and mobilized 120 youth to lead awareness raising activities on flood prevention and response.

▶ In Palestine, the CSO tandem led visits and meetings to reactivate the role of youth in grassroots institutions in 5 refugee camps and mobilized 12 displaced-women focused CSOs in Yemen.

Fostering solidarity and collaboration among WPHF CSO partners working on forced displacement

In 2022, the L-HUB launched a call for proposals that mobilized 12 displaced women-focused CSOs in Yemen to jointly design projects in crisis and conflict settings, of which two CSO tandems were selected. In addition, a survey was conducted on the mentoring needs of CSOs working with displaced women in Colombia.

These activities were followed by a series of trainings on fundraising strategies, creative approaches to empower conflict-affected women and research skills for impactful women’s rights activism in partnership with Germany’s Action Network on Forced Displacement.

L-HUB Partners in 2022

Expanding partnerships with the L-HUB

L-HUB partnerships contribute to enhancing the range, quality and diversity of the L-HUB initiatives and resources, showing that the WPHF L-HUB is perceived as a credible programme that attracts new donors and supporters to offer complementing long-term networking and capacity strengthening opportunities for local women CSOs. In 2022, L-HUB partnered with eight entities that provided funds for peer learning, opportunities for training and pro-bono support as trainers and facilitators for local women’s organizations on the front lines. The L-HUB digital platform was also highlighted at the Good Tech Fest conference in Washington D.C. (United States) on 11 May, 2022 as a “Tech for Social Good Initiative” and an example of an innovative partnership between WPHF and a private sector entity (Dell Technologies).
In 2022, WPHF continued to cultivate and deepen relationships with a wide range of diverse actors in the private sector, including corporations, celebrities, foundations and an expanding network of philanthropists and high net-worth individuals. In 2022, WPHF mobilized a total of $473,496 USD of private sector support, continuing to break out of UN echo chambers, target new audiences and diversify its funding streams, demonstrating the added value and imperative to engage non-traditional donors in support of local women’s organizations and their critical contributions to crisis response and sustainable peace across the globe.

WPHF renewed its partnerships with Visionary Women and Women Have Wings; and secured a range of new partnerships with foundations—such as the Clementine Fund, the Ansara Fund and the Denver Foundation—and corporations, including a partnership with a global publishing company to invest $250,000 in support of the emergency response in Ukraine and Moldova through the WPHF Funding Window for Women Human Rights Defenders.

WPHF also continued to foster relationships with celebrities, artists, influencers, and media partners throughout the year, including WPHF Global Advocate Kristen Bell, whose Birthday Challenge Campaign in July 2022 successfully raised $216,275 USD.

In addition, WPHF continued to diversify and engage its Resource Development Steering Committee, a global network of philanthropists and high net-worth individuals with high levels of influence and capacity for giving, to support in resource mobilization efforts and support WPHF in enhancing its reach. The Committee contributed to the success of two visibility and donor-cultivation events, including a webinar on the critical role of women peacebuilders in partnership with the Network of Engaged International Donors (NEID), and an exclusive resource mobilization event for philanthropists and industry leaders at the Cosmopolitan Club in New York City.

With the rise of new emergencies in 2022, WPHF leveraged opportunities to rapidly mobilize support from the general public through the launch of emergency fundraising appeals in Ukraine, Haiti and the D.R.C. WPHF continued to expand its accessibility and reach, including with donor advised funds (DAFs) and monthly donors through its partnership with Every.org, as well as by continuing its fiduciary partnership with United Nations Foundation (UNF) and the UN Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP), enabling it to provide 501c3 tax-exempt status for donors in the United States and to further engage and cultivate diverse private sector audiences.

PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS:
ENGAGING NEW AUDIENCES IN SUPPORT
WOMEN ON THE FRONT LINES
ADVOCACY & VISIBILITY

Amplifying the Voices and Advancing the Advocacy of Local Women Peacebuilders, Humanitarians and Human Rights Defenders

In 2022, WPHF seized opportunities to integrate the voices and critical work of local women peacebuilders, humanitarians and WHRDs in a number of key opportunities and public events to advocate for their recognition, enhance their visibility, mobilize financing for their critical work and shape policy at all levels. A total of 27 women civil society activists supported by WPHF, including 6 young women, shared their experiences and recommendations in events organized or co-sponsored by WPHF, addressing a diverse range of challenges and providing space to highlight their key recommendations.

In total, WPHF carried out 24 visibility and advocacy initiatives, including events on the sidelines of the UNSC Open Debate on WPS, on WHRDs on the Front Lines of Conflict and Crisis, Feminist Leadership in Displacement, and Women’s Leadership in Humanitarian Action, among a selection of other events.

In March 2022, WPHF partnered with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) at the first open debate of its presidency of the UNSC to center the voices of civil society and promote the importance of women’s economic inclusion and engagement in public-private partnerships in their work to galvanize more inclusive peace. Moussokoro Coulibaly, the President of the Réseau des Femmes Opératrices Économiques de Ségou (RFOE) and WPHF partner in Segou, Mali, traveled to New York to brief the UN Security Council and UN Member States at the open debate on the centrality of women’s economic resilience to sustainable peace. The open debate on International Women’s Day was chaired by the UAE’s Minister of Climate Change and Environment and focused on women’s economic empowerment in conflict settings as a key to fostering inclusive dialogue and peace and provided Coulibaly the opportunity to share her unique perspective, recommendations and calls for support on the global stage.

“We know that without economic development, there is no lasting peace. We also know that investing in women’s empowerment generates social dividends both in the short and the long term,”

said Moussokoro Coulibaly,

President of the Réseau des Femmes Opératrices Économiques de Ségou (RFOE) and WPHF partner in Segou, Mali at the UN Security Council.

“If you want to build peace and stability in the world, help women participate in economic recovery to make sure the resulting peace is more inclusive and lasting.”

In September 2022, WPHF partnered with the United Nations SDG Action Zone on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly and High Level week that brought together activists, champions, and allies from across gender, geography, sectors, and generations to engage in interactive conversations and propose solutions to today’s most pressing issue around Poverty and Inequalities, Gender, and Climate. WPHF organized for its Head of Secretariat to moderate an online “in conversation” discussion with WPHF civil society partner Karen Tañada, the Executive Director of Gaston Z. Ortigas Peace Institute in the Philippines on her organization’s critical work advancing the local implementation of the women, peace and security agenda. WPHF Global Advocate and celebrity spokesperson Kristen Bell further amplified the work of WPHF and the contributions of local women’s organizations on the front lines by delivering a recorded message played across SDG Action Zone channels on the International Day of Peace.

Following the launch event of the WPHF Funding Window for WHRDs in January 2022 - alongside the governments of Norway, Germany and Albania - WPHF held a follow-up advocacy and visibility event ahead of the International Day of WHRDs in November 2022 to accelerate dedicated financing for WHRDs from crisis and conflict affected areas at an online launch event.

The WPHF in-person event “Defending Human Rights Has a Cost: Investing in the Protection & Participation of Women Human Rights Defenders in Conflict & Crisis Settings” was held in Geneva and amplified the voices of WHRDs and the crucial role they play in protecting and promoting human rights and building peace in conflict and crisis-affected countries. The advocacy event drove further awareness of the increasing risks and targeted threats that WHRDs often face in conflict and crisis affected countries, and the urgent need to support them in the face of such challenges. WHRD participants and other UN and INGO speakers called on the International Community and Member States to accelerate their financial and political commitment to protect and support WHRDs in conflict and crisis affected countries across the globe.
CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED

Building on previous years’ lessons learned and best practices, this section identifies common and emerging challenges while reflecting on how WPHF and its partners have mitigated and responded to these issues. When doing so, WPHF’s approach has continuously been driven and shaped by a feminist lens, guided by its core mandate to ensure quality and flexible funding is effectively and rapidly channeled directly to local women’s organizations. This mandate has become even more relevant in a climate where funding to women’s organizations is limited and made less accessible against a backdrop of increased push back or retaliation on women’s rights. Several best practices and lessons learned can be drawn for the improved accessibility, flexibility, and quality of funding, while ensuring maintained security and protection of women and women’s rights organizations, which are all very much interlinked.

Security risks and hostile environments for women’s rights organizations

2022 continued to see intractable conflicts and crisis contributing to severe instability in countries such as Afghanistan, Ukraine, Myanmar, and Haiti. Threats to the fundamental rights of women and girls, LGBTQI+ communities and other marginalized groups are also on the rise with conflicts and humanitarian emergencies exacerbated by the global climate crisis, increased food insecurity, growing numbers of populations facing forced displacement, violent extremism and the reverberations of the deadliest global pandemic in a generation.

Threats and risks against women peacebuilders and women human rights defenders have increased over the past year as seen in Afghanistan with women civil society leaders facing restrictions from working in their organizations, or the presence of illegal armed actors in Colombia causing heightened insecurity and risks for women’s rights organizations and displaced communities.

Despite these threats, women’s rights organizations have tried to adapt to their environments by using new working modalities such as telework, use of online platforms, and providing tools to personnel to work from home or engaging male allies and supporters in their advocacy efforts.

Protection and Do No Harm over the cost of participation

With the space for women’s organizations shrinking in contexts such as Afghanistan, Myanmar and Ukraine and increasing risks for organizations to operate, WPHF has advocated for funding to continue to reach them through local channels and ensure their protection remains a priority over the cost of participation. This means adapting processes and requirements to ensure women’s rights organizations can safely operate in their environments. Donor flexibility and understanding is key to sustaining feminist movements in crisis and conflict settings for locally-owned responses.

Regular and continued monitoring of security situations was undertaken while strictly following UN security briefings and guidance for UN missions. Across all countries, extensions for partners were granted when requested, and taking pause in implementation when continuing would cause harm is one example of this commitment to ensuring flexibility and protection.

WPHF has continued to take measures to mitigate risks, from disseminating calls for proposals through national and regional women’s networks, to anonymizing reports, CSOs’ and WHRDs’ identities, to using passwords and data security means in its own internal documents, removing identifying information from public platforms, or even refraining from posting project information on websites and other communication channels. This year, WPHF also started to use encrypted application forms and messaging platforms to ensure continued protection and to mitigate against any potential risks to women human rights defenders. Keeping communication channels open and consulting with organizations and partners has allowed WPHF to remain flexible and adapt to the multidimensional crisis of a rapidly evolving world. These measures are not at the expense of stifling visibility of the work of these organizations and women peacebuilders, but rather aimed at taking the necessary precautions to actively consult civil society and WHRDs to ensure they have a say in the decisions directly impacting their activities and supporting them in flexible and secure ways to continue their mandate.

Prioritizing mental health and well-being of women’s rights organizations and women human rights defenders

The psychological impact, stress, and trauma of CSO staff and volunteers, WHRDs and communities that they serve have also come to the forefront in the last year due to increased threats and retaliation. Almost half of all CSOs (47%) reported in the WPHF annual CSO survey that their organization and staff have received threats as a result of their work in WPS-HA in the last 12 months. This trend is consistent with the year before, demonstrating the continued risk that local women’s organizations face in engaging in WPS-HA work in their contexts. It is also evident in the growing number of requests by WHRDs for psychosocial support through Safety Net grants. Despite this and the impact to their well-being, they continue to serve their communities and advocate for WPS-HA.

The need to remain flexible is paramount in ensuring the mental health and well-being of women peacebuilders and humanitarians, by providing space and opportunities to integrate mental health programming in their projects or supporting WHRDs with grants to address their mental health needs. WPHF has seen an increasing demand for interventions focused on psychosocial support in programming as well as for staff and volunteers who implement them on the ground, including support for mental health grants of WHRDs. In 2023, WPHF will explore additional ways to safeguard the physical and mental well-being of its partner organizations and their staff members.

Regional responses

In 2022, WPHF also responded to crisis through a regional approach to support CSOs across countries to address a shared challenge: forced displacement. Two regional calls were launched – one to support CSOs in Afghanistan, Tajikistan and Pakistan, and the second in Ukraine and Moldova. This regional approach demonstrates that crisis and conflict are not limited only to a nation’s borders, but the impact on women and families who are forcibly displaced continues in host countries that take them in. This approach does not come without its challenges, particularly in ensuring timely convening of Regional Steering Committees. However, leveraging online and email approvals to expedite has been an effective practice in expanding calls for proposals beyond one country.

Streamlining application processes

In an effort to continuously ensure that application processes and templates are accessible for grassroots organizations and based on both the mid-term review findings of the RRW and the 2022 Annual CSO Survey findings which revealed that 16% of CSOs find application procedures are too cumbersome, demanding or complicated, WPHF overhauled application processes and templates to ensure only needed information was gathered for decision-making. These simple streamlining steps will continue to be reviewed to ensure accessibility for those on the frontlines to secure flexible funding.
Country-specific challenges faced by women’s organizations

In certain countries, notably Afghanistan, women’s rights organizations have been unable to renew registration licenses to carry out their work. WPHF and its management Entity UN Women have remained flexible, exceptionally waiving this requirement while other procedural options are explored. CSOs in the Philippines have also been challenged with difficult registration processes and barriers to accessing necessary legal documents, primarily the Securities and Exchange Commission registration, and thus unable to apply for funding. As a result, WPHF launched a call for proposals for national NGOs to address the organizational development-related capacity challenges and to facilitate their legal registration in order to access critical funding. WPHF and country management entities have explored alternative arrangements, including the use of intermediaries, as well as allocating a percentage of funding for unexpected costs for transfers. Flexibility in re-allocating budget lines has been key to ensuring WPHF’s Do No Harm approach in funding local organizations, as well as identifying safe ways to channel funding to partners in volatile contexts.

Challenges and Lessons Learned

In 2022, WPHF has also seen continued restrictive bank regulations, authorizations and challenges in disbursing and accessing funds at the local level. For example, in Myanmar, financial and banking restrictions have caused delays in local organizations accessing funding, as well as in Haiti where limits on bank withdrawals have been put in place. Channeling urgent protection grants to WHRDs in Afghanistan has also proved extremely challenging, as the only remaining method for transferring cash is through the informal funds transfer system known as Hawala. This mechanism relies on developing trust-based relationships with service providers, which has taken WHRD Window NGO partners longer than expected. WPHF and country management entities have explored alternative arrangements, including the use of intermediaries, as well as allocating a percentage of funding for unexpected costs for transfers. Flexibility in re-allocating budget lines has been key to ensuring WPHF’s Do No Harm approach in funding local organizations, as well as identifying safe ways to channel funding to partners in volatile contexts.

The WAY FORWARD

In 2023, WPHF will launch a new Strategic Plan (2023-2025) based on key experiences and consultations with its Funding Board and local CSO partners worldwide. WPHF will continue to actively advocate on the international stage to accelerate flexible and quality financing and support for local women’s rights and women-led organizations in conflict and crisis settings across the globe. It will continue its role as a catalytic member of the Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action Compact of the Generation Equality Forum as spaces to continue this dialogue.

In 2023, WPHF will facilitate two key global events. The first is the Global Women’s Forum for Peace and Humanitarian Action (GWF2023) in Berlin, Germany. GWF2023 aims to bring together women peacebuilders and humanitarians to discuss their priorities and to influence the global agenda amid multiple crises and a global shrinking space for civil society activists. The event will be an opportunity for WPHF partners to meet in person, exchange perspectives, review current challenges for their peace, security, and humanitarian action work, learn from each other and forge coalitions and new partnerships. WPHF will also host a Replenishment Conference: The WPHF Invest-In-Women High-Level Summit will bring together governments, civil society leaders, UN entities and key donors who are committed to addressing critical financing gaps for local women-led and women’s rights organizations working in conflict-affected and fragile settings. This event will be a pivotal inflection point for WPHF with a bold and quantitative leap to mobilize 300 million USD for local women’s organizations in fragile settings by the end of 2025, in line with the UN Secretary General’s recommendation to multiply by five the percentage of funding going directly to women’s organizations30, and aiming to reach and support more than 3,500 local women’s organizations working in conflict and crisis countries.

Finally, WPHF will embark on an external Fund-wide evaluation to inform WPHF’s current and future support to women’s rights organizations in crisis and conflict contexts, as well as to improve its overall efficiency across its funding windows and to further streamline operations to ensure women on the frontlines access flexible funding as quickly as possible. Findings from the evaluation will also help define concrete implementation strategies for WPHF’s Strategic Plan.

With the support of its expanding base of donors and diverse makeup of global partners, WPHF will continue to build on its collective priorities, guided by the strategic vision of the Funding Board. It will continue to capitalize on new opportunities, contribute to the global discourse on WPS-HA, leverage innovative partnerships and adapt to emerging challenges. As the world stands witness to new and volatile political and humanitarian crises impacting grassroots women and the most vulnerable populations, WPHF will continue to strive for the fulfillment of its core mandate: providing flexible and quality institutional and programmatic financing for women’s rights organizations, women peacebuilders and women human rights defenders, supporting them to adapt to meet evolving realities and equipping them to respond to crisis and build lasting peace.

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30 UN Secretary General (December 30, 2020), Women, Peace and Security, 5(2020/44).
**APPENDICES**

**Appendix A: WPHF Partners by Country (2022)**

**AFGHANISTAN**
1-21 18 lead civil society organizations and 3 co-implementing partners

**BANGLADESH**
22 Women Entrepreneur Association of Bangladesh (WEAB)
23 Esperopul

**BURUNDI**
27 Association pour une Jeunesse Africaine Progressiste (AJAP)
28 Action Burundaise pour l’Afrique
29 Flambeau de la vie
30 Association de la Promotion de la Fille Burundaise (APFIB)
31 Association des Femmes Répatriées du Burundi (AFARBU)
32 Association Fontaine-ISOKO

**CAMEROON**
40 Reach out Cameroon (ROC)
41 Community Women Peace Mediators (COWPEM)
42 Jolie Sister
43 Love Your Neighbors (Lyon)

**COLOMBIA**
49 Asociación Flor de Kinde
50 Fundación Mujer Atra Empoderada
51 Corporación Ecológica Educativa (CEDOSUR)

**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO**
52 Fundación para el Empoderamiento de la mujer emprendedora
53 Fundación para el Desarrollo Empresarial (FUNDEM)
54 Corporación Humanizarte Rural

55 Fundación Mujer Familia y Trabajo Las Cayayas
56 Asociación de Mujeres Emprendedoras Activas Veta Central (ASOMEA)

57 Asociación de Productores Psicológicos y Agropecuarios (ASPAPAHOD)
58 Asociación de mujeres buscando futuro (BUSBECAPUTO)
59 Corporación Mariamulata
60 Asociación de mujeres unidas del salado
61 Aldeas Infantiles SOS Colombia
62 Cocomarac y Comulchem
63 Asociación Municipal de Mujeres Ídeles de Ituango (AMII)
64 Red Mujeres Unidas del Norte de Antioquia (RREDUNA)
65 Asociación de Apoyo al Desarrollo (APARDA)
66 Organización Feminina Popular (OPF)
67 Corporación para la Equidad, la Democracia y el Vivir
68 Hypatia
69 Fundación Grupo de Acción y Apoyo a Personas Trans (GAPT)
70 Fundación Dignidad Trans (FDT)
71 AsaTransNor
72 Medellín CityTrans
73 Fundación Mujer Vida
74 Consultoría para los Derechos Humanos y el Desplazamiento (CODHES)

75 Asociación de Autoridades Tradicionales Indígenas del Cauca (AMITRICA)
76 Mujeres Resistentes
77 Consejo Comunitario Rescatar las Varas
78 Fundación Mambiri Internacional
79 Asociación de Mujeres Campesinas Sobrevivientes (AMUCAP)
80 Asociación de Mujeres Campesinas Agropecuarias Empresarios y Ambientalistas (AMACE)
81 Corpoigualta (AMASPE)
82 Asociación de Mujeres Campesinas Agropecuarias Empresarios y Ambientalistas (AMUCAP)
83 Asociación de desplazamiento forzado del Urabá (ASOVIMP)

84 Corporación Yo Puedo
85 Asociación Agraria de Mujeres de la Región de San Martín (AMURREGI)
86 Asociación de Mujeres Rurales Ureña Lo Y (ASOFYUR)
87 CRE-SER
88 ADPOPLUR
89 ASOVMIP
90 Escuela Género, Juventud y Liderazgo Para la Paz
91 Red Departamental de Mujeres Guaviare
92 Fundación 360 Hombre Sauza
93 Fundación Comité Permanente Por La Defensa De Los Derechos Humanos (CPDH)
94 Observatorio de Asuntos de Género de Norte de Santander
95 Asociación Colectivo Mujeres al Derecho
96 Asociación Red de Mujeres Solteras Resistentes en el Territorio
97 Asociación de Mujeres de Vallenato
98 Movilizaciones
99 Corporación para el Desarrollo Social, Tecnológica y Económica
100 Corporación Casa Patas Amaro

**APPENDICES**

1 Co-implementing partners of lead CSOs are presented in italics.
2 Organization names are anonymized for safety/security.
Appendices

LEBANON

230 Auberge Berly Association
231 Dar Al Amal
232 Fe-Male
233 Haven for Artists
234 Madanyat
235 ONGDES
236 Seeds for Legal Initiatives

LIECHTENSTEIN

MALI

286 Groupe d’Appui aux Initiatives de Recherches et de Développement dans le Sahel (GARIDS)
287 Association Klabo
288 Alliance pour la recherche et le développement intégré (ARDI)

MOLDOVA

295 International Centre La Strada
296 Women’s Law Centre (WLC)
297 AO Gender Centre

MOZAMBIQUE

302 Institute for Multiparty Democracy (IMD)

MYANMAR

303-330 13 lead civil society organizations and 14 co-implementing partners

NIGERIA

331 Ambassadors of Dialogue, Climate and Reintegration (OCR)
332 Every Girl Initiative (EGI)
333 Learning Through Skills Acquisition Initiative (LETSIA)
334 Women and Youth Empowerment Initiative (WOHIN)
335 Hope Interactive
336 African Youth for Peace Development and Empowerment Foundation (APPYDEV)
337 MGCJ Foundation
338 Muslim Sisters Organisation (MSO)

339 Women in New Nigeria and Youth Empowerment Initiative (WINN)
340 Grassroots Researchers Association (GRA)
341 Mukwege Foundation (MF)-women’s rights
342 Initiative for the Development of the Needy, Less Privileged and Widows (NOL)
343 ARDA Development Communications inc.
344 Youth Integrated for Positive Development Initiative (YIPDI)
345 Care for Social Welfare International (CASWI)

346 Debbie Kauna Foundation
347 Hopeful Women Initiative (HWI)
348 Association of Disaster Managers without Borders (ADMWB)
349 Iwuru Multi-purpose Cooperative Society (MACS)
350 Society for the Rights of the Excluded and Disempowered (SREDD)
351 Scripture Union West Africa (SUWA)
352 Tallafi Initiative for Child and Women Development (TWOD)

Organization names are anonymized for safety/security.

227 Arab Hydrology-Alliance- Arab Network of Civil Education (AHRA-AHNE)
228 Towards a better tomorrow for development and empowerment Association (Al Najat)
229 Sama Radio
242 Lebanon Family Planning Association-For Sustainable Development (LFPADE)
243 Seeanaa
244 Women for Now Development Women Alive

252 Positive Change Women and Girls Initiative of Liberia (POCHAWOM)
253 Her voice Liberia
254 Libera Future Trust Initiative, Inc. (LFTI)
255 Africa Children Initiative for Self Empowerment (ACISE)

258 United Family for Reconstruction (UFAR)
259 Community Development and Research Agency (CDRA)
260 Institute for Research and Democratic Development (IRDD)
261 Platform for Dialogue and Peace (PDP)
262 Women Education and Development Organization of Liberia (WEDOL)
263 Liberia Albino Society
264 Positive Change Women and Girls Initiatives (POCHAWOM)
265 Mandate for Positive Change Young African Gender Equality N’ Initiative (YAGEE)
266 Traditional Women United for Peace
268 Sister’s Hand Liberia, Inc. (SHL)
269 Center of Security Study and Development (CESSAD)
270 Women for Positive Action (WAPA)
271 Action for Girls & Women Survival
272 Disabled Children and Female Empowerment Network (DCFENET)
273 Community Sustainable Development Organization (COSDIO)
274 Together We Build it Norway (TWBI)
275 Solidarity of Refugee Women for the Social Welfare (SOFERES)
276 Partners in Action For Sustainable Development (PASD)
277 Damen Youth Actions for Change (DYAC)
278 Purple Innovation
279 Hope for Relief
280 Life Concern Organization (LCO)
281 Karanga Debate Club (RADEC)

282 Foundation for Rural Development (FRD)
283 Center for Civil Society Strengthening (CCSS)
284 God Cares Foundation
285 National Women’s Lobby Group (NWLG)
289 Association d’Appui au Développement Local au Sahel (AUL-SAHELS)
290 Réseau des Femmes Opératrices Economiques de Ségou (RFOES)
291 Aide au Développement Durable (ADD)
298 Honor and Right of Contemporary Women Institution Virtues Civils.
299 Association Motivation
300 Women for Women

313 Ambassadors of Dialogue, Climate and Reintegration (OCR)
314 Every Girl Initiative (EGI)
315 Learning Through Skills Acquisition Initiative (LETSIA)
316 Women and Youth Empowerment Initiative (WOHIN)
317 Hope Interactive
318 African Youth for Peace Development and Empowerment Foundation (APPYDEV)
319 MGCJ Foundation
320 Muslim Sisters Organisation (MSO)

321 CENSSAD
322 Center of Security Study and Development (CESSAD)
323 God Cares Foundation
324 National Women’s Lobby Group (NWLG)
PAKISTAN
353 PAMAN Almuni Trust
354 Pakistan Alliance for Girls Education (PAGE)
355 Individual and Pakistan

PALESTINE
361 Roles for social Change Association (ADWAR)
362 YMCA East Jerusalem
363 YWCA of Palestine
364 Juzzor for Health and Social Development
365 Palestinian Food Industries Union

PHILIPPINES
374 Baby Mindanao Foundation, Inc
375 Catholic Relief Services
376 United Youth for Peace and Development (UANYMOD)
377 Generation Peace Youth Network Inc.
378 Gaston Z. Ortigas Peace Institute
379 Women Engaged in Action on L25 (WE ACT)

PAPUA NEW GUINEA
391 Coalition for Change PNG
392 Kup Women for Peace (KWP)
393 Touching the Untouchables (TU)
394 Voice for Change (VFC)
395 International Women’s Development Agency (WOA)
396 Eden Empowerment

PACIFIC
406 Vanuatu Business Resilience Committee (VBRC)
407 Vanuatu Chamber of Commerce and Industry
408 Medical Services in the Pacific (MSP)
409 Pabu Red Cross Society

SOUTH SUDAN
418 Young Women Christian Association South Sudan (YWCA)

SYRIA
420 Zenobia Association for Syrian Women

TAJIKISTAN
422 Refugees, Children and Vulnerable Citizens (RCVC)

UGANDA
424 Coalition for Action on L25 (CoACT)
425 Teso Karamoja Women Initiative for Peace (TEKPIP)
426 Human Rights Democracy Link Africa (RDLA) (RDLA)
427 Karamoja Action for Life Improvement (KALI)
428 Extend a Life Initiative Uganda (ELI)
429 Teso Women Peace Activists (TEWP)
430 Umbrella of Hope Initiative (UOH)
431 Uganda Women’s Network (UWONET)
432 Women’s Organization Network for Human Rights Advocacy (WONETHA)

444 Paradigm for Social Justice and Development (PBSD)
445 Gulu Women Economic Development and Globalization (GWED-G)
446 Women and Rural Development Network (WORUDET)
447 Uganda Society for Disabled Children
448 Sense International Uganda (SIU)
449 Peace and Human Security Resources (PHSAR)
450 SHED NGO
451 Center for Human Rights and Legal Support (CHRLS)
452 Rays of Hope Development Initiatives (ROHD)
453 Rwenzori Forum for Peace and Justice (RFPJ)
Appendices

454 Action on Women Foundation (AWF)
455 Baitambogwe Community Healthcare Initiative (BACHI)
456 Meeting Point Haima (MPH)
457 Rwenzori Women for Peace Forum (RWPF)
458 Innovations for Development
459 Great Lakes Peace Center
460 Mid-western Region Anti-corruption Coalition (MRACC)
461 National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE)
462 Oil Refinery Residents Associations (ORRA)
463 Ukrainian Public Association “National Assembly of People with Disabilities (NAPD)
464 Association for Rights Advocacy and Assistance to People with Disabilities “Open Hearts”
465 NGO “The Right to Choose” Kharkiv Center or Rehabilitation for Youth with Disabilities and their Families
466 Dnipropetrovsk Regional Organization of Ukraine’s Society for the Blind
467 Western Rehabilitation and Sports Center of the National Committee of Sports for People with Disabilities
468 Medical and Social Rehabilitation Center “The Road of Life”
469 NGO Chernivtsi Regional Organization of People with Disabilities “Leader”
470 Center for Complex Rehabilitation for People with Disabilities “Donbas”
471 Positive Women
472 Diaspro Agricultural Advisory Services
473 Cooperative Academy
474 Ukraine Women Farmer’s Council
475 Ukrainian Foundation for Public Health
476 Vinnytsya
477 Development of Volyn
478 Rural Women Business Network
479 Temspol City Women’s Club “Revel of the Nation”
480 Center for the Support of Public Initiatives “Chypas”
481 Podilsky Center “Gender Council”
482 Ukrainian Women’s Fund (UWF)
483 Pislyavatra
484 Center Women’s Perspectives (CWP)
485 Pro Women UA
486 Space of Knowledge
487 Equality in Action
488 All Ukrainian Associated of Amalgamated Territorial Communities

VENEZUELA

489 Cauce Civil Association

YEMEN

490 University Youth Foundation for Development
491 Alzahra Women’s Foundation
492 Angela Foundation for Development and Humanitarian Response
493 Itar Foundation for Social Development
494 Thakerh for Media Production
495 Youth Without Borders Organization for Development
496 Ith Foundation
497 Yemen Women Union
498 Enough for Humanitarian Protection
499 Youth Leadership Development Foundation (YLD)
500 YOGET Technology for Humanity
501 Social Development Hodeidah Girls Foundation (SDHGF)
502 AMENA Foundation for Development and Civic Culture
503 DAMU Initiative Platform Yemen
504 Marid Girls Foundation
505 Yemen Peace School Organization (YPS)
506 Angela Development and Humanitarian Response Organization
The Women’s Peace & Humanitarian Fund (WPHF), launched in 2016, 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.

Approved Grants: 545
Number of Countries: 32
CSOs Supported: 914
CSOs financed by UN for the first time: 47.3%
Average size of grants: $130,806 USD
Types of CSOs: women’s rights and/or led 92.0%, youth focused and/or led 4.0%
Resources Mobilized: $129,583,275

Localization:
- Local (62.02%)
- Sub-National (28.26%)
- National (9.17%)
- International (0.55%)

Approved Grants by Outcome:
1. Outcome 1: Enabling Environment for WPS: 112
2. Outcome 2: Conflict Prevention: 50
3. Outcome 3: Humanitarian & Crisis Response: 81
4. Outcome 4: Conflict Resolution: 32
5. Outcome 5: Protection of Women & Girls: 101
6. Outcome 6: Peacebuilding & Recovery: 172

Regular Funding Cycle (478):
- Iraq: 48
- Afghanistan/Regional: 45
- Ukraine/Moldova: 44
- Colombia: 41
- Mali: 35
- Haiti: 32
- DRC: 27
- Uganda: 22
- Burundi: 19
- PNG: 18
- Nigeria: 16
- Liberia: 15
- Sudan: 15
- Lebanon: 14
- Myanmar: 13
- Pacific: 12
- Jordan: 11
- Philippines: 11
- Yemen: 11
- Palestine: 10
- Malawi: 9
- Bangladesh: 6
- Ethiopia: 4

COVID-19 ERW (48):
- Africa: 17
- Asia & Pacific: 13
- LAC: 10
- Arab States: 8

Rapid Response Window (19):
- Africa: 11
- Arab States: 4
- LAC: 4

Window on WHRDs: 83 women human rights defenders supported through advocacy and safety net support in 17 countries

Grants by Stream:
- Institutional: 83.4%
- Programmatic: 16.6%

Allocated Funds by Region:
- Africa: 31.3%
- Arab States: 12.0%
- Asia & Pacific: 23.4%
- LAC: 22.1%
- Europe & Central Asia: 11.2%

Leaving No One Behind:
- Improving the situation for women who are forcibly displaced (refugees and IDPs): 45%
- Prevention and services for survivors of SGBV: 39%
- Advocating for the rights of LGBTQI communities: 4%
- Projects supporting Indigenous and Ethnic Minorities: 5%

Beneficiaries (2016-2021):
- 3.6 million directly served
- 72% women and girls
- 17 million indirect beneficiaries

WPHFund.org
Appendix C: Results Framework

The following summarizes the consolidated key results achieved in 2022 for each of the WPHF Outcome areas based on document review of country reports.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATOR</th>
<th>CONSOLIDATED RESULTS (2022)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 1: Enhanced role of civil society organizations in advocating for and ensuring accountability on WPS commitments</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines and Myanmar</td>
<td>17 CSOs involved in NAP1325 design, budgeting, implementation and monitoring at local, sub-national and national levels to ensure accountability of commitments.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9 research, advocacy papers and set of recommendations by civil society to include in various national policies, including a set of recommendations that will directly contribute to the policy formulation of the new National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security (2023-2033) and in the Bangsamoro Regional Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security (2023-2033) in the Philippines, and inform labour rights for migrant workers in Myanmar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 2: Increased meaningful participation and decision-making of women in conflict prevention processes and response</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi, Iraq, Palestine, Philippines, Uganda</td>
<td>8,313 women, including peace monitors, from women’s rights/youth focused CSOs actively participated in decision making and/or conflict prevention processes and response across 4 countries, and resulting in over 25,000 conflicts averted/mediated or referred.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>29 gender responsive mechanisms/systems established by CSOs including community-based early warning and response systems, network of gender champions, women’s protection committees, land rights monitoring network, Transition of Women Combatants to civilian life; Women led Early horizontal conflict mediation mechanism, peace groups, and refugee welfare committees all to increase women’s participation in conflict prevention across five countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 3: Enhanced participation and leadership of women in humanitarian crisis planning and response</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Colombia, Haiti, Jordan, Liberia, Moldova, Myanmar, Pacific, Palestine, Ukraine</td>
<td>1,365 women from 38 women’s rights organizations in nine countries actively participated in decision making in humanitarian planning and crisis response for communities in crisis, including populations who have been forcibly displaced. In addition representatives from 19 CSOs Bangladesh, Haiti, Jordan, Afghanistan and the Pacific under the COVID-19 EW continued to be engaged in humanitarian and crisis response.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A total of 36 mechanisms established/strengthened, including community/level mechanisms, women’s protection committees, community level referral pathways, land rights monitoring networks, humanitarian monitoring platform, camp-base response committees, disability-focused committees, as well as active participation in government level humanitarian and intercluster systems, technical working groups and local disaster management offices across 11 countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 4: Increased representation and leadership of women in formal and informal peace processes and/or implementation of peace agreements</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon, Colombia, D.R.C, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mozambique, Palestine, South Sudan, Syria, Venezuela, Yemen</td>
<td>290 women in D.R.C, Libya, Yemen, Cameroon, Syria, Ethiopia and Eswatini participated in either formal peace process, negotiations or implementation of peace processes. 431 women in Colombia also strengthened coordination among networks to influence the implementation of the Peace Agreement and advancing the creation of the Network of Ombudsmen.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.2 Existence of gender responsive provisions in peace agreements, dialogues, and/or decision-making processes

Evidence-based advocacy agenda, policy papers, strategic engagement action plans and studies channeling the needs of women peacebuilders and their recommendations on effective mechanisms to increase their influence on formal and informal peace processes, were developed and disseminated amongst international community representatives and key decision makers, from Yemen, Cameroon, Mali, Cameroon, D R C, Eswatini, Mozambique, Syria (2), Palestine, Libya, Colombia and Guatemala. For example, the Peace Accord of 1996 in Guatemala included gender provisions, mainly key institutions to benefit women and indigenous people, such as the ‘defensoría de la mujer’, commissions of women, etc. Conversely, these institutions are not representative of women and highly politicized.

4.3 Types of strategies used/implemented to participate in and contribute to the peace process and/or implementation of a peace agreement

Ten participatory and inclusive strategies to contribute to and influence peace processes, including formal media documentation of women’s participation, network-building with key advocacy targets, coalition-building among CSOs to strengthen collective impact, joint declarations, and gender-sensitive research.

Outcome 5: Enhanced safety, security and mental health of women and girls’ and their human rights respected

Afghanistan, D. R. C, Ethiopia, Haiti, Malawi, Mali, Moldova, Nigeria, PNG, Uganda, Ukraine

5.1 Number/Percentage of CSOs, that report having greater influence and agency to work on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV)

1,116 local women’s organizations have increased influence and agency to advance gender equality and protect women and girls, including advocating for marginalized groups, presenting policy recommendations, etc.

5.2 Degree to which social accountability mechanisms are used by civil society in order to monitor and engage in efforts to end SGBV

86 different gender-responsive community, district or regional mechanisms drawing on different modalities have been strengthened and used by CSOs, ranging from gender rights early warning committees to community-based monitoring systems using score cards to monitor commitments towards the protection of women and girls, and victim support units.

5.3 Number of local women’s organizations, CSOs or autonomous social movements coordinating efforts to advocate and implement interventions to protect women and girls human rights and ending SGBV

1,177 local women’s rights organizations, grassroots women’s networks, CBOs, and allied organizations actively engaged and advocated for the prevention, monitoring and response of SGBV across 11 countries.

Outcome 6: Improved socio-economic recovery and political participation of women and girls in peacebuilding contexts

Colombia, Haiti, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Yemen

6.1 Number/Types of plans and/or policies in peacebuilding contexts influenced by women or civil society organizations

CSOs in five countries have contributed to ensuring plans and policies in peacebuilding contexts are gender-responsive, including key recommendations by CSOs in Yemen on legal documentation, IDP vulnerability and integrating economic empowerment into peacebuilding efforts in the first humanitarian-peace dialogue platform, and in Lebanon through gender-based research to inform recovery efforts following the Beirut Blast. CSOs in Jordan also informed new plans from government ministries on women-led economic planning.

6.2 Number/Percentage of women with increased agency as a result of economic productive resources

3,787 women and young women from 12 countries have reported increased agency and resilience as a result of access to new economic and productive resources and income generated.

6.3 Number/Percentage of women participating in political and decision-making processes

3,304 women and young women peacebuilders participated in local governance and/or planning structures in six countries ensuring peacebuilding efforts were inclusive and gender responsive.
Background

Working across the peace-development-human rights nexus, local women’s organizations are often best placed to foster transformative and sustainable change to achieve peace and gender equality in complex environments. They expand the reach and impact of humanitarian aid, accelerate economic recovery, prevent and mediate conflict, respond to the immediate needs of most marginalized people and advance gender equality, which results in more sustainable and inclusive peace. They play critical roles as first responders and peacebuilders in fragile settings. Despite this, their work is consistently underfunded and often goes unrecognized.

Two decades after the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace, and security, aimed at ensuring women’s right to full participation in peace and security decision-making, women’s participation is minimal and financial resources remain low.

In October 2020, the UN Secretary General called for “the donor community’s” support for women’s rights and security, emphasizing the need to channel women’s participation and support for financial resources to women’s organizations.

COVID-19 community response strategies and the recognized negative impact of the pandemic on women’s livelihoods and fundamental human rights, evidence suggests that the COVID-19 humanitarian response was neither localized nor women-led and less than half of policy measures adopted to respond to the pandemic were considered gender-sensitive.

Two years later, women’s rights organizations are still impacted by the pandemic and their ability to maneuver within the women peace, security, and humanitarian action (WPS-HA) space.

WPHF 2022 Global CSV Survey

In January 2023, The United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) launched its third global survey with local women’s rights and women led organizations who have received programmatic or institutional funding from WPHF since its establishment in 2016. The objective of this survey was to take stock of the space and support for local women’s organizations in peace, security, and humanitarian action in countries where WPHF is channeling funding.

Made available in English, French, Arabic and Spanish, 282 representatives from local women’s organizations from 31 countries participated in the survey, including Africa (107), Arab States (61), Asia and the Pacific (56), Latin America and Caribbean (40), and Europe and Central Asia (18).

Overall, 89% of organizations who participated identified as women’s rights and/or led by women, 4% youth rights and/or led by youth and 8% as other type of civil society organizations such as disability focused, humanitarian and/or indigenous rights organizations. 18% of responding organizations this year were also headed by someone who is forcibly displaced (refugee, IDP, returnee, or asylum seeker).

The anonymous survey specifically explores questions related to risks related to lack of funding for women’s rights and led CSOs, challenges in securing flexible funding, as well as the context for local women’s rights and led organizations working in WPS-HA, including the impact of the security or political situation in their country, experience of retaliation or threats to the organization, and level of consultation or engagement of these organizations in policy in WPS-HA. CSOs were also asked about key priorities for funding for women’s rights organization in the WPS-HA space.

Results of the survey should be read considering the following limitations: i) only quantitative methodology was used, limiting the descriptions of in-depth experiences from women’s organizations; ii) the contexts in which the survey is conducted is ever changing considering that new conflicts and tensions have arisen since its launch; and iii) women’s organizations in Ukraine (Europe and Central Asia) participated in the survey for the first time and thus comparison from the previous year are not inclusive of this region.

Despite these limitations, this year’s survey demonstrates the continued need and urgency to support women’s rights organizations in conflict and crisis settings and the importance of ensuring that the experiences and priorities of local women’s organizations are prioritized.

Key Findings

Risks to the work and existence of local women’s organizations

In 2022, 74.5% of local women’s organizations across WPHF targeted regions felt that their organization was at either a high or very high risk for continuity due to the lack of programmatic or institutional funding for local women’s organizations working on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and/or humanitarian action. This represents a 6 percentage point increase from 2021 where 69% of organizations reported high or very high impact of risk. This is more alarming when including those that felt a moderate levels of risk, with 96% of women’s organizations thereby risk due the lack of sustained funding.

More than 38% of organizations also note that risks threatening the continuity of their operations or ability to implement programming have increased or remained constant over the past 12 months, as a result of the global pandemic, increased violence and conflict and volatile contexts, representing a 5 percentage point increase of organizations who responded to the same question a year earlier in 2021. The risks were most notable in Asia and Pacific (including countries such as Myanmar and Afghanistan) and Europe and Central Asia (Ukraine) with an average of 43% of CSOs reporting the risk had continued or increased in the past year.

In the past year, CSO continued to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with 82% reporting their organizations and work are still impacted by the global pandemic. This trend has been relatively consistent over the past three years (77% in 2021 and 89% in 2021) where local women’s organizations felt the existence of their institutions was threatened by the current pandemic and the subsequent redirection of urgently needed financing away from local organizations and WPS.

Threats and retaliation faced by local women’s organizations in WPS-HA

Local women’s organizations operate in complex crisis and fragile contexts, where the activities of their organizations, security of their staff and rights of their communities are often at dire risk. They continue to serve their communities despite these risks and even targeted threats or retaliation as a result of their advocacy and work in WPS-HA.

In 2022, the Security Council called for specific measures to protect women’s rights activists and their organizations and held its first-ever formal meeting focusing on reprimals against women participating in peace and security processes. These measures include long-term support for civil society actors so that they can strengthen their own safety measures, or emergency help for protection or relocation when most at risk.

The security and/or political situation in targeted WPHF countries continued to impact local women’s organizations. Overall, almost half (49%) of organizations reported that the context in which they work negatively impacted their ability to effectively carry out their mandate in WPS-HA.

This was most pronounced in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region with 70% of organizations noting this, followed by those in Asia and Pacific with 66% and Europe and Central Asia with 50% respectively.

Figure 1: CSOs ability to carry out mandate for gender equality impacted by security and/or political situation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>68.6%</th>
<th>74.5%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
In response, WPHF has launched several emergency track calls for proposals to ensure rapid and flexible funding of these organizations and has seen an increase of project designs which include well-being and psychosocial support initiatives for staff and those women working on the frontlines of crisis and conflict settings. Moreover, the new Window on WHRDS is another mechanism to ensure individual WHRDS receive the critical support they need to ensure their protection and well-being with 84 WHRDS and their 221 dependents supported in 2022 alone.

**Funding Environment for women’s rights organizations in WPS-HA**

The majority of women’s organizations who participated in the survey highlighted that the largest proportion of their funding comes from two main sources—the United Nations or International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) with 49% and 38% respectively. A small minority (4%) also note that they have been successful in mobilizing funds through private or public foundations, and 5% note they rely on private donations or donations through the private sector.

The yearly operating budget of local women’s organizations who participated in the survey varies depending on their size and geographical reach. Smaller grassroots organizations report an average operating size between $100 USD to $3 million for larger national level organizations reporting this. However, the median operating budget is small amongst these organizations with only $150,000 USD annually. A large number of organizations (44%) also reported that the amount of funding available to them in the past two years has decreased, while another 33% noted that it had stayed relatively the same.

In contrast, WPHF has reported that their organizations are at risk due to the lack of available institutional/core funding in the donor landscape, an increase of 6% from the year before (57%), and another 32% feel this risk has continued to threaten their sustainability in the past 12 months.

**Barriers and Challenges for effective implementation of WPS and Humanitarian Action**

Despite the challenges persistently faced by local women’s organizations and staff, 47% of all organizations reported the same, demonstrating the continued risk that local women’s organizations face in engaging in WPS-HA work in their contexts. It is also evident in the growing number of requests by women human rights defenders (WHRDs) for psychosocial support through WPHF’s new window on WHRDS which was launched in 2022.

Regionally, organizations in Asia and Pacific, particularly Afghanistan and Myanmar, faced the highest rates of threats and fatalities with 62% of these organizations reporting some level of threat to their organization and personnel. Organizations in Europe and Central Asia, notably in Ukraine, also had higher rates with 50% of women’s organizations noting they had received threats in the last 12 months, followed by those in the LAC region with 47%. As continued escalation of crisis and war continue in these regions, women’s organizations need additional protective mechanisms in order to safely operate.

**Securing Resources for WPS and Humanitarian Action**

Overall, the lack of access to multi-year programmatic or institutional funding is a key concern for local women’s organizations in fragile and crisis contexts, with an alarming 75% of local women’s organizations noting this as a core challenge. 32% of organizations also highlight that more broadly, there is insufficient funding available specifically for WPS-HA work and overall half (51%) of organizations stress that the lack of multi-year programmatic or institutional funding compromises their ability to carry out their mandates effectively.

Barriers to accessing funding and the lack of flexibility in the donor environment for grassroots organizations working in crisis and fragile contexts is also of concern. 39% of women’s organizations note that funding is not flexible enough for smaller organizations, nor considers the realities and constraints of working in crisis and fragile contexts, application processes are cumbersome or too demanding, and the amount of time required to secure funding is lengthy. 23% of women’s organizations also feel that funding is not prioritized at the grassroots level where many are working to improve the situation of WPS-HA in their communities. It is likely this experience is more widespread for local CSOs than is known, and complex application processes and procedures also act as a deterrent for engaged and qualified local women’s organizations from securing needed funding.

This is consistent with recent research carried out by International Rescue Committee (IRC) which cited the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in that, ‘women’s rights organizations struggle to meet many of the application criteria and requirements necessary to secure country-based pooled fund resources. These include fund sizes that are too large for many [women’s rights and led organizations], the inability for funding applications to be made in local languages, and requirements for [organizations] to have written policies in place specific to partnering with the UN’.

Moreover, 79% of local women’s organizations working on WPS-HA issues emphasized that there is a need to balance between programmatic and institutional funding in order to effectively deliver in this space. In 2020, WPHF established institutional or core funding as a new stream for local women’s organizations to sustain themselves and build their institutional capacities – funding which is often not available to smaller entities. To date, over 95 women’s organizations have received institutional support through WPHF. The survey revealed however that 63% of organizations still feel that their institutions are at risk due to the lack of available institutional/core funding in the donor landscape, an increase of 6% from the year before (57%), and another 32% feel this risk has continued to threaten their sustainability in the past 12 months.
Regionally, women’s organizations in Africa and Arab States had the highest rates with 74% and 71% respectively, while only half (50%) of organizations in LAC reported that they were either consulted or invited to engage on policy or action plans for WPS-HA.

Priorities of local women’s organizations

Participating organizations were asked about their priorities in WPS-HA given their intimate knowledge of their communities and contexts. They highlighted that the protection of women and girls in conflict and crisis settings continues to be a core area needed with 29% citing this as their main priority. Another 24% note that peacebuilding and economic recovery is a main priority for their organizations, followed by creating an enabling environment for WPS, including through the monitoring of the implementation of National Action Plans in their countries (14%).

In terms of other specific thematic areas that could potentially be explored, women’s rights organizations were asked to rank five thematic areas of i) the nexus between food security, gender equality and sustainable peace; ii) climate change mainstreaming in WPS-HA; iii) disability mainstreaming in WPS-HA; iv) youth and the youth, peace and security (YPS) agenda; and v) digitalization and the use of technology or innovative approaches in WPS-HA. More than half (51%) of organizations ranked food security, gender equality and peace as a priority area and need, followed by climate change in WPS-HA with 19%. As WPHF goes into a new strategic phase, these findings will be critical to ensure that funding is channeled based on the needs and priorities of local women’s organizations on the frontlines.

Way Forward

Despite the gains made since UNSCR 1325 and the global calls for enhanced women’s leadership and participation in WPS-HA, more funding is needed to support local women peacebuilders, humanitarians and women human rights defenders and their organizations’ work to build peace, gender equality and respond to crisis. Not only does financing need to increase, but funding modalities from the international community and private sector need to continue to be flexible and aligned with the realities of grassroots organizations working on the frontlines in crisis and conflict settings.

It is essential to sustain local women’s organizations’ leadership, work and impact to avoid rolling back vital progress made on inclusive peace and the realization of women’s rights.

Recommendations:

- Continued flexible and quality funding to support local women’s rights organizations working in crisis and conflict settings, including multi-year institutional/core funding and programmatic funding which extends beyond 24 months.
- Mainstreaming key emerging priorities such as food security and climate change within the WPS-HA context and providing local women’s organizations with spaces to respond contextually to these priorities.
- Recognizing the value of and supporting the safety, security and well-being of CSO personnel and volunteers and encouraging integration of initiatives which will ensure their well-being is prioritized.
- Investment in strengthening the institutional capacity of local women’s organizations working in conflict and crisis settings to increase their access to funding, improve their financial and risk management, enhance their agility to adapt, and support the overall continuation and sustainability of their work to impact WPS-HA.
- Investment and support for women human rights defenders and civil society organizations facing increased threats and retaliation with emerging crisis and conflicts.
- Providing spaces to local women’s organizations to consult and receive technical support from funders during the design phase to ensure more impactful interventions, and to have opportunities to build their internal capacity in resource mobilization with other donors.
- Minimizing the need for arduous documentation and processes for local women and youth grassroots organizations in applying for funds for WPS-HA, including diverse languages, more support/guidance on project proposal writing and in implementation, while still ensuring a demand-driven and contextual process.

References

7 Institutional funding refers to resources provided to an organization to sustain themselves through a crisis and build its institutional capacity. This is also referred to as core funding
9See also reports by AWID and Mama Cash (November 2020). Moving More Money to the Drivers of Change: How Bilateral and Multilateral Funders can Resource Feminist Movements.

About WPHF

The United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) is a global partnership designed to accelerate action and support for women’s participation, leadership, and empowerment in humanitarian response and peace and security settings. 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 established itself as a highly relevant and credible multi-partner trust fund, channeling urgently needed funds to local and grassroots civil-society organizations working on women, peace and security and humanitarian action around the world. To date, WPHF has funded over 930 local women’s organizations working to support women to be a force for crisis response and lasting peace in 41 countries. In addition, WPHF has supported the participation and the protection of over 100 women human rights defenders and women peacebuilders in 17 countries.

Follow @wphfund on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

For additional information on the WPHF funding mechanisms, please visit:

- WPHF’s Regular Funding Cycle: https://wphfund.org/calls-for-proposals/
- WPHF’s Rapid Response Window: https://wphfund.org/rrw/
- WPHF’s Funding Window for Women Human Rights Defenders: https://wphfund.org/whrds/
Appendix E: Issues Report

Issues Report on Measures and Other Actions Taken in Response to Fraud, Corruption and Other Wrongdoing as well as Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment

1. INTRODUCTION
The following report outlines the measures and actions taken by WPHF and Management Entities (ME) for WPHF funded projects in relation to cases of fraud, corruption, Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (SEAH) and other allegations about WPHF funded organizations. In 2022, two new cases involving mismanagement of finances, fraud or corruption in D.R.C and Malawi were detected by the ME (UN Women). The cases from 2021 in Uganda have now been closed and the retrieval of misappropriated funds in Nigeria will be reallocated in 2023.

2. CASES INVOLVING ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION, ABUSE, AND HARASSMENT

In 2022 no cases of misconduct were registered under this category.

3. CASES INVOLVING MISMANAGEMENT OF FINANCES, FRAUD AND CORRUPTION

Cases from 2021:

Uganda: The two cases that occurred in Uganda in 2021 were closed. UN Women CO continues efforts to retrieve the misappropriated funds from the respective CSOs.

Nigeria: The cases that occurred in Nigeria were closed. UN Women CO continues efforts to retrieve the misappropriated funds from the respective CSOs. The National Steering Committee will reallocate the remaining funds in line with the Rules and Regulations of the WPHF in 2023.

New Cases from 2022:

D.R.C: One possible new case of misappropriation of funds was detected in the D.R.C during an audit. The project is on hold until further investigations have been completed.

Malawi: The partnership with a CSO partner was ended due to a misappropriation of funds detected during a monitoring visit of the UN Women CO. The UN Women office continues its efforts to retrieve the misappropriated funds. The NSC has reallocated the remaining funds from this partner to two currently ongoing projects from the same call for proposals in line with the rules and regulations of the WPHF.

4. TERRORIST LISTS

In 2022, no cases were registered.

5. MITIGATION MEASURES

Risks and mitigation measures linked to anti-corruption and fraud as well as Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEAH) are integrated in the WPHF risk matrix, as found in its Operations Manual.

Concerning the mismanagement of funds, the WPHF Secretariat submits budgets and allocation suggestions, as well as relevant ME/Transmittal forms to the WPHF Funding Board for review and approval for each call for proposals. In country, the ME also conducts regular financial checks and controls as per its respective rules and regulations as well as financial trainings with WPHF CSO partners. In line with the respective rules and regulations of the ME, any partnership based on any sign of financial mismanagement the partnership and all activities are paused, and an investigation conducted. The WPHF is informed throughout the process and next steps are being discussed with the ME. Where a case of financial mismanagement is evidenced, the ME will terminate the project, inform the WPHF and request the funds misappropriated to be repaid and take any other legal measure, if necessary. The WPHF informs all relevant internal and external stakeholders as appropriate.

All Partnership Cooperation Agreements (PCA) of UN Women include language on SEA. WPHF has a zero-tolerance policy towards SEA and all cases reported have to be investigated. Therefore, during inception meetings with grantees SEA and the zero-tolerance policy towards SEA is being stressed. In case SEA evidence is the Management Entity will terminate the contract with the grantee after consulting the WPHF NSC. At the country level, organizations are checked against the UN Security Council consolidated sanctions list before contracts are signed for transfer of funds.

6. WPHF GLOBAL LEARNING HUB AND COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

As part of WPHF Global Learning Hub and Community of Practice, the WPHF Secretariat identified the need to reinforce CSO partner knowledge of anti-corruption strategies. As such, a capacity building webinar on Prevention and Response to Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH) was conducted in collaboration with CARE International in English, Arabic, French and Spanish for 85 CSO participants from 15 countries addressing different forms of SEA as well as provided effective strategies to detect and report cases. A Tip Sheet ‘Acting against Sexual Harassment, Exploitation and Abuse in Civil Society Organizations’ and examples of PSEAH and safeguarding policies developed by CSOs from Malawi were also provided to the CSOs. According to WPHF Annual CSO Survey 2022, organizations declared using new methods to prevent SEA and improve their internal policy and institutional practices, and as participants noted, “we have built a stronger structure to prevent and with PSEA and fraud,” and “since the webinar we have put in place policies to protect and combat sexual abuse and exploitation and deeds of commitments have been signed by staff and members of our organization.”

In addition, a webinar on risk management and anti-corruption was conducted in partnership with an expert from UN Women Uganda, attended by 61 CSO participants from 19 countries. It addressed different forms of fraud and bribery and provided effective strategies to detect them, including anti-corruption policies and response mechanisms that could be adopted to encourage whistleblowing and reporting within an organization. Reflection from CSOs demonstrates that these efforts have been useful in making concrete institutional changes, and as noted by one participant, “This new knowledge has enabled us to better manage our procurement finances in order to avoid cases of often unintentional fraud and we have increased our training in the protection against abuse, especially on women and children.”

In 2023, similar webinars will be organized in multiple languages to engage new CSO partners in the culture of risk prevention and foster the adoption of anti-fraud procedures and provide opportunities for the exchange of good practices in the integration of anti-corruption efforts in their strategic planning, implementation, and monitoring.
DEFINITIONS

▶ Allocation
Amount approved by the Steering Committee for a project/programme.

▶ Approved Project/Programme
A project/programme including budget, etc., that is approved by the Steering Committee for fund allocation purposes.

▶ Contributor Commitment
Amount(s) committed by a contributor to a Fund in a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement with the UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office), in its capacity as the Administrative Agent. A commitment may be paid or pending payment.

▶ Contributor Deposit
Cash deposit received by the MPTF Office for the Fund from a contributor in accordance with a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement.

▶ Delivery Rate
The percentage of funds that have been utilized, calculated by comparing expenditures reported by a Participating Organization against the net funded amount. This does not include expense commitments by Participating Organisations.

▶ Indirect Support Costs
A general cost that cannot be directly related to any particular programme or activity of the Participating Organizations. UNSDG policy establishes a fixed indirect cost rate of 7% of programmable costs for inter-agency pass-through MPTFs.

▶ Net Funded Amount
Amount transferred to a Participating Organization less any refunds transferred back to the MPTF Office by a Participating Organization.

▶ Participating Organization
A UN Organization or other inter-governmental Organization that is a partner in a Fund, as represented by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the MPTF Office for a particular Fund.

▶ Project Expenditure
The sum of expenses and/or expenditure reported by all Participating Organizations for a Fund irrespective of which basis of accounting each Participating Organization follows for donor reporting.

▶ Project Financial Closure
A project or programme is considered financially closed when all financial obligations of an operationally completed project or programme have been settled, and no further financial charges may be incurred.

▶ Project Operational Closure
A project or programme is considered operationally closed when all programmatic activities for which Participating Organization(s) received funding have been completed.

▶ Project Start Date
Project/ Joint programme start date as per the programmatic document.

▶ Total Approved Budget
This represents the cumulative amount of allocations approved by the Steering Committee.

▶ US Dollar Amount
The financial data in the report is recorded in US Dollars.
INTRODUCTION

This Consolidated Annual Financial Report of the Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund is prepared by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) in fulfillment of its obligations as Administrative Agent, as per the terms of Reference (TOR), the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the UNDP MPTF Office and the Participating Organizations, and the Standard Administrative Arrangement (SAA) signed with contributors.

The MPTF Office, as Administrative Agent, is responsible for concluding an MOU with Participating Organizations and SAs with contributors. It receives, administers, and manages contributions, and disburses these funds to the Participating Organizations. The Administrative Agent prepares and submits annual consolidated financial reports, as well as regular financial statements, to the Participating Organizations. The Administrative Agent fee has been charged at the approved rate of 1% on deposits and amounts to US$ 1,165,078. Table 1 provides an overview of the overall sources, uses, and balance of the Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund as of 31 December 2022.

2022 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

This chapter presents financial data and analysis of the Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund using the pass-through funding modality as of 31 December 2022. Financial information for this Fund is also available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY, at the following address: https://mptf.undp.org/fund/gai00.

1. Sources and uses of funds

As of 31 December 2022, 19 contributors deposited US$ 116,507,805 and US$ 740,798 was earned in interest. Of this amount, US$ 73,684,369 has been net funded to 8 Participating Organizations, of which US$ 40,284,323 has been reported as expenditure. The Administrative Agent fee has been charged at the approved rate of 1% on deposits and amounts to US$ 1,165,078. Table 1 provides an overview of the overall sources, uses, and balance of the Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund as of 31 December 2022.

2. Partner Contributions

Table 2 provides information on cumulative contributions received from all contributors to this fund as of 31 December 2022. The Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund is currently being financed by 19 contributors, as listed in the table below.

### TABLE 1

Financial Overview, as of 31 December 2022 (in US Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Funds</th>
<th>Annual 2021</th>
<th>Annual 2022</th>
<th>Cumulative 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions from donors</td>
<td>35,115,556</td>
<td>42,776,883</td>
<td>116,507,805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-total Contributions</td>
<td>35,115,556</td>
<td>42,776,883</td>
<td>116,507,805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income</td>
<td>39,927</td>
<td>367,899</td>
<td>740,798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: Sources of Funds</td>
<td>35,155,483</td>
<td>43,144,782</td>
<td>117,248,603</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use of Funds</th>
<th>Annual 2021</th>
<th>Annual 2022</th>
<th>Cumulative 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transfers to Participating Organizations</td>
<td>10,034,581</td>
<td>29,005,740</td>
<td>64,341,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers to MPTFs</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,250,000</td>
<td>2,250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Funded Amount</td>
<td>10,034,581</td>
<td>31,255,740</td>
<td>73,601,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Agent Fees</td>
<td>352,156</td>
<td>437,709</td>
<td>1,100,078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Costs</td>
<td>950,000</td>
<td>2,407,050</td>
<td>5,420,535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Charges</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>736</td>
<td>1,928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: Use of Funds</td>
<td>11,336,043</td>
<td>34,091,295</td>
<td>74,851,384</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total: Sources of Funds | 35,155,483 | 43,144,782 | 117,248,603 |
| Total: Use of Funds     | 11,336,043 | 34,091,295 | 74,851,384 |

Balances:
- Closing Fund balance (31 December): 33,343,741
- Opening Fund balance (1 January): 9,924,142
- Closing Fund balance (31 December): 33,343,741
- Opening Fund balance (1 January): 9,924,142

The table includes financial commitments made by the contributors through signed Standard Administrative Agreements with an anticipated deposit date as per the schedule of payments by 31 December 2022 and deposits received by the same date. It does not include commitments that were made to the fund beyond 2022.
SPOTLIGHT CONTRIBUTION

The Spotlight Initiative Fund is a contributor to the WPHF and has provided funding within the WPHF framework, governance structure, and oversight, while the administration remains in parallel due to the specific contracting modality of the EU Spotlight arrangement. The table below provides the details on the Spotlight contribution.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 2.2 Funding from Spotlight Initiative Fund</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0013724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0013031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0013035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0013034</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Interest Earned

Interest income is earned in two ways: 1) on the balance of funds held by the Administrative Agent (Fund earned interest), and 2) on the balance of funds held by the Participating Organizations (Agency earned interest) where their Financial Regulations and Rules allow return of interest to the AA.

As of 31 December 2022, Fund earned interest amounts to US$ 740,798. No Interest was received from Participating Organizations, bringing the cumulative interest received to US$ 740,798. Details are provided in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 3 Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2022 (in US Dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interest Earned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: Fund Earned Interest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: Agency earned interest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Transfer Of Funds

Allocations to Participating Organizations are approved by the Steering Committee and disbursed by the Administrative Agent. As of 31 December 2022, the AA has transferred US$ 68,263,834 to 6 Participating Organizations (see list below).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 4 Transfer, Refund, and Net Funded Amount by Participating Organization (in US Dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participating Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia MPTF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DefendDef</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMHRF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLDO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAORE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNWOMEN NGO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNWOMEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Expenditure And Financial Delivery Rates

All final expenditures reported are submitted as certified financial information by the Headquarters of the Participating Organizations. These were consolidated by the MPTF Office.

Joint programme/project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization, and are reported to the Administrative Agent as per the agreed upon categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. The expenditures are reported via the MPTF Office’s online expenditure reporting tool. The 2022 expenditure data has been posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY at [https://mptf.undp.org/fund/gao02](https://mptf.undp.org/fund/gao02).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 5.1 Expenditure Reported by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2022 (in US Dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participating Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia MPTF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DefendDef</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMHRF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLDO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAORE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNWOMEN NGO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNWOMEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.2. Expenditures Reported by Category

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization and are reported as per the agreed categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting.

TABLE 5.2 Expenditure by UNSDG Budget Category, as of 31 December 2022 (in US Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Prior Years Cumulative as of 31-Dec-2021</th>
<th>Current Year Jan-Dec-2022</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage of Total Programme Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff &amp; Personnel Cost</td>
<td>335,512</td>
<td>327,273</td>
<td>662,785</td>
<td>2.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies, commodities and materials</td>
<td>1,258,892</td>
<td>339,478</td>
<td>1,598,370</td>
<td>5.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment, vehicles, furniture and depreciation</td>
<td>933,693</td>
<td>381,439</td>
<td>1,315,132</td>
<td>4.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractual Services Expenses</td>
<td>9,531,831</td>
<td>4,073,326</td>
<td>13,605,156</td>
<td>43.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>1,678,630</td>
<td>352,056</td>
<td>2,030,687</td>
<td>6.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers and Grants</td>
<td>205,203</td>
<td>1,198,508</td>
<td>1,403,710</td>
<td>4.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Operating</td>
<td>7,606,904</td>
<td>9,754,149</td>
<td>10,773,974</td>
<td>34.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Costs Total</td>
<td>21,543,664</td>
<td>9,754,149</td>
<td>31,337,813</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Support Costs Total</td>
<td>2,416,030</td>
<td>1,927,170</td>
<td>4,343,201</td>
<td>13.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>23,959,694</td>
<td>11,721,319</td>
<td>35,681,014</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Indirect Support Costs charged by Participating Organization, based on their financial regulations, can be deducted upfront or at a later stage during implementation. The percentage may therefore appear to exceed the 7% agreed-upon for on-going projects. Once projects are financially closed, this number is not to exceed 7%.

6. Cost Recovery

Cost recovery policies for the Fund are guided by the applicable provisions of the Terms of Reference, the MOU concluded between the Administrative Agent and Participating Organizations, and the SAAs concluded between the Administrative Agent and Contributors, based on rates approved by UNDG.

The policies in place, as of 31 December 2022, were as follows:

- The Administrative Agent (AA) fee: 3% is charged at the time of contributor deposit and covers services provided on that contribution for the entire duration of the Fund. In the reporting period US$ 427,769 was deducted in AA-fees. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2022, US$ 1,165,078 has been charged in AA-fees.
- Indirect Costs of Participating Organizations: Participating Organizations may charge indirect costs. In the current reporting period US$ 1,927,170 was deducted in indirect costs by Participating Organizations. Cumulatively, indirect costs amount to US$ 4,343,201 as of 31 December 2022.

7. Accountability And Transparency

In order to effectively provide fund administration services and facilitate monitoring and reporting to the UN system and its partners, the MPTF Office has developed a public website, the MPTF Office Gateway (https://mptf.undp.org). Refreshed in real time every two hours from an internal enterprise resource planning system, the MPTF Office Gateway has become the UN system and its partners, thereby contributing to UN coherence and development effectiveness.

8. Direct Costs

The Fund governance mechanism may approve an allocation to a Participating Organization to cover costs associated with Fund coordination covering overall coordination, and fund level reviews and evaluations. These allocations are referred to as ‘direct costs’. In the reporting period, direct costs charged to the fund amounted to US$ 2,407,050. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2022, US$ 5,420,535 has been charged as Direct Costs.

ANNEX 1. EXPENDITURE BY PROJECT GROUPED BY OUTCOME/WINDOW

Annex 1 displays the net funded amounts, expenditures reported and the financial delivery rates by Outcome/Window by project/joint programme and Participating Organization.

ANNEX 1 Expenditure by Project within Outcome/Window

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome / Window</th>
<th>Project No. and Project Title</th>
<th>Participating Organization</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Total Net Funded Amount</th>
<th>Total Expenditure</th>
<th>Delivery Rate %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conflict Prevention</td>
<td>00123940 MF function of the Global Peace Foundation Program</td>
<td>UNWOMN NGO</td>
<td>On Going</td>
<td>2,310,097</td>
<td>2,310,097</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COVID-19 Emergency Resp Window</td>
<td>00122551 ME function of the WHF COVID-19 Resp Window</td>
<td>UNWOMN NGO</td>
<td>On Going</td>
<td>5,999,289</td>
<td>5,999,289</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COVID-19 Resp Window</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,786,584</td>
<td>6,786,584</td>
<td>6,238,809</td>
<td>92.17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crisis Relief</td>
<td>00122551 ME function of the Global Peace Foundation Program</td>
<td>UNWOMN NGO</td>
<td>On Going</td>
<td>2,010,068</td>
<td>2,010,068</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and extensive information on individual Funds, including their purpose, governance structure and key documents. By providing easy access to the growing number of narrative and financial reports, as well as related project documents, the Gateway collects and preserves important institutional knowledge and facilitates knowledge sharing and management among UN Organizations and their development partners, thereby contributing to UN coherence and development effectiveness.

| Conflict Prevention | 00122551 ME function of the WHF COVID-19 Resp Window | UNWOMN NGO | On Going | 1,999,789 | 1,999,789 | 100.00 |
| COVID-19 Resp Window | Total | 6,786,584 | 6,786,584 | 6,238,809 | 92.17 |
| Crisis Relief | 00122551 ME function of the WHF COVID-19 Resp Window | UNWOMN NGO | On Going | 1,999,789 | 1,999,789 | 100.00 |
### ANNEX 2. EXPENDITURE BY PROJECT GROUPED BY COUNTRY

An example of the expenditure by project grouped by country is shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country / Project No. and Project Title</th>
<th>Participating Organization</th>
<th>Total Approved Amount</th>
<th>Net Funded Amount</th>
<th>Total Expenditure</th>
<th>Delivery Rate %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan: Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,334,749</td>
<td>3,334,749</td>
<td>273,498</td>
<td>82.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh: Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,019,694</td>
<td>2,019,694</td>
<td>806,414</td>
<td>39.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi: Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,348,324</td>
<td>2,348,324</td>
<td>2,406,309</td>
<td>73.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia: Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,250,000</td>
<td>4,250,000</td>
<td>2,391,268</td>
<td>56.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congo (the Democratic Republic of the)</td>
<td></td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>32,710</td>
<td>6.54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Socio-economic Recovery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>00103468 Disbursement to Colombia Post-</th>
<th>UNWOMEN NGO</th>
<th>2,338,875</th>
<th>2,338,875</th>
<th>494,528</th>
<th>21.14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### Safety and Security

|----------------------------------------|-------------|----------|----------|--------|-------|

#### Appendix 1: Expenditure by Project, grouped by Country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country / Project No. and Project Title</th>
<th>Participating Organization</th>
<th>Total Approved Amount</th>
<th>Net Funded Amount</th>
<th>Total Expenditure</th>
<th>Delivery Rate %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan: Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,334,749</td>
<td>3,334,749</td>
<td>273,498</td>
<td>82.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>56.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congo (the Democratic Republic of the)</td>
<td></td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>32,710</td>
<td>6.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Function</td>
<td>Amount 2022</td>
<td>Amount 2021</td>
<td>GFY 2022</td>
<td>GFY 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>UNWOMEN NGO</td>
<td>2,010,068</td>
<td>2,010,068</td>
<td>1,828,852</td>
<td>90.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiji</td>
<td>UNWOMEN NGO</td>
<td>2,010,068</td>
<td>2,010,068</td>
<td>1,828,852</td>
<td>90.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global and Interregional</td>
<td>UNWOMEN NGO</td>
<td>6,966,560</td>
<td>6,966,560</td>
<td>2,659,513</td>
<td>38.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiji</td>
<td>UNWOMEN NGO</td>
<td>2,010,068</td>
<td>2,010,068</td>
<td>1,828,852</td>
<td>90.98</td>
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WHEN WOMEN PEACEBUILDERS, HUMANITARIANS AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS ARE ADEQUATELY FINANCED, THEIR IMPACT IS EXPONENTIAL.