

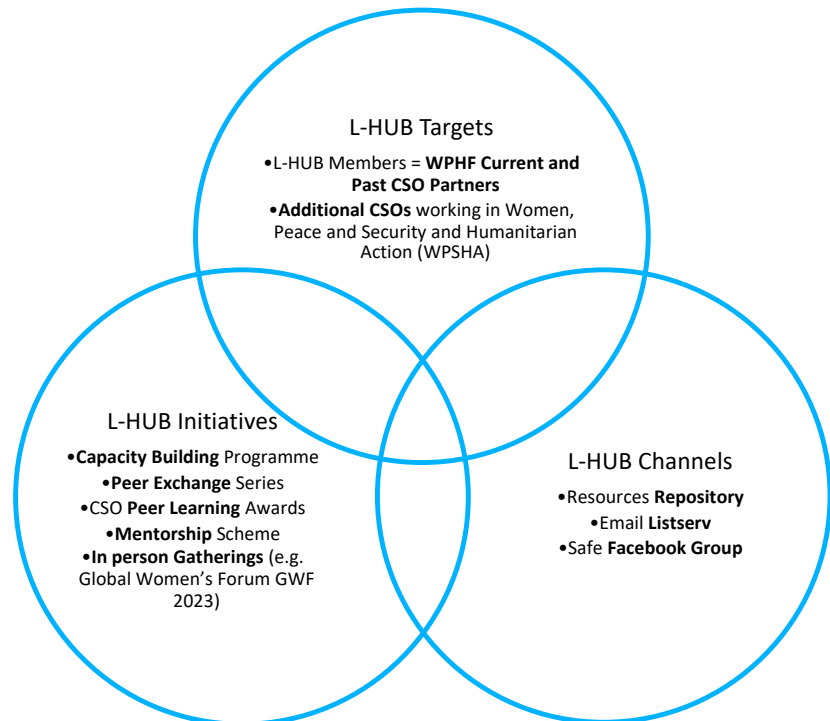


The WPHF Global Learning Hub

Enhancing Capacities and Dialogue. Driving Innovation.

The **Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF)** is a global partnership mobilizing critical financing for local women-led and women's rights organizations to prevent conflict and sexual and gender-based violence, respond to emergencies, and seize key peacebuilding opportunities in fragile settings. Since its launch in 2016, WPHF has established itself as a highly relevant and credible multi-partner trust fund, channeling urgently needed support to over 900 local civil society organizations (CSOs) working on women, peace and security and humanitarian action (WPS-HA) in 32 countries around the world.

In fulfillment of its mandate to serve as a global knowledge center for local CSOs working on the front lines of conflict and crises, the WPHF Secretariat has established a Global Learning Hub (L-HUB) to connect WPHF civil society partners, reinforce their capacities and support their growth and resilience. The L-HUB is an innovative space facilitating dialogue and exchange of best practices between women peacebuilders and humanitarians through online and in-person activities¹.



Since 2020, the L-HUB offers training, knowledge exchange, and mentoring opportunities to a wide pool of women leaders and CSOs, through leveraging partnerships with I/NGOs, private sector actors, governments, and the academia. The L-HUB develops initiatives to support long term peer learning between CSOs, and a mentorship scheme in support of CSOs working with displaced women and girls. Through capacity building and peer exchange webinars, the L-HUB has strengthened the institutional development of over 1772 civil society leaders² since 2020 from **321 unique CSOs** from 34 countries³.

¹ See, for example, the Global Women's Forums (GWF) for Peace and Humanitarian Action held in [Vienna \(2020\)](#) and [Berlin \(2023\)](#).

² Data as of 1st January 2023. Includes representatives who have attended multiple sessions.

³ Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burundi, Cameroon, Colombia, DRC, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Haiti, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Moldova, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palau, Palestine, Philippines, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Uganda, Ukraine, Vanuatu, Venezuela, and Yemen.

WPHF L-HUB's initiatives include:

- The **CSO Peer Learning Awards**, launched in collaboration with [Women Have Wings](#), to promote the work and recognize the efforts of ten women CSO leaders engaged in peace and crisis response with a focus on youth, and support mutual capacity building and networking between 10 CSOs who will collaborate and work in tandems in DRC, Jordan, Nigeria, Palestine and Uganda.
- The WPHF **Mentorship Scheme** will mobilize the expertise of [Germany's Action Network on Forced Displacement](#) to provide capacity building to WPHF civil society partners and offer mentoring and advice to CSOs focusing on women in displacement and working in tandems.

Overview of WPHF Global Learning Hub (L-HUB) Channels

The L-HUB is designed for WPHF civil society partners and WPHF country focal points and is managed by the WPHF Secretariat. The L-HUB constitutes:

- A **Repository** of customized training resources and knowledge products on women, peace and security and humanitarian issues for WPHF CSO partners.
- An **Email Distribution Group** (List Serv) enabling WPHF to disseminate capacity building resources and training and dialogue opportunities. Through the L-HUB Monthly Update, WPHF civil society partners are constantly updated on WPHF L-HUB events, knowledge resources and activities.
- A **Facebook Group** empowering over 250 representatives of WPHF CSO partners to engage with fellow civil society peers from around the world and exchange impacts, ideas, and solutions.
- A **Capacity Building Programme** tailored to the CSOs' needs made of training modules in multiple formats and languages on critical skills such as monitoring and evaluation, communications, advocacy, prevention of sexual harassment and abuse, youth mainstreaming, climate change integration in WPS-HA work and resource mobilization.
- A **Peer Exchange Series** providing a space for CSOs to share strategies and challenges on WPSHA topics and present the knowledge products resulting from their work.

WPHF Capacity Building Programme and Peer Exchange Series

In May 2020, WPHF conducted an online survey to assess the capacity building priorities of its active CSO partners. Building on the results of this initial assessment which engaged 67 local organizations from 8 countries, WPHF designed a comprehensive global capacity building strategy, with particular emphasis on the pillars of accessibility, CSO ownership, information exchange and non-duplication of efforts at country level⁴. With the intent to help local CSO partners become stronger organizations and sustain their efforts, WPHF global capacity building modules and resources are purposefully designed to support the survival of local women's organizations in the long-term, and do not aim to focus on improving organizations' compliance with WPHF and other UN administrative processes.

The **Capacity Building Programme** is structured around various learning modules articulating a range of topics designed to enhance the institutional capacity of local CSOs working in crises-affected contexts, such as results-based management, data collection, communications, technology, risk management, and resource mobilization. Through mobilizing external partners and experts (CSOs and INGOs, UN entities and other organizations), WPHF offers online training webinars in Arabic, English, French, and Spanish, on the topics prioritized by the CSO representatives.

⁴ WPHF Capacity Building Strategy is available on [WPHF-Capacity-Building-Strategy-Updated-January-2023.pdf \(wphfund.org\)](#)

In addition, the **Peer Exchange Series** spotlight the expertise and experiences of WPHF civil society partners. These exchange opportunities are enhancing the visibility of WPHF-supported projects as well as the research findings and advocacy work led by CSOs on the ground. The Peer Exchange Series constitute 1) the **Peer Exchange Sessions** that feature several CSOs in online discussions to share their impact, strategies, and challenges on WPSHA related topics (child marriage, coalition building, etc.), 2) the **Knowledge Cafés** where a CSO presents a knowledge product resulting from their work, showcasing the diversity of research products and research practices.

To better respond to local CSOs' needs, along with the evaluation questionnaires distributed after each webinar, WPHF annually conducts a survey among its civil society partners to collect feedback and inform the design and planning of future institutional strengthening initiatives⁵. Through consulting with recipient organizations and involving feminist experts from different backgrounds, WPHF aims to ensure that capacity development initiatives are context specific and customized to meet the evolving needs of partners. The users' feedback helps shaping the design and implementation of training and exchange activities and reinforcing their quality, accuracy, and relevance.

WPHF L-HUB by the Numbers (Focus on 2022)



WPHF civil society partners have highlighted the added value of WPHF L-HUB training and exchange initiatives as a meaningful way to keep in close contact with fellow women peacebuilders and humanitarian activists facing similar challenges across regions. Participating in regular webinars and exchanges has provided women civil society leaders with invaluable insight and information, allowing them to coordinate for learning, collaboration, and movement building. It also helps develop solidarity among local civil society leaders and forge new synergies among them⁶.

⁵ The 2020 CSO Survey on WPHF Global Community of Practice Activities is currently available at <https://wphfund.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/2020-CSO-Annual-Survey-on-WPHF-Global-Community-of-Practice-Activities.pdf>. The annual CSO Survey on WPHF Global Learning Hub Initiatives (2021): <https://wphfund.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Annual-CSO-Survey-on-WPHF-Global-Learning-Hub-Initiatives-2021.pdf>

⁶ For more information, see the L-HUB Annual Report 2022: https://wphfund.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/WPHF_L-HUB_Annual-Report_2022-Final.pdf

CSOs' Testimonies

“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”.

“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”.

“We get inspired by women's organizations all over the world through this same Hub and their wonderful work”.

L-HUB Partners and Probono Trainers and Facilitators (2020-2022)



Learn more at <https://wphfund.org/wphfund-community/>

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