



## The WPHF Global Learning Hub (L-HUB)

### Enhancing Capacities and Movement Building between Women Leaders

The United Nations **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 1250 local civil society organizations (CSOs) working on women, peace and security and humanitarian action (WPS-HA) in 44 countries around the world.

#### L-HUB INITIATIVES

- Capacity Building Programme
- Peer Exchange Series
- CSO Peer Learning Awards
- Mentorship Scheme
- In person Global Convenings

#### L-HUB CHANNELS

- Digital Library with Resources
- Email Listserv
- Safe Facebook Group

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 through online and in-person activities.

**Funding gap 2024-2025: USD 800,000**

Through leveraging partnerships with I/NGOs, private sector actors, governments, and the academia, the L-HUB offers training, knowledge exchange, and mentoring opportunities to women peacebuilders and humanitarians and their organizations. Since 2020 through capacity strengthening and knowledge exchange webinars, the L-HUB has strengthened the institutional development of over **2520** staff<sup>1</sup> from **402 CSOs** across **37** countries<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Data as of December 2023. Please note CSO members can attend multiple sessions.

<sup>2</sup> Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burundi, Cameroon, Colombia, DRC, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Guatemala, Haiti, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Malawi, Moldova, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palau, Palestine, Philippines, PNG, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Uganda, Ukraine, Vanuatu, Venezuela, and Yemen.

WPHF civil society partners have highlighted the added value of WPHF L-HUB training and exchange initiatives as a meaningful way to keep in 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 information, allowing them to support each other for increased organizational resilience. It also helps develop solidarity among local civil society leaders and forge new collaborations among them<sup>3</sup>.

## L-HUB Initiatives and Tools

The L-HUB is managed by the WPHF Secretariat and provides WPHF civil society partners with:

- A **Capacity Strengthening Programme** tailored to the CSOs' needs as per WPHF's capacity building strategy<sup>4</sup> designed to support the survival of CSOs and reinforce their internal policies and processes. Through mobilizing the expertise of the CSOs themselves and external partners (I/NGOs, think tanks, UN entities and other organizations), WPHF offers online training webinars on the topics prioritized by the CSOs based on a survey conducted every year<sup>5</sup>. The webinars are provided in Arabic, English, French, and Spanish languages. The webinars address critical skills such as feminist monitoring and evaluation, results-based management, communications, advocacy skills, prevention of sexual harassment and abuse, youth mainstreaming, climate change integration in WPS-HA work, food security, gender-based violence programming in emergencies, anti-corruption and fraud, and project design and resource mobilization. Evaluation questionnaires are distributed after each webinar to collect feedback and inform the planning of future capacity development initiatives.
- A **Peer Exchange Series** that provides a safe space for CSOs to share strategies, good practices, and challenges on WPSHA topics and present the findings of their research work. The Peer Exchange Series constitute: 1) the Peer Exchange Sessions spotlighting the expertise and experiences of WPHF civil society partners on programmatic topics (conflict prevention, conflict resolution, women's protection, etc.), 2) the Knowledge Cafés where a CSO presents a knowledge product and how they used the knowledge generated to advocate for more gender-inclusive peace and humanitarian relief.
- **Global In Person Convenings** fostering connections and joint advocacy between WPHF civil society partners will be organized every two / three-year contingent on available funding. For example, in May 2023, in collaboration with the Germany's Federal Foreign Office, WPHF convened the Global Women's Forum for Peace and Humanitarian Action (GWF) in Berlin with 200 international and government stakeholders, including 87 women's rights organizations across 29 countries. The Forum provided women leaders a unique opportunity to build relationships, showcase their impact, and liaise with government donors and high-level decision

---

<sup>3</sup> For more information, see the L-HUB Annual Report 2023: [https://wphfund.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/WPHF\\_L-HUB\\_Annual-Report\\_2023.pdf](https://wphfund.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/WPHF_L-HUB_Annual-Report_2023.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> WPHF Capacity Building Strategy is available at [WPHF-Capacity-Building-Strategy-Updated-January-2023.pdf](https://wphfund.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/WPHF-Capacity-Building-Strategy-Updated-January-2023.pdf) ([wphfund.org](https://wphfund.org))

<sup>5</sup>2022 Annual CSO Survey on WPHF L-HUB Initiatives <https://wphfund.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Annual-CSO-Survey-on-WPHF-Global-Learning-Hub-Initiatives-2022.pdf>

makers, UN entities and INGOs. The GWF culminated with the adoption of the Berlin Declaration, capturing the CSOs’ priorities that will serve to influence key policy processes. Following the GWF, the L-HUB launched a call for proposals for CSO partners that participated in the forum to identify advocacy actions pushing forward the Berlin Declaration’s recommendations and four CSOs received a grant to lead two joint advocacy actions to be implemented in 2024.

- **Small Grants for Peer Learning** allowing WPHF civil society partners to work in pair (or tandem) with another CSO to exchange knowledge and experience and reinforce long-term relationships between their staff and members:
  - The **CSO Peer Learning Awards** have been launched in collaboration with [Women Have Wings](#) to promote the work and recognize the efforts of women CSO leaders engaged in peace and crisis response and support mutual capacity building between their organizations. The women are provided with an honor recognition and their organizations receive a grant of up to \$8,000 to collaborate with a tandem CSO. Since 2021, 30 women leaders from DRC, Haiti, Jordan, Lebanon, Mali, Myanmar, Nigeria, Palestine, Solomon Islands, Uganda, and Vanuatu have received such an award.
  - The L-HUB **Mentorship Scheme** as part of WPHF’s Funding Initiative on Forced Displacement, mobilizes the expertise of [Germany’s Action Network on Forced Displacement](#) to provide capacity strengthening to WPHF civil society partners and provide grants of up to \$10,000 to CSOs focusing on women in displacement. The Mentorship projects aim to foster collaboration and solidarity between pairs of CSOs promoting improved socio-economic recovery and political participation of displaced women and girls. So far, 21 CSO tandems have been selected in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Colombia, Moldova, Nigeria, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Ukraine, and Yemen.
- A **Digital Library** of customized training resources and knowledge products on women, peace and security and humanitarian issues for WPHF CSO partners in Arabic, English, French and Spanish. The Google Drive Library also highlights WPHF CSO partners’ knowledge products and other useful materials on peacebuilding and humanitarian response.
- An **Email Distribution Group** enabling WPHF to disseminate capacity building resources and training and dialogue opportunities. Through the L-HUB Monthly Update, WPHF civil society partners are constantly informed of WPHF L-HUB events, knowledge resources and activities.
- A **Facebook Group** empowering WPHF CSO partners to engage with fellow civil society peers from around the world and exchange impacts, ideas, professional advice, and solutions.

## L-HUB in Numbers (focus on 2023)

<b>24</b>	<b>965</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>11</b>
Capacity strengthening and peer exchange webinars organized	Staff from 303 CSOs across 35 countries engaged	CSO staff have presented at capacity strengthening and peer exchange webinars	Youth speakers
<b>82.5%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>99</b>
Of CSO staff report using new knowledge and skills acquired through the L-HUB	Global Women’s Forum for Peace & Humanitarian Action convening 87 CSO leaders	Joint projects selected through L-HUB calls for proposals	CSO staff learned from each other through the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Peer Learning Awards

## CSOs' Testimonies

**“WPHF L-HUB is really important and useful for local women led organizations in order to strengthen the institutional capacities and build network from different regions.” (CSO from Myanmar)**

**“After the webinar of self-care, I have managed to take care of myself especially about safety.” (CSO from Liberia)**

**“We are applying other country lessons learnt to mobilize more women into peace building.” (CSO from South Sudan)**

**“Collaborating with another organization strengthened our collective skills and enabled mutual knowledge sharing.” (CSO from Haiti)**

## Looking Forward: L-HUB Priorities 2024-2025

- Continue offering **quality training** and **peer learning opportunities** for CSOs in multiple languages and formats to respond to the CSOs' demand. According to the Annual CSO Survey on the L-HUB (January 2024), 82.5% of CSOs found the L-HUB initiatives helpful to operate and fulfil their mission. In the same survey, 52 CSOs recommended providing regular opportunities for learning, exchange, and knowledge sharing. In addition, many new CSOs are integrating the WPHF on a continuous basis and are provided access to the L-HUB services, hence the need to sustain the L-HUB programmes.
- Mobilize resources to organize a **new Global Women's Forum for Peace and Humanitarian Action in 2025**. While 2025 will mark the anniversary of the UNSC Resolution 1325 it will be important to take stock of the progress and challenges in advancing women's roles in peace and humanitarian response and increase visibility and support to the CSOs working on localizing the WPS Agenda. Most participants in the 2023 Global Women's Forum expressed the need for more regular organizing of such convening spaces to foster movement-building between women's rights CSOs. This was reflected in the last GWF main recommendations: “International organizations, INGOs and the UN should regularly convene regional and global experience exchanges to build trust and genuine collaboration among women's rights and women-led organizations and women and young women leaders<sup>6</sup>.”

---

<sup>6</sup> The Berlin Declaration is available in <https://wphfund.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/ENG-Berlin-Declaration-202362.pdf>

## L-HUB Partners and Pro bono Trainers 2020-2023



Learn more at <https://wphfund.org/wphfund-community/>  
Contact: emilie.vidal@unwomen.org / sandra.edward@unwomen.org

