



Q&A on the Women's Peace & Humanitarian Fund's Call for Proposal in Afghanistan

Please find below a collection of questions that have been asked during the public information session hosted by the UN Women Country Office in Afghanistan on the 11th of November on the [WPHF Call for Proposal in Afghanistan](#) to enhance the protection of women and girls and promote the participation and leadership of women in humanitarian crisis and response.

Eligibility

1. Q: Are organizations that are currently receiving WPHF funding eligible to apply?

A: If an organization (lead applicant or co-implementing partner) is receiving institutional funding from WPHF, you can apply for programmatic funding as part of this call for proposal. Likewise, if an organization (lead applicant or co-implementing partner) is currently receiving programmatic funding from WPHF, you are eligible to apply for institutional funding as part of this call for proposal.

Organizations (lead applicant or co-implementing partners) who are currently receiving programmatic and/or institutional funding from WPHF must ensure their current project will be closed prior to receiving funding as part of this call for proposal, i.e. organizations cannot be double funded under the same funding stream (programmatic or institutional). If a CSO has a Partnership Agreement with UN Women which is not funded by WPHF, you can apply.

2. Q: If an organization has already finished a programmatic grant funded by WPHF, can they reapply?

A: Yes, organizations who have previously received funding from WPHF are eligible to receive funding as part of this Call for Proposal. Organizations (lead applicant or co-implementing partners) who are currently receiving programmatic and/or institutional funding from WPHF must ensure their current project will be closed prior to receiving funding as part of this Call for Proposal. The new project proposal may be based on the current one, as long as it builds on current results and shows a clear progression/need for activities to continue.

3. Q: Can international organizations apply?

A: No. The following are NOT eligible to apply for a grant from the WPHF as part of this Call for Proposals: International non-governmental organizations, Government agencies or institutions, UN agencies or UN Country Teams, private individuals, private sector entities, universities, Think Tanks, and education or research Institutions.

4. Q: What types of organizations are eligible for funding?



A: National, regional or local/grassroots women or young women led, women's rights, youth rights, feminist, or civil society organizations with a proven track record working with women, young women and girls, are eligible to apply. Organizations who are led by women who face multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination are encouraged to apply, including displaced persons, LGBTQI+, disabilities, ethnic minorities, etc.

5. Q: Can project target beneficiaries outside of Afghanistan?

A: No. The WPHF will only fund projects activities in Afghanistan that target women and girls in Afghanistan as main beneficiaries.

6. Q: Is there a limited number of regions in Afghanistan that projects can target?

A: Any geographical region in Afghanistan is eligible for implementation and there is no limited number of regions that projects can target in Afghanistan.

7. Q: Does my organization need to be legally registered?

A: Yes, the lead applicant organization must have legal status with the competent national authority in the eligible country of project implementation (Afghanistan) and must submit proof of legal registration with the application package. Note that articles of incorporation are not proof of legal status.

8. Q: Can my organization be registered OUTSIDE Afghanistan, with activities taking place inside Afghanistan?

A: No, the lead applicant organization must have legal status with the competent national authority in the eligible country of project implementation (Afghanistan) and must submit proof of legal registration with the application package. National, regional or local/grassroots women or young women led, women's rights, youth rights, feminist, or civil society organizations with a proven track record working with women, young women and girls, are eligible to apply. Organizations who are led by women who face multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination are encouraged to apply, including displaced persons, LGBTQI+, disabilities, ethnic minorities, etc.

9. Q: Can we engage co-applicants that are not registered?

A: Co-implementing partners are not required to provide legal registration.

10. Q: Is there a minimum time period that the organization must be established for?

A: No, there is no minimum time period that organizations must be established for.

11. Q: Can you explain what beneficiaries are vs the target audience?



A: Beneficiaries and target audience are the same. Women and girls should be the main beneficiaries/target audience.

12. Q: Are ongoing projects funded by other donors eligible?

A: Yes, WPHF accepts proposals for ongoing projects funded by other donors. However, the specific added value of the WPHF contribution to the project should be clearly outlined in the proposals.

13. Q: What is the minimum duration of the project?

A: There is no minimum duration for project implementation. CSOs can apply for a maximum of 12 months.

14. Q: Is it mandatory to have UN OCHA membership?

A: No, it is not mandatory to have UN OCHA membership.

Funding Streams

15. Q: Can you apply for both programmatic and institutional funding?

A: Yes. An organization (lead applicant or co-implementing partners) can submit one application for institutional funding and one application for programmatic funding. Organizations who apply for both institutional and programmatic funding need to submit two separate applications packages based on the related templates of each funding stream.

16. Q: When applying for both institutional and programmatic funding, can both applications be sent in one email?

A: It is recommended to send a separate email for each application along with the respective package including 1) the proposal template and 2) proof of legal registration.

17. Q: Can an organization apply for both Impact Area 3 (Humanitarian and Crisis Response) and Impact Area 5 (Protection of Women and Girls) under programmatic funding at the same time?

A: No, an organization can only submit one application for programmatic funding, selecting either Impact Area 3 (Humanitarian and Crisis Response) OR Impact Area 5 (Protection of Women and Girls).

18. Q: For institutional funding, what are examples of capacity strengthening?

A: Institutional funding aims to strengthen an organizations internal institutional capacity. It is demand driven but examples can be related to developing M&E frameworks, risk management strategies, PSEAH policies, fundraising capacity strengthening, among others. It is very important



to demonstrate how the current context affects the institutional and financial capacities and how the funding will support the implementation of the WPS Agenda.

19. Q: Is it possible to submit salaries for employees to institutional support?

A: Yes, staff salaries are supported through institutional funding. Institutional funding is aimed at reinforcing an organization's institutional capacity may include (but do not necessarily have to) activities such as covering an organization's utility, rental, or staff salaries, capacity building of staff, developing a new policy or procedure for the organization to better respond to the needs and emergencies, purchasing new office/staff equipment or devices, among others. Please consult the [Impact and Indicator Tip Sheet](#) for examples. Please note this Impact and Indicator Tip Sheet is also available in [Dari](#) and [Pashto](#).

20. Q: Does institutional funding cover office equipment and rent?

A: Yes, office equipment and rent can be part of your application to the institutional funding stream.

21. Q: Can you give some examples of projects funded under the programmatic funding stream for Impact Area 3 (Humanitarian and Crisis Response)?

A: Under this pillar, the expected impact is the: *Enhanced participation and leadership of women in humanitarian and crisis planning and response*. This can include a variety of intervention approaches which contribute to women, young women or women's rights/led organization's to actively participate in humanitarian and crisis planning and responses in the country. Please consult the Impact and Indicator Tip Sheets for examples, in [English](#), [Dari](#) & [Pashto](#).

22. Q: Can you give some examples of projects funded under the programmatic funding stream for Impact Area 5 (Protection of Women and Girls)?

A: Under this pillar, the expected impact is the: *Enhanced safety, security and mental health of women and girls' and their human rights respected*. This can include a variety of intervention approaches which contribute to women, young women or women's rights/led organization's to actively participate in interventions which support the protection of women and girls in crisis and conflict settings Please consult the Impact and Indicator Tip Sheets for examples, in [English](#), [Dari](#) & [Pashto](#).

Budgeting

23. Q: What is the maximum budget?



A: The maximum budget for programmatic funding is USD200,000. The maximum budget for institutional funding is USD2,500.

24. Q: What is the explanation of the different budget categories under the UNDP template?

A:

1. **Staff and other personnel costs:** Includes all related staff and temporary staff costs including base salary, post adjustment and all staff entitlements.
2. **Supplies, Commodities and Materials:** Includes all direct and indirect costs (e.g. freight, transport, delivery, distribution) associated with procurement of supplies, commodities, and materials. Office supplies should be reported as "General Operating".
3. **Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture:** Includes costs for purchase of new equipment, vehicles or furniture (e.g. computers, software, internet, motorcycles, desks, chairs, etc.).
4. **Contractual Services:** Services contracted by an organization which follow the normal procurement processes. This could include contracts given to other organizations or companies for services rendered.
5. **Travel:** Includes staff and non-staff travel paid for by the organization directly related to a project.
6. **Transfers and Grants to Counterparts:** Includes transfers to national counterparts and any other transfers given to an implementing partner (e.g. NGO) which is not similar to a commercial service contract as per above (contractual services).
7. **General Operating Expenses and Other Direct Costs:** Includes all general operating costs for running an office. Examples include telecommunication, rents, finance charges and other costs which cannot be mapped to other expense categories. It would also include any grants (cash/voucher/etc.) that is transferred to beneficiaries, where relevant.
8. **Indirect Support Costs:** A general cost that cannot be directly related to the delivery of the project, activities or delivery of results. (e.g. management costs, utilities, rent, etc.)
The rate shall not exceed 7.0% of the total of categories 1-7.

*Please note at the proposal stage, a detailed budget is not required. Selected CSOs may be asked for more detailed budgeting. Please do not alter the budget template.

25. Q: Is there a percentage threshold or limit of costs between categories, which is accepted by WPHF?

A: No there is no percentage threshold between budget categories. However, indirect costs should not exceed 7.0%.



26. Q: If a proposal includes a partnership under the programmatic funding stream, should there be a dedicated section of the budget for the partner?

A: Formal partnerships with co-implementers should consider transfer of funds to co-implementing partners. Please include any transfer of funds in the budget under the “transfers and grants to counterparts” budget line of the application template.

27. Q: What is the maximum percentage of indirect costs as part the budget?

A: Indirect costs should not exceed 7.0% and can include costs related to utility, rent, or any other management costs. Please note that Indirect operational costs do not relate to staff and personnel costs.

Confirmation and Notifications

28. Q: Will WPHF notify or provide feedback to unsuccessful candidates?

A: Unfortunately, due to the high number of applications received, WPHF cannot provide individual feedback to each applicant. Only successful applicants will be contacted by the UN Management Entity of the respective country.

29. Q: How many proposals will be selected as part of this Call for Proposal?

A: There is no fixed number of total grants awarded nor a maximum amount. The number of grants awarded will be decided by a National Steering Committee and is dependent on the total budget allocated for the Call for Proposals, and the budgets of the individual proposals received.

30. Q: When are projects funded under this Call for Proposals expected to begin implementation?

A: Projects are expected to begin implementation from approximately the first quarter of 2024.

31. Q: Can you clarify some of the reasons organizations aren't selected by the WPHF?

A: Organizations can improve their chances of success by avoiding several common mistakes in their applications:

- ✓ **Careful Review of the Call for Proposals (CfP):** Organizations should thoroughly read the CfP to understand the specific eligibility requirements and expectations.
- ✓ **Evaluation Criteria:** Be mindful of the evaluation criteria that WPHF uses to assess proposals. This is outlined in Section 8 of the CfP
- ✓ **Proof of Legal Registration:** Make sure to submit proof of legal registration for the main organization.
- ✓ **Budget Limitations:** Make sure that the requested budget does not exceed the maximum allowed for each type of funding.
- ✓ **Geographical Scope:** Confirm that the geographical scope of implementation aligns with the areas specified in the CfP. Proposals that fall outside the geographical scope of the CfP are not eligible.



- ✓ **Project Duration:** Make sure the project duration does not exceed the eligible timeframe outlined in the CFP.
- ✓ **Proposal Template:** Use the appropriate proposal template according to the Impact and the type of funding requested.

Application Submission Requirements

32. Q: Where can we download the application templates?

A: The application templates can be downloaded from the WPHF website (in [English](#), [Dari](#) & [Pashto](#)) and UN Women Afghanistan website (in [English](#), [Dari](#) & [Pashto](#)).

33. Q: What are the documents required to apply?

A: The application package **MUST** include:

- ✓ WPHF proposal template (institutional and/or programmatic)
- ✓ Proof of valid legal registration or status of lead organization (applications that do not include proof of legal registration will not be considered).

Please send your application package to: WPHFAPPLICATIONS@UNWOMEN.ORG by **11:59 PM Geneva time on 09 December 2024.**

Questions about this CFP can be sent to the UN Women Country office to Submissions.GiHA@unwomen.org. Please allow a minimum of 24 hours (one working day) for responses to any questions.