

Call for Proposals MOLDOVA

Call Opens:	April 23, 2025
Deadline for Submissions:	June 1, 2025
Send Application package to:	WPHFapplications@unwomen.org

1. Objectives and Purpose of the Call for Proposals

The overall purpose of this call for proposals is to provide grants to local civil society organizations in Moldova focused on peacebuilding and recovery of displaced women and girls with local women and young women's rights organizations. The call for proposals specifically contributes to WPHF's overall goal of contributing to peaceful and gender equal societies.

Initiatives should aim to reach those women and girls experiencing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, such as those excluded due to geography, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, age, migratory status, HIV status, among others and which is in alignment with the 2030 Agenda and the principle of leaving no one behind.

This Call for Proposals is part of the [Funding Initiative on Forced Displacement](#) that is managed by the [Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund \(WPHF\)](#) and linked to the [Action Network on Forced Displacement](#). Please see the appendix for more information about the Funding Initiative on Forced Displacement and the Action Network for Forced Displacement, and suggested initiatives.

2. Country Context Linked to Call for Proposals

Moldova faces unique challenges in responding to the large-scale influx of refugees from Ukraine in recent years; it has received more arrivals per capita than any other country worldwide: for every 3 Moldovan citizen, one person from Ukraine arrived. The scale of arrival has placed unprecedented stress on local services and the national social protection system in the context of a worsening energy crisis, value chain disruptions, high inflation rate and reduced remittances, and continued economic dislocation resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic. Unlike other refugee hosting states in the region, Moldova is not part of the European Union and does not benefit from the same regional response and internal solidarity mechanisms enjoyed by member states. The sustained support and collaboration of a range of development actors is therefore crucial. The Republic of Moldova has received 1,252,906 Ukrainian refugees and 127,786 have chosen to stay in the country. Civil society, and particularly women's organizations, are in the front-line to deliver immediate humanitarian assistance to women and girls' refugees. There is a need to support those organizations in their work. Besides, women and girls' refugees are facing multiple human rights violations, notably those affected by intersectional forms of discrimination. Women and girls are also particularly at risk of sexual and gender-based violence. Here again, there is a need to support civil society organizations based in Moldova to address those specific challenges. It's pivotal to continually support women's human rights organizations considering that they have an imperative role in Humanitarian response, having in mind that they contribute to enhancing the participation and leadership of women in humanitarian planning and response that involves ensuring that all refugee women, girls, men and boys have access to relevant, quality humanitarian assistance and support regardless of their sex, age, ability or status and that their distinct needs, priorities and capacities are considered.

In the humanitarian context, the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda plays a critical role in countries like Moldova, where conflict-induced displacement and socio-political challenges significantly affect women and girls. As Moldova hosts refugees, particularly from Ukraine, the WPS framework emphasizes the importance of addressing the specific needs of women in crisis situations, including protection from gender-based violence, access to healthcare, and participation in decision-making processes. Ensuring women's active involvement in peacebuilding and recovery efforts is vital for creating a more inclusive, resilient society, where women are not only recipients of aid but also central actors in shaping sustainable peace and security in their communities.

At the same time, as the socio-economic effects of the war are strongly felt across the country at the beginning of this winter, both Moldovans and refugees are facing increasing hardships and require further support. In addition to addressing the present and future humanitarian needs, development interventions to ensure a 'humanitarian-development-peace nexus' approach are thus key.

3. Scope (Location and Duration)

The WPHF will fund qualifying projects in any location in Moldova only.

Multi-country projects, or projects outside the geographical focus will NOT be accepted.

CSOs can apply for a project duration of a maximum of **12 months**.

4. Eligibility

4.1. Who can apply and receive funding?

National, regional or local/grassroots women or young women led, women's rights, youth rights, feminist, or civil society organizations with a proven track record working with women, young women and girls in forced displacement, are eligible to apply. 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.

Women's Rights or Feminist Organization: The organization's must have gender equality and women's rights at the core of their official mission/vision statement. The organization's experience should clearly reflect addressing multiple/intersecting forms of discrimination and advancing gender equality and women's rights and aim to address the underlying drivers/systems/structures, including patriarchy and gendered power dynamics, and work to transform these.

Women-Led Organization: must be headed by a woman as director/head of organization.

Youth Focused Organization: To be considered "youth focused", the organization's core mission/vision must focus on supporting the social, economic and political participation of young women and young men and addressing multiple/ intersecting forms of discrimination against young women and men. WPHF will provide specific attention to youth focused organizations supporting young women, advancing gender equality and peacebuilding.

Young Women Led Organization: must be headed by a young person aged between 18 - 29 years old who serves as director/head of organization.

Organizations led by a displaced person (refugee, IDP, returnee or asylum seeker): must be headed by a refugee or displaced person as director/head of organization.

The following are **NOT** eligible to apply for a grant from the WPHF:

- International non-governmental organizations;
- Government agencies or institutions;

- UN agencies or UN Country Teams;
- Private individuals;
- Private sector entities;
- Universities, Think Tanks or Education or Research Institutions

4.2. Do we need to be legally registered as an organization in our country to apply?

YES, for the lead applicant. The lead applicant organization must have legal status with the competent national authority in the eligible country of project implementation and must submit proof of legal registration with the application package. Note that articles of incorporation are not proof of legal status.

NO for co-implementing or consortium partners. Co-implementing partners are not required to provide legal registration, only the lead applicant organization.

4.3. Can we apply in partnership or consortium with other organizations?

YES. Joint projects with other local women's rights, youth focused, or women or young women led civil society organizations are encouraged. Joint projects in partnership with other local women's rights, young women-led, and civil society organizations which are led by marginalized groups including those who are forcibly displaced, LGBTQI+, living with disabilities, indigenous, etc. are also encouraged.

For joint projects, only the lead organization is required to meet the eligibility criteria. For joint projects, the roles and responsibilities of each organization must be clearly detailed within the application template.

4.4. May we apply for funding for an ongoing or existing initiative or project?

YES. The WPHF accepts proposals for ongoing projects funded by other donors. However, the specific value added of the contribution should be clearly outlined.

4.5. Does my organization have to contribute to the project budget?

NO. Civil society organizations are not required to contribute to the budget.

5. Type of Funding Available

Under this call for proposals, WPHF is accepting applications for both institutional/core funding and programmatic funding. An organization (lead applicant or co-implementing partners) can submit one application for institutional funding, AND/OR 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 stream as noted in Section 6.**

<p>Institutional Funding: (USD \$2,500 - \$20,000) Aims to reinforce the institutional capacity of women's rights/led organizations that have a specific focus on women and young women in forced displacement in their mission, that have project activities that are led by women and young women who are forcibly displaced and/or that have displaced women and young women as staff members. It aims to ensure they are able to sustain themselves and to improve their impact. Prospective applicants will need to demonstrate how the current context affects their institutional and</p>	<p>AND/ OR</p>	<p>Programmatic Funding: (USD \$30,000 - \$75,000) This funding stream will finance projects which aim specifically at funding programmatic activities aligned with the following impact area(s):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> WPHF Impact area 6: <i>Improved socioeconomic recovery and political participation of women and young women.</i></p> <p><i>Under this impact area, projects should specifically target women and young women that are displaced by the war in the Ukraine. Projects under this impact area will be part of the Funding</i></p>
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financial capacities and how the funding would support them as an organization. It will finance a limited range of activities to support the development or strengthening of a CSO's institutional capacity. The purpose of this funding stream IS NOT to finance programmatic activities. Organizations who apply for institutional funding should have a mandate aligned to the objectives of the call for proposal.

[Initiative on Forced Displacement](#) (please see appendix 1 for further information).

Please read through the WPHF Impact and Indicator Tip Sheets for guidance on the impact focus and required indicators. (Section 10 below)

6. Application Package and Procedures

Applicants are required to use only the WPHF templates provided. DO NOT submit photos or additional documents other than the ones listed.

- ☐ [WPHF Proposal Template for Institutional Funding](#) (download)

AND/OR

- ☐ [WPHF Proposal Template Impact 6](#) (download)
- ☐ Proof of valid legal registration or status of the lead organization (if you are in the process for renewal, please share proof)

Submission: Application packages should be emailed to WPHFapplications@unwomen.org by June 1, 2025, by 11:59pm Geneva CET.

Please Note:

- Applications can be submitted in English. Only applications in this language will be accepted.
- Applications can be submitted in .doc, .docx, or .pdf format.
- Legal registration certificates can be submitted in jpeg, doc., docx., or pdf format.
- All documents should be submitted together as one package.
- You may not make changes to your application after it is submitted.
- Proposal templates, including any annexes, cannot be altered. Incomplete applications, or use of different templates will not be considered.
- Please DO NOT resend your application unless you do not receive confirmation of receipt within three days.

7. Obtaining More Information about the Call for Proposals

An information session will be organized with prospective applicants on May 6, 2025, at 14:00 (Chisinau time) online by accessing the following link:

<https://unwomen.zoom.us/j/96511647667?pwd=KcthvMO2cRzOgcLvurGTxON6UIZUeb.1>

To register, please send email to ludmila.bocsanean@unwomen.org or diana.guzun@unwomen.org by May 2, 2025.

Questions about this CfP can be sent to denis.valac@unwomen.org. Please allow a minimum of 48 hours for responses to any questions.

8. Evaluation Criteria

As you write your proposal, keep in mind that proposals will be evaluated against the following criteria:

Institutional Funding Evaluation Criteria (Stream 1)	Programmatic Funding Evaluation Criteria (Stream 2)
Project Objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Organization's mandate is aligned with WPHF's theory of change <input type="checkbox"/> Clear rationale how the current crisis affects the organization's institutional and financial capacities <input type="checkbox"/> Clear outputs and activities which contribute to strengthening CSOs institutional capacity and how the organization will be sustained <input type="checkbox"/> Identification of risks and appropriate mitigation measures 	Project Objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Organization's mandate is aligned with WPHF's theory of change and overall project responds to the specific call for proposal and impact statement. <input type="checkbox"/> Definition of clear expected results the project aims to achieve and intervention approach, taking account of best practices of gender-responsive approaches <input type="checkbox"/> Clear and realistic outputs and activities planned to accomplish the expected results, and achievable within the time frame <input type="checkbox"/> Ensures meaningful participation of groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, such as those marginalized and excluded due to poverty, ethnicity, disability, age, geography, migratory status, among others which are in clear alignment with Agenda 2030 of leaving no one behind.
Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The budget includes indirect operational costs at the allowed level (no more than 7.0%) <input type="checkbox"/> The budget is sufficient and reasonable for the activities proposed and takes the scale of problems into account 	Programme Management and Monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Identification of comprehensive risks and appropriate mitigation measures <input type="checkbox"/> Identification of relevant and appropriate feminist monitoring and evaluation approaches, including Do no Harm, and including management structure of the project Sustainability and National Ownership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Promotion of national and local ownership and collaboration in developing and establishing activities, and specific objectives to build the capacities of national and local players. <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability of the programme beyond the financing period and (where applicable), how to reproduce it and improve it over time. Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The budget includes indirect operational costs at the allowed level (no more than 7.0%) <input type="checkbox"/> The budget is sufficient and reasonable for the activities proposed and takes the scale of problems into account

9. Next Steps After Submission of Proposals to WPHF

After the closure of the call for proposals, the following will take place:

- ▶ Submitted proposals which are complete and received within the timeline will be screened for compliance based on the requirements of this call for proposals (longlisting)
- ▶ Longlisted proposals will undergo a technical evaluation by WPHF based on the evaluation criteria listed in Section 8 above. Those which score over 50/100 will be shortlisted.
- ▶ A Regional/National Steering Committee (R/NSC) will convene to review the shortlisted proposals and will select proposals based on the available funding. The NSC may also make recommendations on the revision of budgets of proposals.
- ▶ Only selected CSOs for funding will be contacted directly by email by the UN country Management Entity of the WPHF (UN Women or UNFPA).
- ▶ Please note that this process can take up to 4-5 months after the closure of the call for proposals.
- ▶ We encourage you to visit <https://wphfund.org/calls-for-proposals/> for future funding opportunities.

10. Useful Resources

- The WPHF's website www.wphfund.org
- [Impact and Indicator Tip Sheet Institutional Funding](#)
- [Impact and Indicator Tip Sheet: Impact 6: Peacebuilding and Recovery](#)
- [Results Based Management Capacity Building Webinar](#)
- M&E and Results Based Management Terms. The [OECD/DAC Glossary of Key Terms](#) in Evaluation available in English, French and Spanish.

About the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF)

The WPHF is a global pooled funding mechanism which aims to stimulate a significant increase in financing for women's participation, leadership, and empowerment in peace and security processes and humanitarian response. The WPHF is a flexible and rapid financing mechanism. It supports quality interventions designed to enhance the capacity of local women to prevent conflict, respond to crises and emergencies, and seize key peacebuilding opportunities. The overall goal of the WPHF's theory of change is to contribute to **peaceful and gender equal societies**. Achievement of this goal will require that women are empowered to participate in, contribute to, and benefit from conflict prevention, crisis response, peacebuilding, and recovery. Since its launch in 2016, WPHF has been supporting over 1,400 civil society organizations and is present in 46 countries.

The WPHF is governed by a Funding Board at the global level, which is comprised of four UN entities (currently UN Women, UNHCR, UNFPA and PBSO), four donor Member States (currently Germany, France, United Kingdom and Norway), as well as 4 Civil Society Organizations (currently Women for Women International, Politics4Her, She's the First and Reach out Cameroon).

At the country level, the final selection of shortlisted proposals will be undertaken by a National Steering Committee, which is comprised of UN agencies, civil society organizations, donor representatives and governments.

Appendix

About the Funding Initiative on Forced Displacement

The [Funding Initiative on Forced Displacement](#) is managed by the United Nations Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) and linked to Action Network on Forced Displacement. The Funding Initiative promotes the participation and leadership of displaced women and girls in socio-economic and political decision-making. It currently supports 149 projects with 227 civil society organizations in 11 countries with a current investment of over 30 million EUR by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Projects are implemented in partnership with UN Women Country Offices. The members of the Action Network have an important role in the Funding Initiative on Forced Displacement. Members of the Action Network select the countries that the Funding Initiative is active in, inform the thematic orientation of the Funding Initiative, disseminate the Call for Proposals in their local networks, make recommendations on the selection of projects that are considered in the final selection of projects by the Regional/National Steering Committees, and support the implementation of organizations with their knowledge and expertise in the WPHF Mentorship Scheme of the Funding Initiative.

About the Action Network on Forced Displacement

The "[Action Network on Forced Displacement – Women as Agents of Change](#)" is a global platform bringing together women leaders who are actively engaged on behalf of and together with displaced women. This includes decision-makers from political, economic and social spheres, activists and displaced women themselves, who are implementing projects in crisis and conflict settings. The Action Network facilitates exchange and policy recommendations to promote women's political and economic leadership in displacement settings. Comprising 33 members from 21 countries, including Afghanistan, Georgia, Syria, Yemen, Nigeria, Sudan, Honduras, and the Philippines, the Action Network leverages diverse perspectives and serves as a platform for exchange and recommendations to policymakers, the private sector, civil society and local actors. This collaboration aims to transform displacement settings by positioning women

as pivotal agents of change. Among other activities, the Network focuses on supporting displaced women through leadership training and advocacy in Afghanistan and Syria as well as technical and vocational training and entrepreneurship opportunities in Nigeria and Sudan.

Suggested priority topics for projects under WPHF Impact area 6

This list of suggested topics for projects is based on priorities identified by the members of the [Action Network on Forced Displacement](#). The list is non-exhaustive, and grantees are encouraged to make additional suggestions that are in line with the objectives of this Call for Proposals.

Themes	Suggestions from the Action Network
Women and young women's leadership and participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Support displaced women and young women's access to local government and local power structures <input type="checkbox"/> Hold government accountable to promote gender equality and the rights of displaced women and girls in their legal and policy frameworks <input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate leadership trainings for displaced women and girls <input type="checkbox"/> Address the lack of security for women activists, local organizations and advocates working on forced displacement <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure women's access to justice incl. access to legal services and advice and promote a gender lens in justice processes
Women and young women's socio-economic empowerment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate displaced women and young women's access to financial services, banking services and credit <input type="checkbox"/> Support displaced women's and young women's access to economic resources and jobs <input type="checkbox"/> Provide displaced women and young women that have business projects with counseling <input type="checkbox"/> Secure displaced women's and young women's economic rights <input type="checkbox"/> Support displaced women's, young women and girls' access to vocational training in their host communities and in refugee or IDP camps or settlements <input type="checkbox"/> Promote displaced women's and young women's entrepreneurship and business development through access to digital devices and tools as well as access to the internet <input type="checkbox"/> Increasing job security of displaced women and young women experiencing conflicts and new threats (such as COVID-19) <input type="checkbox"/> Prevent abuse, exploitation and human trafficking of displaced women and young women through socio-economic empowerment measures
Women's and young women's networking, experiences sharing, and integration in host communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Promote the integration and networking of displaced women and young women in their host communities <input type="checkbox"/> Promote changes in social norms of displaced women, young women and girls as well as of host communities – e.g. by promoting empathy and support through shared success stories. <input type="checkbox"/> Promote displaced women's, young women's and girls' experience-sharing and social cohesion as a group and with host communities <input type="checkbox"/> Make voices and stories of displaced women, young women and girls as well as host communities heard <input type="checkbox"/> Help grassroots initiatives working with displaced women, young women and girls establish partnerships between each other as well as with international women's organizations