

Call for Proposals Lebanon

Call Opens:	22 September 2025
Deadline for submission:	31 October 2025
Send Application package to:	By email: WPHFapplications@unwomen.org OR Online: https://share.hsforms.com/1Dai70cOTT76_Mywbewq-HActfxv

1. Objectives and Purpose of the Call for Proposals

The overall purpose of this call for proposals is to provide grants to local women and young women's rights civil society organizations in Lebanon focused on i) humanitarian and crisis response, ii) protection of women and girls, and iii) peacebuilding and recovery. The call for proposals specifically contributes to the [Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund \(WPHF\)](#)'s overall goal of contributing to peaceful and gender equal societies.

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

Part of the funding envelope of this Call for Proposals is under the [Funding Initiative on Forced Displacement](#) that is managed by WPHF and linked to the [Action Network on Forced Displacement](#). Please see the Appendix for more information.

2. Country Context Linked to Call for Proposals

Lebanon stands at a critical juncture, navigating the aftermath of the most devastating conflict since 2006 alongside severe economic crisis and complex political transitions. A fragile ceasefire brokered in November 2024 enabled the return of the majority of the (IDPs), yet 82,632 remain displaced as of May 2025¹. Many returnees face severe challenges, as war-ravaged areas in the south, east, and Beirut's southern suburbs lack essential services. The destruction of housing, agricultural lands, and infrastructure has exacerbated humanitarian needs.

On 8 February 2025, the election of President Joseph Aoun and Prime Minister Nawaf Salam ended a two-year political deadlock, leading to the formation of a new government. Its priorities include economic reform, reconstruction of South Lebanon, and implementing UN Resolution 1701. Despite this progress, Lebanon's economy remains extremely fragile. Between 2019 and 2024, the economy contracted by 38%, with human development indicators regressing to 2010 levels—a 14-year setback². If reforms are enacted, Lebanon's GDP could reach \$46.9 billion by 2030, yet this would still be 8.4% below its 2017 peak³. Nonetheless, a highly educated workforce, a historically resilient tourism industry, and remittances from the Lebanese diaspora (estimated at \$6.7 billion in 2023) provide potential for recovery if governance and

¹ [Lebanon — Mobility Snapshot - Round 87 - 05-06-2025 | Displacement Tracking Matrix](#)

² [The socioeconomic impacts of the 2024 war on Lebanon \[EN/AR\] - Lebanon | ReliefWeb](#)

³ [socioeconomic-impacts-lebanon-2024-war-english.pdf](#)

stability.

improve.

The evolving geopolitical landscape, including the collapse of the Assad regime in Syria, presents both challenges and opportunities for Lebanon. In July, Syrian entry and exit movements at official land crossings rose by 12% from June, averaging 33,800 weekly, with exits slightly higher due to eased restrictions, school closures, and organized return programmes. Since 8 December 2024, 103,455 new arrivals have been recorded, mainly in Bekaa, Baalbek-El Hermel, and Akkar, with numbers shifting due to ongoing internal movements.⁴ Managing these refugee flows remains a critical concern, particularly as tensions persist between displaced populations and host communities.

Globally, women-led organizations played a vital role in mitigating such tensions and addressing gender-specific needs, yet they receive only 8% of civil society funding⁵. In Lebanon, the destruction of homes and livelihoods has heightened the vulnerability of women and girls to protection risks, food insecurity, and economic insecurity. Following the ceasefire, UN Women held ad hoc consultations with community leaders and women-led organizations. Findings confirmed acute needs, as “everything was destroyed.” Women and girls prioritized protection services (gender-sensitive shelters, WASH, legal aid, cash for protection, and MHPSS), emergency livelihoods (e.g., cash-for-work), food security (such as community kitchens), and basic assistance (NFI and cash). These remain essential survival imperatives in the recovery context.

The strains on limited resources and the breakdown of traditional community structures risks fueling friction between displaced populations and host communities. Although no major incidents have been reported to date, potential triggers of instability remain. These include disparities in how aid is distributed, concerns over the safety and adequacy of return areas, sensitivities linked to political and sectarian affiliations, and the circulation of misleading information.

3. Scope (Location and Duration)

The WPHF will fund qualifying projects throughout Lebanon.

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

CSOs can apply for projects with an implementation period of maximum **24 months (2 years)**.

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, particularly displaced persons, those with disabilities, from ethnic minorities, etc.

Women’s Rights or Feminist Organization: The organization’s official mission/vision statement must reflect its commitment to addressing multiple/intersecting forms of discrimination and advancing gender equality and women’s rights. The organization must 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.

⁴ [UNHCRLebanon>ReturnsMovementsSnapshot_20250731.pdf](#)

⁵ OCHA, [UN deputy relief chief calls for boosting women's role in humanitarian responses](#), 27 June 2024

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 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, 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

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 - \$30,000)</p> <p>Aims to reinforce the institutional capacity of women's rights organizations/women-led organizations working on gender issues in peace, security, and humanitarian contexts, to ensure their ability to sustain themselves and improve their impact. Prospective applicants will need to demonstrate how the current context affects their institutional and 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.</p> <p>The purpose of this funding stream <u>IS NOT</u> to finance programmatic activities. Organizations who apply for institutional funding should have a mandate aligned to the objectives of the call for proposal.</p>	<p>AND/ OR</p>	<p>Programmatic Funding: (USD \$30,000 - \$300,000)</p> <p>This funding stream will finance projects which aim specifically to fund programmatic activities aligned with the following impact area(s):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> WPHF Impact Area 3 (Humanitarian & Crisis Response) Enhanced participation and leadership of women in humanitarian planning and response</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Programmatic Funding: (USD \$30,000 - \$300,000)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> WPHF Impact Area 5: Enhanced safety, security and mental health of women and girls' and their human rights respected</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Programmatic Funding: (USD \$30,000 - \$150,000)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> WPHF Impact Area 6 (Peacebuilding & Recovery): Improved socio-economic recovery and political participation of women and young women in peacebuilding contexts.</p> <p>Under Impact Area 6, projects should specifically target forcibly displaced women and young women in Lebanon (including internally displaced, refugees, returnees, or asylum seekers). Projects will be part of the Funding Initiative on Forced Displacement (please see the Appendix for further information).</p>
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Please read through the WPHF Indicator Tip Sheets for guidance on the results framework (Section 10 below) and required indicators in the attached proposal template.

6. Application Package

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 link](#))

AND/OR

- ☐ WPHF Proposal Template for **Impact 3** ([download link](#))

OR

- ☐ WPHF Proposal Template for **Impact 5** ([download link](#))

OR

- ☐ WPHF Proposal Template for **Impact 6** ([download link](#))

AND

- ☐ **Proof of valid legal registration or status of the lead organization** (if you are in the process for renewal, please share proof)

6.1 How to Submit a Proposal

Online:

Applicants can submit online using the following online form, including uploading the proposal template and registration certificate: https://share.hsforms.com/1Dai70cOTT76_Mywbewq-HActfxv

OR

By Email:

Application packages can be emailed to WPHFapplications@unwomen.org, with “**Lebanon CfP6 WPHF Application**” in the subject line.

Deadline: Application packages are to be received no later than **31 October 2025** by 11:59pm Geneva CET.

Please Note:

- Applications can be submitted in English or Arabic.
- Applications can be submitted in .doc and .docx (either by email or using the online form)
- Legal registration certificates can be submitted in jpeg, doc., docx., or pdf format (either by email or using the online form).
- 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 a confirmation of receipt within three days.

7. Obtaining More Information about the Call for Proposals

An information session in English will be organized with prospective applicants on 30 September 2025 at 11 Am, Beirut time and another information session in Arabic will be organized with prospective applicants on 1 October 2025 at 11 Am.

- ▶ To register for the English session, please register at the following link: [WPHF CFP6 Info Session Registration](#).

- ▶ To register for the Arabic session, please register at the following link: [تسجيل - جلسة توجيهية حول دعوة صندوق المرأة للعمل الإنساني السادسة لتقديم المقترحات](#).

Upon your registration, you will receive a link to participate in the meeting at the specified date/time.

If you are applying to **Impact 3** (Humanitarian and Crisis Response) or **Impact 5** (Protection of Women & Girls), questions can be sent to the **UN Women Country office** to hiba.abbani@unwomen.org no longer than 24 October 2025.

If you are applying to **Impact 6** (Peacebuilding & Recovery), questions can be sent to the **UNDP Country office** to mariam.balhas@undp.org no later than 24 October 2025.

Please allow a minimum of 72 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"> Organization's mandate is aligned with WPHF's theory of change Clear rationale how the current crisis affects the organization's institutional and financial capacities Clear outputs and activities which contribute to strengthening CSOs institutional capacity and how the organization will be sustained Identification of risks and appropriate mitigation measures 	Project Objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organization's mandate is aligned with WPHF's theory of change and overall project responds to the specific call for proposal and impact statement. Definition of clear expected results the project aims to achieve and intervention approach, taking account of best practices of gender-responsive approaches Clear and realistic outputs and activities planned to accomplish the expected results, and achievable within the time frame 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"> The budget includes indirect operational costs at the allowed level (no more than 7.00%) 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"> Identification of comprehensive risks and appropriate mitigation measures 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"> 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. 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"> The budget includes indirect operational costs at the allowed level (no more than 7.00%) 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 close 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 National Steering Committee (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 UNDP).
- ▶ 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 3: Humanitarian & Crisis Response](#)
- [Impact and Indicator Tip Sheet: Impact 5: Protection of Women & Girls](#)
- [Impact and Indicator Tip Sheet: Impact 6: Peacebuilding and Recovery](#)
- M&E and Results Based Management Terms. The OECD/DAC Glossary of Key Terms in Evaluation available in English, French and Spanish.
<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/29/21/2754804.pdf>
- Project Design and Proposal Writing for Women-Led CSOs Working in Conflict and Crisis Contexts: [Recording](#) and [PowerPoint Presentation](#)

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 1,500 civil society organizations and is present in 44 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, the United Kingdom, France, and Norway), as well as 4 Civil Society Organizations (currently She's the First, Reach Out Cameroon, Women for Women International, and Politics 4 Her).

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.

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.

Annex 1: Suggested priority topics for projects under WPHF Impact area 6 (Forced Displacement)

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 counselling <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 <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