

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

Please find below a compilation of questions raised during the public information session hosted by the UNDP Country Office in Sudan on 19 October regarding the [WPHF Call for Proposals in Sudan](#). The call supports peacebuilding and recovery interventions and provides institutional and programmatic funding to local women's rights and young women's rights organizations, addressing the needs of women and girls in forced displacement.

Please find the Call for Proposal here: [Call for Proposals in Sudan - Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund](#)

Please review the Tipsheets:

- Institutional: [Institutional_Impact-and-Indicator-Tip-Sheet_March2026_ARABIC-FIN.pdf](#)
- Programmatic: [Outcome-4-Peacebuilding-and-Recovery_Impact-and-Indicator-Tip-Sheet_ARABIC-2026.pdf](#)

Eligibility & Geographic Scope

Q: Who is eligible to apply 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 led by women facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination are particularly encouraged to apply, including displaced persons, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and other marginalized groups.

Q: What are the budget thresholds?

A: Programmatic funding ranges from USD 30,000 to USD 150,000. Institutional funding ranges from USD 2,500 to USD 30,000.

Q: Can programmatic projects target beneficiaries outside the eligible geographic areas (Azum locality, Central Darfur State; Damazine, Blue Nile State; and El Obeid, North Kordofan State)?

A: No. Programmatic projects must be implemented within the eligible geographic areas: Azum locality (Central Darfur State), Damazine (Blue Nile State), and El Obeid (North Kordofan State). Projects must primarily target forcibly displaced women and girls within these locations.

Q: For institutional funding, can the organization be based outside the eligible geographic areas?

A: To be eligible for institutional funding, the organization must have a physical office located in one of the eligible geographic areas: Azum locality (Central Darfur State), Damazine (Blue Nile State), or El Obeid (North Kordofan State). The institutional funding must support the office based in one of these eligible locations.

Q: Is there a limited number of regions in Sudan that programmatic projects can target?

A: Under this Call for Proposals, projects may only be implemented in the designated geographic areas: Azum locality (Central Darfur State), Damazine (Blue Nile State), and El Obeid (North Kordofan State). Projects must target beneficiaries within these eligible locations. There is no restriction on targeting one or more of these areas, provided all proposed activities take place within the designated geographic scope of the Call.

Q: Who should be the primary beneficiaries of programmatic projects?

A: Programmatic projects under this Call for Proposals must specifically target women and young women who are internally displaced in the eligible geographic areas: Azum locality (Central Darfur State), Damazine (Blue Nile State), or El Obeid (North Kordofan State). Applicants should clearly demonstrate how the proposed activities will benefit these populations.

Q: Can international organizations apply?

A: No. The following are not eligible to apply for a grant from WPHF under 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.

Q: Can a university organization apply for a grant?

A: No. Universities, think tanks, and education or research institutions are not eligible to apply for funding under this Call for Proposals.

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 and must submit proof of legal registration with the application package. Articles of incorporation are not considered proof of legal status.

Q: Does the co-implementing partner need to be legally registered?

A: No. Co-implementing or consortium partners are not required to provide proof of legal registration. Only the lead applicant organization must meet this requirement.

Q: Our organization was registered in 2019 and has a D-U-N-S number, but our registration renewal has been on hold since the beginning of the war. Are we still eligible to apply?

A: 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. Articles of incorporation are not considered proof of legal status. If the organization's registration is subject to renewal, applicants should also submit proof that the renewal process has been initiated or is pending with the relevant authorities.

Q: Can a CSO whose headquarters is located outside the eligible geographic areas (e.g., in Khartoum) apply if the proposed project will be implemented in one or more of the eligible locations?

A: Yes, for programmatic funding, an organization may be headquartered outside the eligible implementation areas, provided that project activities are implemented in one or more of the eligible locations: Azum locality (Central Darfur State), Damazine (Blue Nile State), and El Obeid (North Kordofan State). Projects must primarily target forcibly displaced women and girls within these locations.

For institutional funding, the applicant organization must have a physical office located in one of the eligible geographic areas: Azum locality (Central Darfur State), Damazine (Blue Nile State), or El Obeid (North Kordofan State). The institutional funding must support the office based in that eligible location.

Q: Can an organization apply for institutional funding only?

A: Yes. Organizations may apply for institutional funding only. To be eligible, the organization must have a physical office located in one of the eligible geographic areas: Azum locality (Central Darfur State), Damazine (Blue Nile State), or El Obeid (North Kordofan State). The institutional funding must support the office based in one of these eligible locations.

Q: Can host-community women participate alongside displaced women, particularly where joint economic recovery and peacebuilding activities could help reduce tensions? Or is there a minimum required proportion of direct beneficiaries who must be internally displaced women and young women?

A: Yes. While this Call for Proposals is focused on supporting women and girls affected by forced displacement, projects may also include host-community women and girls where this is relevant to the project objectives and context. Joint activities involving displaced and host-community women can be an effective way to support social cohesion, economic recovery, and peacebuilding efforts. There is no minimum required percentage of beneficiaries who must be internally displaced women or young women. However, applicants should ensure that the project clearly demonstrates how it addresses the needs and priorities of women and girls affected by forced displacement, in line with the objectives of the Call for Proposals.

Q: Are returnee women and young women eligible beneficiaries under CfP8, in addition to internally displaced women and young women?

A: Yes. Returnee women and young women may be included as beneficiaries under CfP8. While the Call for Proposals is focused on supporting women and girls affected by forced displacement, this can include internally displaced women and girls, returnees, and other displacement-affected populations where relevant to the project context and objectives. Applicants should clearly explain the target population and demonstrate how the proposed activities respond to the specific needs and priorities of women and girls affected by forced displacement in the selected geographic areas.

Funding & Project Design

Q: Is it possible to include staff salaries under institutional funding?

A: Yes. Staff salaries are eligible under institutional funding. Institutional funding is intended to strengthen an organization's institutional capacity and may include costs related to utilities, rent, staff salaries, staff capacity-building, development of internal policies and procedures, office equipment, audits, and similar institutional strengthening activities.

Q: Is construction allowable under institutional funding?

A: No. Construction is not eligible under institutional funding. However, repairs and maintenance may be considered where justified as part of strengthening organizational capacity.

Q: Can projects include grant-giving or mini-grants programmes?

A: Yes. Programmatic projects may include grant-giving or mini-grants programmes, provided they are aligned with the objectives of the eligible impact area under this Call for Proposals.

Q: Are ongoing projects funded by other donors eligible?

A: Yes. WPHF accepts proposals for ongoing projects funded by other donors. Existing donor funding should be indicated on the proposal cover page, and applicants should clearly explain the added value of the WPHF contribution.

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

A: Yes. An organization (lead applicant or co-implementing partner) may submit one application for institutional funding and one application for programmatic funding. Organizations applying for both streams must submit two separate application packages using the relevant templates.

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

A: Yes. Organizations currently receiving institutional funding from WPHF may apply for programmatic funding, and organizations currently receiving programmatic funding may apply for institutional funding. However, any existing WPHF grant must be fully closed before a new grant can be awarded under this Call for Proposals.

Please note that organizations cannot receive the same type of WPHF funding concurrently. This means an organization cannot hold two programmatic grants at the same time, nor can it hold two institutional funding grants at the same time. Organizations are therefore not eligible for double-funding under the same funding stream.

Q: If we are currently receiving WPHF funding under another Call for Proposals supported by UN Women, can we apply under this Call for Proposals?

A: Yes. Organizations currently receiving institutional funding from WPHF regardless of the managing

UN organization, may apply for programmatic funding, and organizations currently receiving programmatic funding may apply for institutional funding.

However, organizations cannot receive the same type of WPHF funding concurrently. This means that an organization cannot hold two programmatic grants at the same time, nor can it hold two institutional funding grants at the same time. Organizations are therefore not eligible for double-funding under the same funding stream. Any existing WPHF grant must be fully closed before a new grant under the same funding stream can be awarded.

Q: If an organization has already completed a WPHF-funded project, can it reapply?

A: Yes. Organizations that have previously received WPHF funding are eligible to apply again. The new proposal may build upon previous results and lessons learned.

Q: What is the minimum duration of a project?

A: There is no minimum project duration. Projects may be implemented for up to a maximum of 24 months.

Q: Is there a percentage threshold or limit of costs between budget categories?

A: No. There is no required percentage allocation between budget categories. However, the budget should be reasonable and justified based on the proposed activities.

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: Yes. Any transfer of funds to co-implementing partners should be reflected in the budget under the "Transfers and Grants to Counterparts" budget line.

Q: What is the maximum percentage of indirect costs allowed in the budget?

A: Indirect costs may not exceed 7% of the total budget. These costs may include utilities, rent, and other management costs. Staff and personnel costs should not be included as indirect costs.

Q: For Impact Area 4, how many indicators are required by WPHF? Can applicants include additional indicators beyond the mandatory WPHF indicators?

A: Yes. At the impact level, a minimum of two (2) impact indicators is required. Applicants should develop one (1) outcome statement that contributes to the overall impact of the project. While multiple outcomes may be included, WPHF recommends having only one outcome where possible. Applicants should then develop 1-2 outcome indicators to measure the change achieved through the project and the outcome statement.

Organizations may include additional indicators if they are relevant to the project; however, applicants should carefully follow the guidance provided in the proposal template and accompanying tipsheets when developing their results framework.

Q: To what extent can activities or budgets be modified during project implementation if security or economic conditions change in the implementation area?

A: WPHF recognizes that security, political, and economic conditions may change during project implementation and aims to remain flexible while prioritizing the safety and security of CSOs and project participants. Requests to modify activities, timelines, or budget allocations may be considered on a case-by-case basis and are subject to the relevant approval and grant management procedures.

Q: Is it possible to include administrative costs in the budget? If so, how much can be allocated?

A: Yes, administrative costs can be included in the project budget. Applicants should carefully review Annex B and Box 1 of the budget template, which provide detailed guidance on the different budget categories.

Q: Can the budget include productive equipment and start-up kits that will remain with individual women or groups after the project ends? Is there a cap, and under which budget line should these costs be included?

A: Yes. The budget may include productive equipment and start-up kits for individual women or groups where these are justified by the project design and contribute directly to achieving project objectives. There is no specific cap established by WPHF for these items; however, costs should be reasonable, well justified, and proportionate to the proposed results.

Applicants should ensure that these costs are included under the most appropriate budget category and provide a clear explanation in the budget narrative. Please refer to Annex B and Box 1 of the budget template for guidance on budget categories and eligible costs.

Q: Is there a maximum or indicative percentage of the budget that can be allocated to productive assets and equipment?

A: No. WPHF does not set a maximum or indicative percentage of the budget that can be allocated to productive assets or equipment. However, all costs must be clearly justified, directly linked to the project objectives and expected results. Applicants should ensure that the proposed budget is reasonable and proportional to the activities and outcomes described in the proposal. For further guidance on eligible costs and budget categories, applicants are encouraged to carefully review Annex B and Box 1 of the budget template.

Q: Within the USD 30,000-150,000 programmatic funding range, are there recommended budget proportions for staffing, partner transfers, direct beneficiary support, training, monitoring, and operational costs?

A: No. WPHF does not prescribe specific percentages or budget allocations for staffing, partner transfers, direct beneficiary support, training, monitoring, operational costs, or other budget categories. Applicants should develop a budget that is appropriate to the proposed project design, activities, and expected results. All costs must be reasonable, clearly justified, and directly linked to achieving the

project's objectives. For detailed guidance on budget categories and eligible expenditures, applicants should carefully review Annex B and Box 1 of the budget template.

Q: Is there a requirement for organizations to contribute funding to the project, either in cash or in kind?

A: No. Organizations are not required to provide a financial or in-kind contribution to the project budget.

Q: Is support for the restoration or redesign of women's projects, businesses, or livelihoods that have been stopped or damaged by conflict eligible under this Call for Proposals?

A: Yes. Proposed projects may include activities that support the restoration, recovery, redesign, or strengthening of initiatives that have been disrupted or negatively affected by conflict or crisis. Applicants should clearly demonstrate how these activities address the needs of women and girls in the target area and contribute to the objectives and results of the selected WPHF Impact Area.

Q: Is it possible to include a budget for a rapid assessment to establish benchmarks and measure indicators?

A: While an assessment may be included if clearly justified, WPHF does not require and generally does not encourage standalone conflict analyses, baseline studies, or endline evaluations, as these can be costly. Applicants are encouraged to design projects with clear and measurable indicators from the outset and to use existing data and information wherever possible.

Q: Does WPHF encourage formal partnerships with banks, financial institutions, the private sector, subscribers and service providers within the project?

A: No. The following entities are not eligible to apply for funding under this Call for Proposals: international NGOs, government agencies and institutions, UN agencies and UN Country Teams, private individuals, private sector entities, universities, think tanks, and education or research institutions.

These entities may not receive WPHF funding through formal partnerships or sub-granting arrangements. However, applicants may coordinate and collaborate with such organizations, provided that no WPHF funds are transferred to them.

Application & Submission Process

Q: Do we need to stamp and sign the first page of the proposal?

A: The first page of the proposal should be signed. A stamp is optional. Proposals must be submitted in Word (.doc or .docx) format.

Q: If applying for both institutional and programmatic funding, how should applications be submitted?

A: Organizations applying for both institutional and programmatic funding must submit two separate

application packages using the relevant templates. Both applications should be submitted through the online application portal.

Q: Can we use artificial intelligence (AI) to write our proposal?

A: WPHF encourages civil society organizations to write proposals in their own voice and based on their own experiences and expertise. Proposals are assessed on the strength of their content and alignment with the Call for Proposals, not on writing style. Organizations using AI tools should be aware of potential risks, including disclosure of sensitive information, data security concerns, and inaccurate or generic content. Applicants remain fully responsible for the accuracy and originality of their submissions. Proposals containing plagiarized content will be disqualified.

Q: What happens if I do not submit all the required documents?

A: Applications must include all required documents listed in the Call for Proposals. Incomplete applications, including those missing proof of legal registration for the lead applicant, will be deemed ineligible and will not be reviewed.

Q: Can I update or replace my application after it has been submitted?

A: No. Once an application has been submitted, no changes, revisions, or additional documents may be accepted. Applicants are encouraged to carefully review their application package before submission.

Q: Please clarify what types of proposals are likely to be deemed ineligible or not move forward in the assessment process.

A: To be considered for technical evaluation, applicants must first meet all eligibility and application requirements. Proposals may be disqualified or deemed ineligible if they:

- Do not submit proof of the lead organization's legal registration.
- Use the incorrect proposal template for the funding track or impact area being applied for.
- Do not follow the instructions provided in the proposal form.
- Leave sections of the proposal incomplete. Incomplete proposals will be disqualified.
- Request funding beyond the maximum allowable amount:
 - USD 30,000 for institutional funding.
 - USD 150,000 for programmatic funding.
- Propose a project duration exceeding 24 months.

In addition, during the technical evaluation, proposals should clearly explain the problem being addressed, the proposed approach, expected results, and how activities will contribute to meaningful change for women and girls within the chosen impact area. Applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully review all application documents, including the proposal template and guidance materials, before submission.

Q: Can I submit both an institutional funding application and a programmatic funding application?

A: Yes. Organizations may apply for both institutional funding and programmatic funding under this Call for Proposals. However, applicants must submit two separate application packages, using the appropriate template for each funding track. Both applications should be submitted through the online application portal and will be assessed independently.

Q: Should we include the contact person's details in the proposal template, or is there another step required?

A: Yes. Applicants should complete the proposal template in full, including all requested contact information. The contact person's details should be provided in the designated sections of the proposal template. No additional step is required beyond ensuring that all sections of the application package are fully completed and submitted through the online application portal.

Evaluation & Selection Process

Q: Will unsuccessful candidates be notified?

A: No. Only successful applicants will be contacted.

Q: Will the same evaluation committee evaluate proposals received in Arabic and English?

A: Yes. Proposals submitted in both Arabic and English will be evaluated using the same criteria.

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

A: Following the closure of the Call for Proposals, the review and selection process may take approximately 4-5 months. Successful applicants will be contacted directly by UNDP Sudan, and project implementation is expected to begin thereafter.

Q: Will it be an advantage to write the application in English?

A: No. Applications submitted in English and Arabic will be assessed equally.

Q: How many proposals will be selected under this Call for Proposals?

A: There is no fixed number of grants to be awarded. The final number of selected proposals will depend on the available funding and the recommendations of the National Steering Committee.

Q: Could you please clarify how applicants will be contacted regarding application status, clarification requests, and final decisions?

A: Following the closure of the Call for Proposals, the review and selection process may take approximately 4-5 months. Successful applicants will be contacted directly by UNDP Sudan, and project implementation is expected to begin thereafter.

Coordination & Management

Q: Could you please confirm whether this funding mechanism is managed by or directly affiliated with UN Women, and clarify UN Women's role alongside UNDP?

A: This Call for Proposals is managed by UNDP as the UN Management Entity. WPHF works in partnership with several UN entities in Sudan, including UN Women. UNDP is the entity responsible for managing this specific Call for Proposals in Sudan.

UNDP Reporting

Q: What kind of documents does WPHF expect the organization to use to prove that support has reached beneficiaries and achieve results?

A: UNDP expected organizations to provide adequate documentation and evidence of results achieved including but not limited to narrative reports, comprehensive beneficiary databases, pictures, GIS coordinates, facilitation of external field visits to hear directly from beneficiaries, and third-party monitoring partners among others as applicable.

Q: What type of reports are required during the implementation of the project and what is the role of the organization in documenting the results and stories learned?

A: Implementing organizations are expected to actively and holistically monitor and document project progress, results and impact. This will be done through monthly reporting, quarterly field visits and periodic reporting to access tranches.

Q: What type of agreement does UNDP sign with grantees: tranches, advance payment and reporting frequency?

A: UNDP will sign “Low Value Grant Agreements (LVGAs)” which successful organizations. These agreements are disbursed in tranches, and once 80% of the tranche received is spent, the organization is expected to liquidate the amount by providing supportive documentation including narrative and financial reports, bank statements and any other documentation required for financial and programmatic spot checks which may include field verification visits.

Q: For organizations operating under a strict mandate of clinical neutrality and secure data isolation across cross-border corridors (e.g., the Sudanese-Chadian border), can remote field measurement, human mobility tracking, and local market shock monitoring in the target areas be considered eligible for the grant, if the project's administrative node is managed with high flexibility due to protectionist and security constraints?

A: While these interventions are meaningful, CfP8 focuses on forced displacement, and proposed interventions should integrated hard and soft components to match community and humanitarian needs on the ground.