

**Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF)**  
Annual Project narrative progress report – Secretariat of the WPHF  
Reporting period: 1 January – 31 December 2018

<p><b>Project Title:</b> Secretariat of the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund <b>Project Number:</b> 00101763</p>	<p><b>PUNO(s):</b> UN Women</p>
<p><b>Reporting Period:</b> 1 January – 31 December 2019 <b>Report submitted by:</b> UN Women as the Secretariat of the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund Name: Ghita El Khyari Entity: UN Women Title: Head of the Secretariat, Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund Email: <a href="mailto:Ghita.khyari@unwomen.org">Ghita.khyari@unwomen.org</a></p>	<p><b>Implementing Partner(s):</b> N/A</p>
	<p><b>Project Location:</b> Global – Secretariat based in New York</p>
<p><b>Project Description:</b> This project covers the Secretariat function for the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund. The expected outcome of the Project is to enable the achievement of the WPHF's theory of change through sound technical and policy support, a strong culture of accountability and transparency and results-based management, reporting and evaluation, as well as solid knowledge management and communication strategies.</p>	<p><b>Total Approved budget:</b> USD 1,221,858 Total budget transferred at the end of the reporting period: USD 1,221,858</p>
	<p><b>Project Start Date:</b> 30 August 2016 <b>Project End Date:</b> 31 December 2019 <b>Total duration (in months):</b> 40 months</p>
<p><b>WPHF Outcome the Project is contributing to :</b> N/A</p>	
<p><b>WPHF indicator the Project is reporting on:</b> N/A</p>	

## SUMMARY

This report covers the results achieved by UN Women, as the Secretariat of the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF), between 1 January and 31 December 2019. The consolidated report covering the Fund's results will be submitted by 31 May 2019, as per WPHF's operations Manual.

In 2019, WPHF Secretariat's efforts led to a significant growth of the Fund and of its capitalization and visibility. Resources mobilized in 2019 were multiplied by 2,5 compared to the previous year (7 million USD in 2018) with close to 18 million USD raised in 2019 alone. A new partnership with the Spotlight initiative in 6 countries in Africa, for a total of over 7 million USD, significantly contributed to this achievement.

During this year, the WPHF Secretariat supported the launch of 11 Calls for Proposals (CFPs) to allocate 16 Million USD to civil society organizations across 10 countries. The Secretariat supported the roll out of the CFPs in Jordan, Iraq, DRC, Mali, Burundi, Palestine, DRC, Uganda, Liberia, Nigeria, and Malawi for which a total of 919 proposals were received and a total of 256 shortlisted by the Secretariat.

During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued to position the WPHF in the global discussions on peace and security and the humanitarian reform. These efforts were highlighted in the UN Secretary General WPS annual report (October 2019), WPHF was recognized as a "an innovative mechanism supporting impactful peacebuilding and humanitarian initiatives led by grass-roots civil society organizations"<sup>1</sup>. The UN SG also called the UN and Member States to open a rapid response window for women's participation in peace negotiations within the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund. During the last quarter of 2019, the Secretariat undertook several consultations to feed into the design of this rapid response window and established a Funding Board's Task Force to oversee the design and launch of the rapid response window.

The Secretariat continued to provide support to the Funding Board of the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund, under the leadership of UNFPA, and organized working level meetings, with relevant documentation, information and implementation of the decisions taken. During the reporting period, WPHF Secretariat organized 3 Board meetings, including two at the working level and one at the Principals Level to share information and take decisions. In addition, an informal meeting for the Board INGOs was organized to share background information and discuss ways to better engage them. The Secretariat also commissioned and oversaw a Mid-Term Review of the WPHF and an in-depth case study on Burundi, from both operational and impact perspectives, which reports were shared with the Funding Board for consideration.

In May 2019, the WPHF secretariat, in partnership with Norway and the Spotlight Initiative, organized a side event at the international conference on Ending Sexual and Gender-based Violence in Humanitarian Crises in Oslo. This event, "*Enhancing the capacities of women-led and women's rights organizations as first-responders in line with the localization agenda: Empowering women on the frontlines,*" highlighted the efforts of local women's organizations to prevent and address SGBV and respond to humanitarian crises, calling on the international community to support this vital work through rapid and predictable

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<sup>1</sup> <https://undocs.org/S/2019/800>

financing. The event highlighted key results and strategic plans of WPHF and Spotlight, and provided a platform to amplify the voices of local women humanitarian responders. It also highlighted the need to establish and reinforce existing strategic, efficient, innovative, and sustainable partnerships between the UN, Member States and civil society to promote transformative change in the lives of women and girls who remain disproportionately affected by SGBV in conflict and humanitarian settings.

Ahead of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UNSCR 1325 in 2020, the WPHF Secretariat organized an event in October 2019 in UN Headquarters to showcase the impact of women organizations from Iraq and Colombia and mobilize support to the 40by20forwomen campaign, which aims to secure USD 40 million by the end of 2020 for women peacebuilders and crisis responders, and create significant momentum for WPHF and for women, peace and security and humanitarian issues. The event gathered high-level representatives of Members states, the UN, civil society and the private sector, which presented commitments to support women grassroots peacebuilders and first responders including through funding to the WPHF.

The Secretariat led multiple initiatives aiming at diversifying its partnerships and raising awareness around women, peace and security and humanitarian issues towards the general public. American Actress Kristen Bell and French singer Louane continued to be engaged as the Global Advocate and the European Advocate for the Fund, respectively. Through social and traditional media and advocacy work they helped generate new followers, donations, and meetings with potential influential supporters. Partnerships with Global Citizen and 180 LA, an advertising agency that provided pro bono support, enabled the Fund to strengthen visibility and awareness for women peacebuilders and crisis responders through the creation and amplification of a digital visibility campaign for the International Day of Peace. WPHF also worked with Omaze and Kristen Bell to raffle off a set visit to her TV show, Veronica Mars, which raised nearly \$100,000. WPHF was also featured in an interview PENTA, a magazine for high-net-worth individuals, did with Kristen Bell. The secretariat secured a partnership with Dell Technologies, which is volunteering employee time and donating technology resources to help create a global knowledge-management platform for WPHF and its women peacebuilders and humanitarian responders. In addition, Starbucks provided a grant of \$100,000 to support WPHF's work in the DRC and its employees volunteered time to support WPHF.

## **I. Results**

### **i) Narrative reporting on results:**

**Outcome:** The present report covers the efforts undertaken by the WPHF from 1 January – 31 December 2019. To see results reached by the Fund in its target countries, please see WPHF 2019 annual report.

#### **Output 1.1. Quality technical support and advisory to the funding board is provided**

##### *a/ Support provided to the Funding Board*

During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued to provide timely and quality support to the Funding Board of the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund.

The Funding Board, chaired in 2019 by UNFPA, held a high-level meeting in March. The Secretariat organized two meetings at working level during the year (September and December). In addition, the

Secretariat organized an online meeting with the INGO Board members, to share information and discuss ways to engage further and strategically (December).

### **March Annual high-level Funding Board meeting**

During the first meeting of the year, chaired by UNFPA ASG Laura Londén and held on 29 March 2019, the Funding Board membership constituted:

- Governments: Austria, Canada, the Netherlands, Norway
- Civil society: Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), International Civil Society Action Network on women's rights, peace and security (ICAN), Transitional Justice Institute and Women Enabled International
- UN agencies: UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women, UN Peacebuilding Office

The Funding Board approved the six recommendations made by the Secretariat to amend the WPHF Terms of Reference and Operations Manual. These include:

- o Extending the end date of the WPHF from 31 December 2020 to 31 December 2025
- o Dedicating 100% of the Funding to supporting women-led and women's rights civil society organizations working in peace, security and humanitarian contexts, aligning the procedures to what has been the Fund's practice since 2016.
- o The objective of a \$2 million investment per country is preserved but the WPHF is allowed to make an initial minimum investment of \$1 million in country.
- o Deleting the reference to partner mapping as a tool to identify potential partners in country, and rather focus on calls for proposals, as it has been the Fund's consistent practice since 2016.
- o Include language on sexual exploitation and abuse.
- o Add provisions for additional country allocations and sustainability/exit strategies.

During the meeting, the list of eligible countries was discussed, with agreement that geographical diversity remains an important factor while keeping the limit of eligible countries to 25 countries.

The Board approved an additional \$900,000 to Burundi in view of the upcoming elections in 2020, the little amount of funding the country receives and the impact that was demonstrated by the previous WPHF allocations in the countries. The Board shortlisted 3 countries (Palestine, CAR, Sri Lanka) to receive \$2,000,000 and agreed by email after the meeting to allocate it to Palestine. During the meeting, the Board also approved the project document for direct costs and immediate release of an additional \$500,000 for the WPHF Secretariat.

### **September working level Funding Board meeting**

The second WPHF Funding Board meeting took place on 3 September 2019 at the working level. The Secretariat presented updates on the period of March to August, with the launch of 10 Call for Proposals (Jordan, Iraq, DRC, Mali, Burundi and 5 Spotlight countries: DRC, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Uganda).

This included specific updates on the WPHF-Spotlight partnership which covers 6 African countries (DRC, Uganda, Liberia, Malawi, Mali and Nigeria) with a focus on funding projects that respond to violence against women within the nexus of peace, security and humanitarian action (WPHF outcome area 5 and Spotlight outcome area 6). Grants range from \$20,000 to \$200,000 USD, up to 2 years. During the

advertisement of the Call for Proposals in Liberia, Nigeria, Uganda and Malawi, UN Women Country Offices organized 'Open Days' to answer questions from prospective applicants. It was a welcomed and successful initiative with 156 participants across the countries. The Board members agreed that Open Days should be encouraged for each Call for Proposal as a good practice, including for networking and coalition building, as well as strengthening proposal writing skills.

The Secretariat shared updates on the WPHF Mid-Term Review, with a consultant on board and inception report already submitted. The Board was informed that the consultant will be reaching out to them for interviews and will travel to Burundi for a field visit to assess the impact and mechanism of WPHF. Additional information on communications, knowledge management, private sector engagement and resource mobilization efforts were also provided to the Board members.

In light of the 1325+20 anniversary and to build on momentum to increase awareness, elevate grassroots women voices and mobilize support, the Secretariat shared a strategic plan with three main events: October 2019 side event during the UNSC Open Debate on WPS, a global Civil Society Forum in Q1 2020 to draft a declaration or outcome document for advocacy and a High-Level event in October 2020 with the conclusion of the 40by20 Campaign. During the meeting, Austrian representatives announced they were considering hosting the Global Forum in 2020.

Additional issues were discussed for the WPHF to take forward in 2020 such as the creation of a rapid response window mechanism for women's participation in peace negotiations and the creation of a new funding window for women human rights defenders and peacebuilders. These were further discussed throughout the year with the Board members and a timeline was shared (December 2019).

#### **December working level Funding Board meeting**

During this last meeting of the year, the last meeting chaired by UNFPA after 2 years of chairmanship of the Funding Board, the Secretariat provided an update on key results for 2019, including investment figures, impact of projects in two countries (Colombia and Iraq), progress in communications, knowledge management and private sector engagement. The board members appreciated the diversity in grants amounts through 2 windows of funding within one Call for Proposal (example of Mali), and overall agreed to engage more with respective country representatives to share with them results and information on WPHF projects as a way of enhancing visibility and mobilizing resources. The Board also noted the need and stronger M&E approach to the fund's results.

On this note, the Secretariat shared updates from the Mid-Term Review, during which 45 interviews and a field visit to Burundi were undertaken. The review found that WPHF is very relevant and funding the grassroots organizations, as most have never received funding from UN before, and helped to build organizations' capacities. The consultant made several recommendations such as: hiring a M&E consultant; adjusting theory of change so that it is more accessible for civil society organizations and move outcome indicators to impact level so that organizations can make their own outcomes and report on output level. It was agreed to organize a presentation by the consultant followed by questions during an online meeting at the working level early 2020, with the Secretariat sharing the final reports beforehand.

The Secretariat briefed members on the event organized by the WPHF on the margins of the Security Council Open Debate on Women Peace and Security (WPS) where two grassroots partner women's

organizations, from Kurdistan (Iraq) and Colombia presented results of their efforts and challenges that remain. Several members states announced new funding for WPHF - with 3 Million euros from Germany, 2 Million euros for Uganda from Austria and an increase in Ireland's contribution, all contributing towards the 40by20 for women campaign goal.

Furthermore, the Secretariat presented extracts from the UN Secretary General's Annual report on WPS which recognized WPHF as an innovative instrument to channel funding to women's organizations working in peace and security and humanitarian contexts and called Member States to help go beyond the 40 million goal of the campaign. The report also recognizes the partnership between WPHF, the Peacebuilding Fund and the Spotlight Initiative as a good practice that needs to be strengthened and documented and calls on the WPHF to open a new rapid response window to support women's participation in peace processes and the implementation of the peace agreements. On the latter, the Secretariat presented to the Board members a timeline for the design and establishment of the Rapid Response Window (RRW) and suggested the establishment of a task force within WPHF Funding board to work oversee the design phase. The Board agreed and several members volunteered to be part of the Task Force.

During the meeting, the Secretariat shared background information on the Vienna Global Women's Forum preparations and objectives planned to take place in February 2020. It aimed to bring together grassroots women's partners to exchange lessons learned, discuss impact and challenges to the local implementation of the WPS agenda, and create an outcome document that feed into the 1325+20 and Beijing +25 processes.

The Secretariat presented new members to the team, composed of 3 full time staff (Head of Secretariat, Communications and Knowledge Management analyst and Country support analyst), as well as a part time consultant for private sector engagement and a short term consultant to support on logistics for the global forum in Vienna. It was also announced that in 2020, the Secretariat will recruit an administration associate and a monitoring and evaluation consultant.

Other points discussed during the meeting include the need to for further inclusion of young people in women's movements which was highlighted by UNFPA reporting back from the November Nairobi Summit (ICPD +25).

Finally, the Secretariat presented the 4 largest donors for 2019 who will be sitting on the Board next year: European Union (Spotlight Initiative), Germany, The Netherlands and Canada. All the other Board members remain unchanged and the Board will be electing a new Chair for 2020 and 2021 next year.

*b/ resource mobilization efforts led by the Secretariat*

Regarding resource mobilization, the Secretariat continued to reach out to traditional donors in support of the Fund's missions and priorities. By the end of 2019, 3 new donors had joined the pool of WPHF funders, (i.e. the European Union, Germany and Japan), and concrete conversations were held with at least 2 additional donors.

The Secretariat's efforts focused on briefing potential donors on WPHF. In April, during the meeting of the WPS Focal Points Network, the WPHF was invited by one of WPHF's largest donor, Australia, to brief the donor coordination meeting, which was attended by around 10 donors.

However, the most significant resource mobilization result reached by the Secretariat was the negotiation and launch of a partnership with the Spotlight Initiative, resulting in over 7 million USD secured for 6 of the WPHF eligible countries in Africa.

A new partnership with Germany for a total of EUR 3 million was also a significant step in the Secretariat's resource mobilization efforts.

Overall, the Secretariat used four main strategies with traditional donors:

- Advocacy tools: a one pager on how governments, private sector and individuals can take action to support women peacebuilders and humanitarian responders (see Annex 2) as well several country briefs
- Events: The Secretariat organized a high-level pledging event during the October Security Council Open Debate on Women Peace and Security. In addition, the WPHF secretariat, in partnership with the Spotlight Initiative and Norway, organized a side event at the international conference on Ending Sexual and Gender-based Violence in Humanitarian Crises in Oslo, Norway.
- Bilateral meetings with donors on a regular basis.
- Campaign: the Secretariat continued to implement the 40by20 for women campaign, which aims to raise \$40 million by the end of 2020 for women peacebuilders and responders.

In 2019, the Secretariat also advanced its private sector strategy. WPHF's work with the private sector included increasing visibility of the Fund and the issues of WPSH, raising funds through crowdfunding and corporate grantmaking, and securing pro bono resources. The WPHF Secretariat had private sector entities attend the Fund's Open Debate on WPS side event; had meetings with corporations, foundations, and philanthropic advisors to high-net-worth individuals; worked with celebrities to amplify WPHF message; and encouraged the public to donate through social media campaigns. Since most of the private sector is not familiar with the issues of women, peace and security and humanitarian response, an essential part of the Secretariat's work continues to include outreach, awareness building, and helping the private sector understand why these issues are relevant to them and how they can use their unique resources and voice to help.

In 2019, the Secretariat secured pro bono support from advertising agency LA 180, which produced the Fund's 2019 International Day of Peace campaign and video with advocate Kristen Bell. It began implementing its partnership with Dell Technologies working with a team of its employees to design a knowledge management platform for WPHF and secure the needed technology resources. It also secured a grant from Starbucks to support its work in the DRC. WPHF was featured in a PENTA magazine interview it did with Kristen Bell, which targets high net worth individuals. It also began working with Global Citizen to help raise the profile of WPHF among its readers. The Fund also worked with raffle company Omaze and WPHF Global Advocate, Kristen Bell, to raffle off a set visit to a taping of Veronica Mars, Kristen's TV show, which raised nearly \$100,000. The Fund was also represented at two large private sector conferences in the U.S. and hosted roundtables at the event to raise awareness for WPHF and WPSH issues.

**Output 1.2. The Secretariat promotes in its operations a culture of risk management, accountability and transparency**

During the reporting period, the Secretariat undertook the technical evaluation of the proposals received in the DRC, Iraq, Mali, Nigeria, Uganda, Liberia, Malawi, Jordan and Palestine. In 2019, a total of 919 projects were received and 256 were shortlisted<sup>2</sup> by the WPHF Secretariat. Evaluation sheets were all shared with respective country management entities for the National Steering Committees' (NSC) final selection. The Secretariat shared regular updates with the Spotlight Secretariat and other donors on the progress of selection, challenges in the process and progress on implementation of projects.

In the case of Spotlight partnership projects, the shortlisting selection and evaluation sheets were shared by the Secretariat with the Spotlight Secretariat for review and comments on suggested selection guidance for the National Steering Committees. This suggested selection within the shortlisting was shared with the National Steering Committees. This selection aimed to highlight projects who best respond to the outcomes of the call for proposal, prioritize women-led or women's rights organizations, ensure geographical diversity and include both small grants and larger grants requests as well as organizations who have not received funding from the UN previously. However, it was clearly communicated that the National Steering Committees were able to choose any of the projects from the shortlist based on their context-specific knowledge of needs and priorities.

The Secretariat prepared all the relevant documents for the funds transfers, including Fund transmittal forms and cover project documents for the Management Entities after the National Steering Committees finalized the selection of projects in the DRC, Jordan, Iraq, Liberia, Mali and Palestine. The Secretariat worked closely with the multi-partner trust fund office, as WPHF's administrative agent, to facilitate the transfers to the Management Entities on the ground.

Changes to the Operations Manual strengthening language on fiduciary management and risk were approved by the Board.

Regarding the Rapid Response Window for women's participation in peace negotiations, the Secretariat developed a timeline and list of experts to be consulted during an Expert Group meeting in 2020 which was shared with the Board members and a Task Force to oversee the process was established.

**Output 1.3. Results-based monitoring, reporting and evaluation successfully contributes to achieving the Outcomes of the WPHF**

In 2019, the Secretariat updated the Fund's Operational Manual, based on lessons learned from the Secretariat and from the Board members to improve reporting with amendments to the WPHF Terms of Reference and Operations Manual, including on project period for the fund and minimum amount allocated per country, and an additional outcome to monitor the Fund's overall performance in the Result Framework.

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<sup>2</sup> Burundi shortlisting was completed in 2020 and excluded from this number.

During the reporting period, the Secretariat also prepared two reports: the 2018 Secretariat report, covering the results achieved by UN Women in its role as the Secretariat of the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund, as well as a consolidated annual report covering results achieved by the Fund in 2018. The Secretariat also reviewed the 6 country/group of countries reports for 2018. The Secretariat worked on preparing a series of briefings, decks and presentations dedicated to the results achieved by the Fund.

The Mid-Term Review consultant was hired by the Secretariat and undertook 45 interviews and a field visit to Burundi to assess the impact, relevance and effectiveness of the Fund. The final reports were finalized in December and shared with Board members ahead of an online presentation by the consultant to take place early 2020. The reports found that WPHF is relevant and funding the grassroots organizations, and is on track of achieving expected results. The consultant made several recommendations such as: investing more resources in capacity building and M&E, as well as improving decision-making and governance related processes.

The Secretariat also continued to provide support to the Management Entities in the all 12 active WPHF countries or group of countries as well to operate close monitoring of the activities on the ground. Regular support was provided to the UN Women Offices managing grants for WPHF, both as the Secretariat of the National Steering Committees and as the Management Entity for Civil Society organizations.

The Secretariat organized quarterly calls convening WPHF focal points in countries with active grants to share updates on WPHF activities, reinforce secretariat guidelines, clarify procedures and provide a platform for WPHF managing partners to build a sense of community, ask questions and exchange results and challenges across regions. In addition, the Secretariat has regular bilateral calls with management focal points in countries on implementation updates, as well as to discuss challenges, provide relevant advice and support from the Secretariat and share information related to communications and branding guidelines for project partners and the Management Entity. These calls, which began during the last semester of the year, will be continued in 2020 as good practice for closer follow up and support for country Management Entities WPHF focal points.

#### **Output 1.4. The WPHF is a recognized hub of knowledge in the field of Women, peace and security and humanitarian action**

In 2019, the secretariat of the Women's Peace & Humanitarian Fund executed a wide range of communications and public advocacy initiatives, expanding and deepening its communications efforts to further enhance the fund's visibility and global reach. The following core communications priorities were identified to be implemented in calendar year 2019, including: expanding social media presence and reach, optimizing WPHF website functionality, securing innovative partnerships to help create and amplify digital campaigns to enhance visibility and reach new audiences, and developing a new online community of practice and knowledge management platform for WPHF grantees.

##### *Expanding Social Reach*

WPHF continued to deepen its social reach and enhance engagement of its rapidly growing and diverse social audiences between January and December 2019. Building on the growth in the previous year of its three social media platforms - Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram – the Secretariat developed a range of curated content for each social media channel, highlighting the impact, voices and success stories of

women peacebuilders and humanitarians in WPHF supported programs on the ground. WPHF successfully grew its combined social media audience from 4,500 followers at the end of 2018 to 9,310 followers at the end of 2019, resulting in a 106% net growth in total social reach, year over year. Instagram enjoyed the most rapid growth at 5,000 followers at the end of 2019, followed by Twitter at 2,273 followers, and Facebook at 2,037 page follows. This success is due in large part to WPHF's consistent creation of unique branded content, leveraging news pegs, developing engaging calls to action, and partnering with celebrity advocate Kristen Bell – who employed her vast social media influence and strategic public endorsements of WPHF activities around the year. In 2019, strategic social media campaigns with unique calls to action were facilitated around International Women's Day, International Refugee Day, and the International Day of Peace, the one-year countdown to UNSCR1325+20, and Giving Tuesday in December 2019. In addition, a crowdfunding campaign with online raffle company Omaze and Kristen Bell, led to broader awareness and raised \$100,000.

#### *Website Optimization*

The WPHF website was designed and developed to serve as an online information resource for both prospective donors and CSO partners. The Secretariat continued to work in 2019 to increase web traffic and optimize its online user experience, including through the development of updated features such as a news page to collate press releases, a partner page to highlight WPHF grantees from around the world, and a new sign-up feature to optimize its list building efforts.

Throughout 2019, the WPHF secretariat successfully increased all key website metrics of *WPHFund.org* year over year, including web sessions (+74% increase), web users (+71% increase), and web page views (+63% increase). In 2019, the highest concentration of WPHF website visitors are from the United States, followed by Nigeria, Uganda, the United Kingdom, Malawi, Jordan, the Netherlands and Canada - demonstrating that the primary purpose of the website evolved in 2019 from exclusively serving the WPHF donor and prospective donor community, to serving an increased number of civil society organizations in the countries that WPHF advertises new calls for proposals.

#### *Digital Advocacy Campaigns*

In February 2019, the Secretariat secured a pro-bono partnership with ad agency 180 LA to conceptualize and produce a campaign video featuring WPHF Global Advocate Kristen Bell, introducing the work of WPHF and the urgency of supporting women peacebuilders and humanitarians. The video uses statistics and Kristen Bell's humor and authentic voice to effectively target prospective donors and general English-speaking audiences. The video was promoted aggressively on the WPHF, Kristen Bell, and Global Citizen web and social media channels, and received over 500,000 views. In September 2019, the Fund launched a press release announcing its pro-bono partnership with Ad Agency 180 LA on the joint development of a digital visibility campaign featuring celebrity advocate Kristen Bell to commemorate the International Day of Peace and highlight the work of WPHF. This campaign was further amplified by a media partnership with Global Citizen, a digital platform committed to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals, which drafted and disseminated a piece that covered the campaign, which they disseminated across their social media and email channels to their digital community in the United States. In addition, WPHF was featured in an online and print edition of PENTA Magazine, which did a feature story on Kristen Bell. PENTA is a magazine for high-net-worth individuals that are interested in philanthropy.

#### *Knowledge production and management*

In February 2019, WPHF secured a pro-bono partnership with Dell Technologies to build an innovative new digital platform for its grassroots civil-society partners. The aim of this new online space is to foster a dynamic community of women peacebuilders and humanitarians from across the globe to connect with each other, collaborate, strengthen their network, share best practices, facilitate dialogue, exchange knowledge and deepen their skills and capacity – all while tracking progress on global trends related to women's leadership in peacebuilding and humanitarian action. The primary features of WPHFund Community will include a community member directory, a virtual library of knowledge products, a global calendar of events, a capacity training portal, social media Integration, a community email distribution group and relevant linkages to external platforms.

In the spring of 2019, the secretariat underwent an information collection process with the dissemination of a digital survey to ascertain the expectations and technological limitations of CSO platform users, to incorporate their perspectives into the design and development of the platform. In November 2019, Dell Technologies proposed a digital solution to meet WPHF's Knowledge Management and Community of Practice needs in the form of Microsoft Office 365. Dell's proposal was approved at the end of December 2019, and the platform is planned to be finalized and launched by the end of March 2020.

**ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:**

	<b><u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)</b>	<b>Source of Verification</b>
<p><b>Outcome 1:</b> The achievement of the WPHF's theory of change is enabled by sound technical and policy support, a strong culture of accountability and transparency and results-based management, reporting and evaluation, as well as solid knowledge management and communication strategies.</p> <p>Indicator: % WPHF's Result Framework targets met  <b>Baseline:</b> Baseline: 0  <b>Planned Target:</b> At least 80%</p>	N/A	Please refer to WPHF consolidated annual report for detailed results on impact	

<p><b>Output 1.1</b> Quality technical support and advisory to the funding board is provided.</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.1.1</b> % of Funding Board meetings for which relevant documents have been circulated at least one week in advance <b>Baseline: 100%</b> <b>Planned Target: 100%</b></p> <p><b>Indicator 1.1.2</b> % of Funding Board decisions implemented <b>Baseline: 100%</b> <b>Planned Target: 100%</b></p> <p><b>Indicator 1.1.2</b> Number of Resource mobilization strategy operational plans available <b>Baseline: 3</b> <b>Planned Target: 4</b></p>	<p>The target of 100% was reached. All documents were circulated at least 2 weeks in advance</p> <p>100% of the decisions of the Funding Board were implemented.</p> <p>The target was reached. A fourth Resource mobilization plan was drafted and implemented. The Fund experienced significant growth in 2019, with close to \$ 19 million USD mobilized.</p>	<p>No variance</p> <p>No variance</p> <p>No variance</p>	<p>Emails to the Funding Board</p> <p>Minutes of the meetings</p> <p>Resource mobilization operational plan of 2018 Minutes of the meeting at working level MPTFO gateway</p>
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<p><b>Output 1.2</b> The Secretariat promotes in its operations a culture of risk management, accountability and transparency</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.2.1</b> Availability of a Funding Board approved Operations Manual <b>Baseline:</b> Yes <b>Planned Target:</b> Yes (updated)</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.2.2</b> Periodicity of update of the risk management matrix <b>Baseline:</b> N/A <b>Planned Target:</b> at least once a year</p>	<p>The Operations Manual approved by the Board in 2016 was further amended in 2017, in 2018 and 2019.</p> <p>The Risk matrix as included in the Fund's ToR was updated and a fiduciary section was added to the Operations Manual.</p>	<p>No Variance</p> <p>No variance</p>	<p>Minutes of the Funding Board meeting and exchange of emails Operations Manual</p> <p>Risk matrix and updated risk matrix</p>
<p><b>Output 1.3</b> Results-based monitoring, reporting and evaluation successfully contributes to achieving the Outcomes of the WPHF</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.3.1</b> Availability of a results framework <b>Baseline:</b> No <b>Planned Target:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.3.2</b> Number of Reviews/Evaluations <b>Baseline:</b> No <b>Planned Target (December 2020):</b> 1</p>	<p>The results framework was elaborated, cleared by the Funding Board and included in the Fund's Operations Manual in 2016. Further changes were suggested in 2017 and in 2018. In 2019, the results framework was revised and submitted to the Board with more specific indicators and an additional outcome to monitor the Fund's overall performance</p> <p>A Mid-Term review was undertaken in 2019 by an external consultant.</p>	<p>No variance</p> <p>No variance</p>	<p>Operations Manual</p> <p>Mid-Term Review TORs and deliverables: Burundi Case Study and Mid-term Review report</p>

<p><b>Indicator 1.3.3</b> Number of results-based annual reports  <b>Baseline:</b> 0  <b>Planned Target (December 2020):</b> 2</p>	<p>2 annual reports produced (1 Secretariat annual report and 1 WPHF Full report).</p>		<p>Annual reports submitted to MPTFO and the Board</p>
<p><b>Output 1.4</b> The WPHF is a recognized hub of knowledge in the field of Women, peace and security and humanitarian action</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.4.1</b> Availability of an operational WPHF Community of Practice  <b>Baseline:</b> No  <b>Target:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.4.2</b> Number of knowledge products produced by the WPHF  <b>Baseline:</b> 1  <b>Planned target (December 2020):</b> at least 6 (including 2 global)</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.4.3</b> % of Communication strategy measures implemented  <b>Baseline:</b> No communication strategy  <b>Target (December 2020):</b> 80%</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.4.4</b> Numbers of celebrities engaged in support of WPHF  <b>Baseline:</b> 2  <b>Target:</b> 2</p>	<p>The Secretariat secured a partnership with Dell to establish the WPHF community of practice. In 2019, significant progress was made towards the establishment of the platform (surveys, consultations and design phase). However, due to the limited availability of pro bono partner, the CoP will be launched in 2020.</p> <p>Collection of knowledge products in the meantime to populate the Community of Practice.</p> <p>At least 75% of the communication strategy has been implemented, exceeding the 2018 target.</p> <p>Louane (French singer) and Kristen Bell (American Actress) remained engaged.</p>	<p>Variance due limited availability of pro bono partners</p> <p>Variance due to limited funding.</p> <p>No variance</p>	<p>Communications strategy and its operational plan</p> <p>Social media growth, website traffic</p> <p>Social media, website, press releases</p>

**III. Assessments, Evaluations and Knowledge**

- An external Mid-Term Review was conducted during the reporting period.
- There were no knowledge products produced during the reporting period.

**IV. 2020 priorities**

In 2020, and subject to the availability of Funds, the Secretariat will prioritize the following:

- Continue its resource mobilization efforts from traditional donors and companies, as well as crowdfunding options and private sector.
- Continue to support the management entities at country level and support additional allocations in new countries.
- Organize a Global Women's Forum in Vienna in February 2020 with women grassroot partners, government representatives, private sector and CSOs.
- Revise the list of eligible countries with the Board
- Allocate unearmarked funding with the Board
- Share a draft concept note for the Rapid Response Window for feedback from the Task Force and during an Expert Group meeting
- Ensure the launch of the Rapid Response Window.
- Ensure the launch of WPHF Community of Practice.
- Take forward the recommendations from the Mid-Term Review.
- Conduct at least 3 field visits throughout the year.
- Develop communication on results – including through individual stories.
- Work with WPHF Advocates to raise awareness and funds for women peacebuilders.

At the time the Secretariat is drafting this report, the COVID 19 pandemic is significantly affecting its operations as well as the partners and communities served by the WPHF. The Secretariat is working on identifying mitigating measures relating to monitoring trips and meetings, including through virtual solutions, but also consulting on how WPHF can best support its partners and women's organizations in crisis settings throughout the pandemic and its consequences.

**V. Annexes**

Annex 1: WPHF 4 pager

Annex 2: 365 Days of Action 1 pager

## THE ISSUE

Humanitarian crises and threats to peace and security are of a more urgent scale and nature than ever before. An unquestionable evidence base has emerged over the past decade demonstrating that women's meaningful participation results in more sustainable peace.

UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security (2000) recognized women's right to full participation in peace

and security decision-making. Two decades on, however, such participation remains minimal, and data confirms that financial resources fall dramatically short of political commitments.

Only 4.9 percent of aid to fragile and conflict-affected countries in 2016-2017 targeted gender equality as a principal objective. In 2015, the OECD reported that only one percent of all funding to fragile states went to local women's groups or women's ministries.

## THE RESPONSE

**The Women's Peace & Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) mobilizes critical funding for local women's organizations working on the frontlines of conflict and crises.**

The only global financing mechanism dedicated exclusively to supporting local women's participation in peacebuilding and humanitarian action, WPHF is a flexible and rapid financing tool support-

ing grassroots civil society organizations to enhance the capacity of women to prevent conflict, respond to crises and emergencies, and seize key peacebuilding opportunities. Established in 2016, this first-of-its-kind global partnership of the United Nations, governments and civil society organizations is working to empower women in fragile contexts around the world to be a force for crises response and lasting peace.



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## THEORY OF CHANGE

The localized interventions that WPHF supports are anchored in six key pillars that contribute to its principle goal of creating a world of peaceful and gender-equal societies.



## ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES

The WPHF Funding Board decided on a longlist of 24 countries (groups of countries) based on the peace and security and humanitarian situation, potential value added and the needs of civil-society organizations on the ground. Out of 24 eligible countries, 12 are currently receiving WPHF support\*.

AFGHANISTAN	LIBERIA*	SOMALIA
BURUNDI *	MALAWI*	SOUTH SUDAN
BANGLADESH	MALI *	SRI LANKA
C.A.R.	MYANMAR	TURKEY
COLOMBIA *	NIGERIA*	UGANDA*
D.R.C. *	PALESTINE*	UKRAINE
HAITI	PAPUA NEW GUINEA	YEMEN
IRAQ *	THE PACIFIC (Fiji, Palau, Tonga, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu)*	
JORDAN (SYRIA CRISIS) *		

## INVESTING IN WOMEN WORKING TO BUILD PEACE & RESPOND TO CRISES

The 20th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) in October 2020 constitutes a bold new milestone in recognizing and showcasing the concrete contributions made by women peacebuilders and humanitarian responders to communities around the world. In 2018, WPHF launched a global campaign aiming to mobilize USD \$40 million by the end of 2020 to support community-based, grassroots women's organizations across its 24 eligible countries.

**40**  
**x 20**  
**for Women**

Already more than half-way towards its ambitious funding target, WPHF is engaging with government donors, individuals, companies and celebrities to raise awareness and support.

Learn more about our global campaign and how you can contribute at [WPHFund.org/40by20](https://WPHFund.org/40by20)

## KEY RESULTS

### By the Numbers

**95 CSOs**  
funded



**60 projects**  
supported



**76,000**  
women  
and girls  
directly  
impacted



**\$28 million**  
approved  
budget  
mobilized



**12 contributing donors**  
(Austria, Australia, Canada, Ireland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Spotlight Initiative, United Kingdom)

**2 celebrity advocates**  
(American actress Kristen Bell & French Recording Artist Louane)



**3 corporate partners**  
(Dell, Starbucks & 180LA - plus volunteer & financial support from additional companies)



## **IMPACT: Empowering Grassroots Women to Change Lives<sup>1</sup>**



### **IRAQ: Enabling the implementation of WPS commitments**

*In Iraq, WPHF is financing CSO projects that support an enabling environment for the implementation of the government's WPS commitments, while providing funding for women's deepened engagement in conflict prevention and responding to violent extremism.*



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The experiences of women and girls in Iraq have been dramatically shaped by decades of war, protracted conflict, violent extremism and displacement. WPHF is funding grassroots proj-

ects that are strengthening the implementation of Iraqi National Action Plan (INAP) 1325 at both Federal and Kurdistan levels, which have resulted in the **training of 40 women** on monitoring,

evaluation, and accountability mechanisms to ensure government WPS commitments.

A total of **20 women CSO members** were trained on UNSCR 1325 and early-warning signs of conflict, and **61 community members** were trained on establishing community committees for women. WPHF financing also contributed to the training of **50 women journalists** on UNSCR 1325 and **women's enhanced participation in peacebuilding**.

In Iraq, WPHF funding has contributed to more meaningful participation of women in conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts, **benefiting 2,230 people** across the country.



### **BURUNDI: Enhancing the meaningful participation of women in conflict prevention**

*In Burundi, WPHF supports a nation-wide network of women mediators in a range of conflict prevention, effective early warning and economic recovery efforts.*

The people of Burundi face internal conflict, poor governance and socio-economic instability. Many have fled to seek refuge in the region, while others struggle to find peace and security within the country. WPHF financing supports a nationwide network of **516 women mediators** in their conflict prevention and economic recovery efforts across all **18 provinces** of Burundi.

This powerful network of women mediators functions as a women-led, community-based early warning system that has helped to **address 21,800 local conflicts** since the programme's

inception. The network has successfully engaged **1.2 million community members in dialogues on peace and security and socio-economic recovery**.



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### **THE PACIFIC: Increasing participation of women in humanitarian planning and programming**

*In the Pacific region, WPHF is supporting women's enhanced engagement in humanitarian action as well as their protection against sexual and gender-based violence across Fiji, Palau, Tonga, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu.*

The humanitarian situation in the Pacific is marked by a range of increasingly urgent natural disasters, such as cyclones and volca-

nic eruptions, to which women are playing crucial roles in local community response.

<sup>1</sup> All key results reflect data up to and including the 2018 reporting cycle



WPHF is contributing to women's deepened engagement in humanitarian action, funding community radio campaigns and technical trainings for women spanning early-warning

systems, emergency preparedness, crisis response and recovery. WPHF-supported projects are helping to mainstream gender in humanitarian action, financing technical trainings for grassroots women on planning for and responding to SGBV in emergencies.

WPHF-funded programming has served **11,573 women and girls** and **1.9 million indirect beneficiaries** across Fiji, Palau, the Solomon Islands, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu.



### COLOMBIA: Empowering women to participate in economic recovery efforts

*In Colombia, WPHF supports women's meaningful participation in the implementation of the peace agreement and projects to ensure women's active engagement in economic recovery efforts.*

Decades of conflict and various negotiations have resulted in a Peace agreement signed in November 2016 between the Colombian Government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia guerrilla group (FARC). This Peace agreement contains important gender provisions to address grave inequalities in the country.

In Colombia, **976 women** and **204 men** have benefited from local economic empowerment initiatives as a result of trainings supported by WPHF projects. WPHF funding has also contributed

to the establishment of **two Funds** to provide credit for economic initiatives led by women resulting in the launch of **35 local savings and credit groups**, directly benefiting **358 women** and **145 men** in conflict-affected communities.



### JORDAN: Ensuring women and girls' safety and security

*In Jordan, WPHF is investing in joint economic empowerment initiatives of women Syrian refugees and Jordanian host communities in 5 Governates, while supporting CSO projects working to protect women against sexual and gender-based violence.*



Since the Syrian conflict erupted in 2011, neighboring Jordan has become a host country for countless Syrians seeking refuge, many of who are women and girls who face critical challenges and barriers to life-saving services and information.

In Jordan, WPHF-supported projects have benefited a total of **6,162 women and girls among Syrian refugee and Jordanian host communities** through the establishment of clinics on sexual and reproductive health and trainings on emergency contraception, early-marriage prevention, psychosocial services and legal support.

#### CONTACT

Ghita El Khyari, Head of Secretariat: [ghita.khyari@unwomen.org](mailto:ghita.khyari@unwomen.org)  
Learn more about the Women's Peace & Humanitarian Fund at [WPHFund.org](http://WPHFund.org)



# 365 Days of Action

## for Women Working to Build Peace & Respond to Crises

### #40by20forWomen

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*As the world counts down to the 20th anniversary of UNSCR 1325 on 31 Oct 2020, here are some ways that governments, companies and individuals can take action to support women peacebuilders & responders worldwide.*

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#### FOR GOVERNMENTS:

- **INCREASE** funding to the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund, and to women-led and women's rights organizations working on peace and security and humanitarian issues;
- **CHAMPION** emerging issues and address gaps such as women's participation in peace negotiations, including through the implementation of the UN Secretary General's recommendation to WPHF to open a rapid response window for women's participation;
- **ADVOCATE** for increased participation of civil society organizations—including WPHF-supported grassroots organizations working on women, peace and security issues—in diverse strategic fora and dialogues on peace and security at the national and international levels;
- **ENHANCE** efforts to support and protect women human rights defenders and women peacebuilders;
- **RAISE** awareness by communicating with national constituencies and the general public—in partnership with the WPHF—on the importance of the participation of women and their organizations in peace and security and humanitarian decision-making processes.



#### FOR COMPANIES:

- **PROVIDE** a grant to support the work of WPHF-funded women's organizations;
- **FEATURE** WPHF in employee giving campaigns;
- **ENGAGE** employees in volunteering their talents and time to help advance WPHF's mission;
- **COLLABORATE** with WPHF on social media and cause marketing campaigns to raise awareness and funds.



#### FOR INDIVIDUALS:

- **SUPPORT** the work of WPHF with a one-time or monthly donation at [WPHFund.org/donate/](https://WPHFund.org/donate/)
- **JOIN** the WPHF Action Network and engage your local community (school, university, company, group...) in support of grassroots women activists building peace and responding to crises across the globe.
- **USE** your voice as a WPHF social influencer to help amplify the work of women working to build peace and respond to crises. Follow us and stay engaged at [@WPHFund](https://twitter.com/WPHFund).