ANNUAL
REPORT
Investing in the impact of women peacebuilders & first responders worldwide
ANNUAL REPORT

Investing in the impact of women peacebuilders & first responders worldwide

May 31, 2024
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glossary</td>
<td>iv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IN SOLIDARITY WITH WOMEN PEACEBUILDERS, HUMANITARIANS &amp; HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS ACROSS THE GLOBE</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgements</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPHF Overview</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country Presence and Investments</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It takes a Global Village</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPHF by the Numbers</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key WPHF Impact in 2023</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Focus</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Regular Funding Cycle</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Rapid Response Window on Women’s Participation in Peace Processes and the Implementation of Peace Agreements</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Window for Women Human Rights Defenders</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Global Learning Hub (L-Hub)</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Private Sector Partnerships</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Advocacy &amp; Visibility</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Challenges and Lessons Learned</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Way Forward</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix A: WPHF Dashboard (2016-2023)</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix B: WPHF Partners by Country (2023)</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix C: Results Framework</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix D: WPHF CSO Global Survey Findings on Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action 2023</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix E: Issues Report</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix F: Consolidated Financial Report</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photo Credits</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Glossary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AEDH</td>
<td>Agir Ensemble pour les Droits Humains</td>
</tr>
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<td>ACERWC</td>
<td>African Committee of Experts on the rights and welfare of the child</td>
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<td>BMZ</td>
<td>German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development</td>
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<td>CAR</td>
<td>Central African Republic</td>
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<tr>
<td>CIP</td>
<td>Call for Proposals</td>
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<td>CSO</td>
<td>Civil Society Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSW</td>
<td>Commission on the Status of Women</td>
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<td>D.R.C</td>
<td>Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
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<td>EMHRF</td>
<td>Euro-Mediterranean Foundation of Support to Human Rights Defenders</td>
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<td>ERW</td>
<td>Emergency Response Window</td>
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<td>EWRS</td>
<td>Early Warning and Response System</td>
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<td>GFFO</td>
<td>Germany’s Federal Foreign Office</td>
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<td>GNWP</td>
<td>Global Network of Women Peacebuilders</td>
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<td>GPAC</td>
<td>Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict</td>
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<td>GWF</td>
<td>Global Women’s Forum for Peace and Humanitarian Action</td>
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<td>HRC</td>
<td>Human Rights Council</td>
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<td>IACHR</td>
<td>Inter-American Commission on Human Rights</td>
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<td>ICAN</td>
<td>International Civil Society Action Network</td>
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<td>IDP</td>
<td>Internally Displaced Persons</td>
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<td>INGO</td>
<td>International Non-Governmental Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBTQI+</td>
<td>Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, and Queer</td>
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<td>L-HUB</td>
<td>Global Learning Hub</td>
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<td>NAP</td>
<td>National Action Plan</td>
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<td>NIMD</td>
<td>Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy</td>
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<td>MPTFO</td>
<td>Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office</td>
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<td>PBSO</td>
<td>UN Peacebuilding Support Office</td>
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<td>PNG</td>
<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
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<td>PSEA</td>
<td>Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse</td>
</tr>
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<td>RRW</td>
<td>Rapid Response Window on Women’s Participation in Peace Processes and the Implementation of Peace Agreements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGBV</td>
<td>Sexual and Gender Based Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SI</td>
<td>Spotlight Initiative</td>
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<td>SRHR</td>
<td>Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights</td>
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<td>UNF</td>
<td>United Nations Foundation</td>
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<td>UNFIP</td>
<td>United Nations Fund for International Partnerships</td>
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<td>UNFPA</td>
<td>United Nation Population Fund</td>
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<td>UNHCR</td>
<td>United Nations Refugee Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNSG</td>
<td>United Nations Secretary-General</td>
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<td>VAWG</td>
<td>Violence Against Women and Girls</td>
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<td>VSLA</td>
<td>Village Saving and Loan Association</td>
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<td>WHRD</td>
<td>Women Human Rights Defender</td>
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<td>WHW</td>
<td>Women Have Wings</td>
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<td>WILPF</td>
<td>Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom</td>
</tr>
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<td>WPHF</td>
<td>Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPS</td>
<td>Women Peace and Security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPS-HA</td>
<td>Women Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In Solidarity with Women Peacebuilders, Humanitarians & Human Rights Defenders Across the Globe

Forward by the WPHF Global Secretariat

2023 was a year marked by increasingly grave and complex challenges across the globe. From Afghanistan to Haiti, Palestine, Sudan and beyond, intractable conflict and multi-dimensional crises continued to drive instability, displacement, famine and grave threats to the fundamental rights of women and girls.

The United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) continued to adapt to these challenges and deliver on its critical mandate as an impactful and responsive financing tool serving local women’s civil society organizations and women human rights defenders (WHRDs) working in conflict and crisis settings worldwide.

Together with its growing network of Government, UN, Civil Society and Private Sector partners, WPHF continued to prove its relevance and unique added value as an effective, strategic and responsive instrument supporting local women’s organizations and women human rights defenders in fragile settings across the globe.

In 2023, WPHF reached its highest annual resource mobilisation figure since its establishment in 2016, with over 45 million USD in new funds raised for local women’s organizations in fragile settings, some of which include unmarked and sustained, multi-year pledges until 2027.

As you read through the pages of the WPHF 2023 Annual Report, we invite you to celebrate the pageantry with women peacebuilders, humanitarians and human rights defenders across the globe.

The WPHF Global Learning Hub (L-HUB), which fosters capacity strengthening, knowledge sharing, peer learning, and movement building across the global network of supported CSO partners, engaged over 960 civil society activists on topics related to sustaining the work of local women’s organizations in fragile settings. Notable in 2023, in collaboration with the German Federal Foreign Office, WPHF organized the second Global Women’s Forum for Peace and Humanitarian Action in Berlin, convening over 200 participants, including 87 WPHF-supported CSO partners from 29 countries, culminating in the adoption of the Berlin Declaration, which reflects the demands and priorities of women’s civil society leaders and calls on the international community to enhance flexible funding for their transformative work on the front lines.

As we look ahead to the 25th anniversary of UNSCR 1325 in 2025, WPHF will continue to drive momentum towards its Invest-In-Women Campaign goal of mobilizing 1325 in 2025, WPHF will continue to drive momentum towards its Invest-In-Women Campaign goal of mobilizing 300 USD million by the end of 2025 in line with United Nations Secretary General’s Transformative Measures on Women, Peace and Security. The WPHF Global Secretariat will continue to deliver on the principles and strategic objectives outlined in its first ever Strategic Plan endorsed by the WPHF Funding Board and will continue to mobilize support for its new Food Security & Climate Security portfolios and ongoing Emergency Funding Appeals.

As global crises and emergencies increase in number and complexity, the crucial work of local women’s civil society groups is threatened at every turn and financing for their work is scarcer than ever before. As highlighted in the Global Annual CSO survey findings, just under half of all organizations (49%) reported that their organization and staff directly received threats as a result of their work in women, peace, security and humanitarian action (WPS-HA). Against this backdrop, WPHF will continue to work together with its generous donors and expert partners to deliver on its mandate to enhance the quality, flexibility and timeliness of funding to support the work, foster the capacity and amplify the voices of local women civil society leaders and activists on the front lines. The needs remain high, with applications received on a daily basis, while the funding remains limited to support women’s efforts for peace and protection in crisis and conflict settings across the world.

As you read through the pages of the WPHF 2023 Annual Report, we invite you to celebrate the transformative impact of our civil society partners and their unique added value to prevent conflict and radicalization, expand the reach of humanitarian aid, protect the fundamental rights of the most marginalized groups, tackle sexual and gender-based violence, provide access to lifesaving services, improve women’s economic resilience, lift communities out of poverty, and forge inclusive and sustainable peace for all.

In solidarity with our partners and with profound thanks to our donors for their generous support, the WPHF Global Secretariat Team.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund would like to thank its donors, Board members and partners for their leadership and generous support.

DONORS

GOVERNMENTS:

- Germany
- United States
- Austria
- United Kingdom
- Italy
- Canada
- Norway
- Australia
- Belgium
- Spain
- Ireland
- Switzerland
- Iceland
- Slovenia
- Liechtenstein
- Cyprus
- Malta
- Albania

PRIVATE SECTOR:

- Kylie Schuyler, Global G.L.O.W.
- Clementine Fund
- Cremily
- Cynda Collins Arsenault and Lisa Valone, Committee Co-Chairs
- Plyfilm Studios
- Lafayette 148
- Netflix Media
- NID Consortium
- Horizon Therapeutics
- Actvision Blizzard
- NH Marks
- Silicon Valley Community Foundation (CC)
- Razi Family Foundation
- Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP)
- Cordaid

2023 WPHF FUNDING BOARD MEMBERS

GOVERNMENTS

- Germany
- United States
- Italy
- Norway

UN AGENCIES

- UN Women
- UNFPA
- UNHCR
- UN Peacebuilding Support Office

CIVIL SOCIETY

- Women’s Refugee Commission
- ActionAid International
- Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation
- Feminist Humanitarian Network

GLOBAL INITIATIVES:

- The Spotlight Initiative, a global multi-year partnership between the European Union and the United Nations
- The ‘Global Action Network on Forced Displacement: Women as Agents of Change’ funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

PRO BONO, CIVIL SOCIETY, FIDUCIARY & CELEBRITY PARTNERS

CORPORATIONS & PHILANTHROPY NETWORKS

- Dell Technologies
- Pledge to
- UNEP
- UN Office for Partnerships (UNFIP)
- Every.org
- Pledge.org

FOUNDING CSO BOARD MEMBERS

- Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP)
- Cordaid

WPHF GLOBAL ADVOCATE

- Kristen Bell
ANNUAL REPORT 2023

WPHF OVERVIEW

Scaling Up the Transformational Impact of Local Women’s Organizations Worldwide

The United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) is a global pooled funding mechanism working to re-energize action and stimulate a significant increase in financing for women’s participation, leadership, and empowerment in peace and security and humanitarian response. WPHF supports and enhances the capacity of local women-led and women’s rights organizations to prevent conflict, end sexual and gender-based violence, respond to crises and emergencies, and seize key peacebuilding opportunities. WPHF aims to break silos between peace and security, humanitarian response, development and human rights issues enabling civil society organizations on the ground to put forward comprehensive and innovative solutions to the world’s most pressing and complex crises.

The establishment of WPHF is the result of years of advocacy from civil society and was a recommendation of a global study on the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325 (2001). It was also acknowledged by the Security Council in its Resolution 2242 and by the UN Secretary-General in all the reports on women, peace and security since 2015. WPHF was established based on the evidence that women’s meaningful participation is vital to successful peacebuilding, peacekeeping, and humanitarian action, despite that investment in women’s participation and leadership in peacebuilding and humanitarian action continues to remain alarmingly low.

WPHF is anchored in a theory of change with the overarching goal to contribute to more peaceful and gender equal societies. Achievement of this goal requires women who are empowered to participate in, contribute to, and benefit from conflict prevention and resolution, inclusive human rights response, protection, peacebuilding, and recovery. Results in these areas constitute the six key outcomes of the WPHF theory of change.

CONTRIBUTE TO PEACEFUL AND GENDER EQUAL SOCIETIES

Outcome 1: Enabling Environment for Women, Peace and Security
Outcome 2: Conflict Prevention
Outcome 3: Humanitarian and Crisis Response
Outcome 4: Conflict Resolution
Outcome 5: Protection of Women and Girls
Outcome 6: Peacebuilding and Recovery

In 2023, WPHF was structured around three funding windows:

- a country/regional level window: the Regular Funding Cycle
- two global windows: the Rapid Response Window on women’s participation in peace processes and the implementation of peace agreements, and the Window for Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs)1.

Through each of these windows, WPHF aims to respond to the varying needs and priorities of women’s rights organizations and individual human rights defenders with flexible and quality programmatic and institutional financing.

In addition, the WPHF Global Learning Hub (L-HUB) offers enhanced training, exchange, and mentoring opportunities to a wide pool of local CSO leaders working to build peace and respond to crises across the globe.

1. In 2022, the Global Funding Board closed the COVID-19 ERW. In 2023, a total of two projects were still active and finished their implementation.
COUNTRY PRESENCE AND INVESTMENTS

Global Reach, Local Impact (2016-2023)
“Funding for women’s organizations has decreased for two years in a row. We must reverse this alarming trend. That is why I support the Invest-in-Women Campaign of WPHF and reiterate my call to raise 300 million USD for women’s organizations in crisis situations by the end of 2025. Because by investing in women, you are investing in global peace and security. Let us stand together with women working to build a better future for all.”

Antonio Guterres  
Secretary General of the United Nations

“The United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) enables women from women’s rights organizations to participate in decision-making in humanitarian and crisis response.”

Sima Bahous  
Executive Director, UN Women

“When women participate in peacebuilding efforts, it comes at a high risk. And no price is higher than the one paid by women human rights defenders. Therefore, we must bring them protection.”

Anniken Huitfeldt  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Norway

“Heike Thiele  
Director for Civilian Crisis Prevention and Stabilization at Germany’s Federal Foreign Office (GFFO)

“Who’s first to know when food dwindles, or when a child is sick, or when the communities’ needs have changed? Women and girls. They are the changemakers. Their unique knowledge and insights are critical to strengthening families, communities, and countries. So why are their powerful voices, values and needs not yet a part of the DNA of emergency responses? The future for women and girls may be the most challenging and most at risk in the world right now, and we’re proud to be the second largest donor to the United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund, which is a pooled fund for local women’s organizations.”

Marcia Wong  
Deputy Assistant to the Administrator of USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA)
“Women are more affected in times of crisis, but they are also more actively engaged. This is why we ask donors, the United Nations, and all those who have a say in this to provide considerable support to the work carried out by women’s organizations.”

Nelly Mbangu
Coordinator of Sauti ya Mama Mukongomani, WPHF CSO partner from the D.R.C.

“WPHF has supported us in training other women-led civil society organizations on conflict resolution, conflict prevention, and mediation processes as our country is going through political turmoil and we want to bring solutions to the table – because women are peacemakers. We have a critical role to play in crisis situations and we are much better placed to play the role of peacebuilding in any given country.”

Vimbai Kapurura
Executive Director of Women Unlimited Eswatini, WPHF CSO partner from Eswatini

“If the war in Ukraine has proven anything, it is that civil society organizations are quicker, more flexible, better equipped, and more efficient than other national and international actors at closing gaps and addressing urgent needs, particularly in the first months of the war. Female volunteers and women-led civil society organizations are at the forefront of all community-level responses, pushing for the rapid provision of humanitarian assistance and services. When the voices of women and girls are heard in decision-making spaces and their leadership is strengthened in local humanitarian action, results are guaranteed.”

Halyna Skipalska
Executive Director of the Ukrainian Foundation for Public Health (UFPH), WPHF CSO partner from Ukraine
WPHF BY THE NUMBERS

Key Results at A Glance

*WPHF Fund Level Indicators

SINCE 2016

Funds Mobilized*2
$ 175.4 million USD

Grants
732

CSOs Supported*1
1,207

CSOs working at the local level
89.1%

Financed by the UN for the first time
46.2%

Direct Beneficiaries
5,058,560
(74.1% women & girls)

INVESTMENT BY REGION (2016-2023)*3

LAC: 10.6%
Arab States: 19.3%
Europe & Central Asia: 17.6%
Asia & Pacific: 22.1%

Asia & Pacific
Europe & Central Asia
LAC
Arab States

INVESTMENT BY COUNTRY*4

Syria
South Sudan
Tajikistan
> 1 million

Jordan
Niger
Philippines
Vietnam
Pakistan
Malawi
Liberia

1-2 million

Pacific
Mali
Nigeria
Ethiopia
Sudan
Bangladesh

2-3 million

PNG
Uganda
Myanmar
Burundi
Lebanon

3-4 million

Moldova
Palestine
Colombia

4-5 million

Pakistan
Malawi
Liberia

5-6 million

Malaysia

6-9 million

Ukraine
Afghanistan

< 10 million

2023

Funds Mobilized*5
$ 45.8 million USD

Number of calls for proposals*6
21

Proposals Received*
4,063

Approved Grants
188

Active Grants in 2023
393

Streams
21.4% Institutional Funding
78.6% Programmatic Funding

CSOs Supported*7
649

CSOs working at the local level
87.0%

CSOs financed by the UN for the first time
47.6%

CSOs led by a person who is forcibly displaced
23.9%

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2 This includes funds that are pledged or transferred as per MPTFO
3 Based on funds approved as per MPTFO to country management entities
4 Does not include investments for RRW or Window for WHRDs
5 This includes funds that are pledged or transferred as per MPTFO
6 Does not include investment for RRW or Window for WHRDs
KEY WPHF IMPACT IN 2023

Measuring Concrete Steps Towards
A More Peaceful & Equal World

WPHF KEY PROGRAMMATIC RESULTS 2023

In 2023, WPHF launched its fourth global survey with 337 local women’s organizations and civil society partners respondents from 35 countries. The objective was to take stock of the space and support for local women’s organizations in peace, security and humanitarian action, in countries where WPHF is channeling funding, to better respond to their needs. The findings reveal that over 66% of local women’s organizations across WPHF targeted regions felt that their organization was at either a high or very high risk for continuity due to the lack of programmatic or institutional funding for local women’s organizations working on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and/or humanitarian action, showing a consistency since 2021. This is more alarming when including those who also felt a moderate level of risk, with 95% of women’s organizations at risk due the lack of sustained funding. Over 40% of CSOs also report they have received less funding than two years ago.

Despite the challenges persistently faced by local women’s organizations working in conflict and crisis settings, some positive transformations are occurring. In the last three years, more than half of all organizations who participated in the survey have consistently been consulted or invited to engage on policy or action plans in WPS-HA at local, regional or national levels. 65% of local women’s organizations across WPHF targeted regions felt that their organization was at either a high or very high risk for continuity due to the lack of programmatic or institutional funding for local women’s organizations working in conflict and crisis settings, over half (52%) of organizations reported that the context in which they work negatively impacted their ability to effectively carry out their mandate in WPS-HA. This was most pronounced in the Arab States region and LAC with 67% and 60% respectively, followed by those in Asia and Pacific with 52%, and Europe and Central Asia with 52% respectively.

Moreover, just under half of all organizations (43%) reported that their organization and staff have directly received threats as a result of their work in WPS-HA in the last 12 months. This trend is consistent over the past three years (46% in 2021 and 47% in 2022), demonstrating the continued risk that local women’s organizations face in engaging in WPS-HA work in their contexts. As continued escalation of crisis and war continue in these regions, women’s organizations need more flexible funding and political support in order to safely operate. The security and/or political situation, in countries where WPHF is active, also continued to impact local women’s organizations, where over half (52%) of organizations reported that the context in which they work negatively impacted their ability to effectively carry out their mandate in WPS-HA. This was most pronounced in the Arab States region and LAC with 67% and 60% respectively, followed by those in Asia and Pacific with 52%, and Europe and Central Asia with 52% respectively.

In addition, 2,610 women and young women from 80 CSOs actively participated in decision making processes in humanitarian planning and crisis response across 13 countries addressing the most acute needs of over 107,700 people in crisis settings. 2,883 local women’s organizations have reported having increased their influence and agency to advance gender equality and protect women and girls’ human rights and youth focused organizations, showing a consistency since 2021.

Despite the challenges persistently faced by local women’s rights organizations working in conflict and crisis settings, some positive transformations are occurring. In the last three years, more than half of all organizations who participated in the survey have consistently been consulted or invited to engage on policy or action plans in WPS-HA at local, regional or national levels. 65% of local women’s organizations stated that they were sometimes, often or frequently consulted to engage on WPS-HA issues, indicative of women’s rights organizations becoming more influential and consolidating their position as important agents of change and representing a positive increase of 4% since last year. Regionally, women’s organizations in Africa had the highest rates with 76%, followed by those in Asia and the Pacific (65%), Arab States (54%) and Europe and Central Asia (50%).

The findings reveal that over 66% of local women’s organizations across WPHF targeted regions felt that their organization was at either a high or very high risk for continuity due to the lack of programmatic or institutional funding for local women’s organizations working on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and/or humanitarian action, showing a consistency since 2021. This is more alarming when including those who also felt a moderate level of risk, with 95% of women’s organizations at risk due the lack of sustained funding. Over 40% of CSOs also report they have received less funding than two years ago. The lack of funding and support to local women’s organizations is even more worrying in a context of escalating conflicts and crisis such as Sudan, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Myanmar and Haiti, in addition to many forgotten crises where funding remains scarce in the face of high needs for women and girls. Key challenges reported for securing funding include the lack of access to information about appropriate funding opportunities as well as complex application processes and procedures.

The security and/or political situation, in countries where WPHF is active, also continued to impact local women’s organizations, where over half (52%) of organizations reported that the context in which they work negatively impacted their ability to effectively carry out their mandate in WPS-HA. This was most pronounced in the Arab States region and LAC with 67% and 60% respectively, followed by those in Asia and Pacific with 52%, and Europe and Central Asia with 52% respectively. Moreover, just under half of all organizations (43%) reported that their organization and staff have directly received threats as a result of their work in WPS-HA in the last 12 months. This trend is consistent over the past three years (46% in 2021 and 47% in 2022), demonstrating the continued risk that local women’s organizations face in engaging in WPS-HA work in their contexts. As continued escalation of crisis and war continue in these regions, women’s organizations need more flexible funding and political support in order to safely operate.
Recognizing and Addressing Intersectional Approaches

43.1% of projects focus on improving the situation of women who are forcibly displaced and creating social cohesion with host communities.

30.8% of projects focus on programming and services for survivors of SGBV.

54.8% of projects aim to improve the lives of people and women living with disabilities.

21.7% of projects target youth and young women’s active participation in their communities.

3.1% of projects focus on programming to improve the inclusion and participation of LGBTQI+ communities in conflict and crisis settings.

4.7% of projects focus on improving the rights and inclusion of indigenous and ethnic minorities.

Institutional Funding: Sustaining the Survival of Women’s Operations on the Front Lines

First launched in 2020 under the WPHF COVID-19 Emergency Response Window, the institutional funding stream provides support to the core funding needs of women’s rights organizations, and to safeguard their existence, strengthen their capacities and support them to adapt in conflict and humanitarian contexts. Since then, institutional funding has become part of WPHF regular Calls for Proposals (CfPs) in response to the needs and requests of women’s rights organizations. The WPHF 2023 Annual Survey found that over half of all CSOs (52.2%) feel that their organizations’ existence is at high or very high risk due to limited institutional funding or core funding in the WPS and humanitarian spheres.

In 2023, a total of 84 local women’s organizations from 17 countries were supported with institutional funding, representing 21.4% of active grants. Cumulatively, 141 organizations have received institutional funding across 24 countries since 2020. Overall, institutional funding has resulted in 613 staff and volunteers being retained over the past year through staff remuneration, stipends and payment of office costs to sustain their operations; the development of core disaster management strategies, policies or plans for work in WPS-HA; advocacy strategies, and the strengthening of organizations’ governance structures. Training to staff on financial management, project monitoring, and resource mobilization has also resulted in several organizations’ ability to apply and secure new funding, including those in Ethiopia. On average, local women’s rights-led organizations have been able to sustain themselves for a combined 396 months, with an average of 10.4 additional months each. Office repairs were also carried out in Palestine, Syria and Ukraine where organizations have been severely impacted by violence and crisis.

In Colombia, for example, 13 civil society organizations have incorporated measures and policies for the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) using international standards and within the framework of the Zero Tolerance Policy for Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of UN Women. This funding also enabled 8 grassroots organizations to carry out stakeholder mapping, to identify their roles within the social and territorial dynamics, as well as establish potential allies between local institutions, the private sector, academia, civil society, and other actors, for their advocacy work and political dialogue.

Underscoring the need for continued flexibility, CSOs in Afghanistan and Palestine, who were unable to continue programmatic activities due to escalating crisis, were facilitated to reallocate unspent funding for institutional activities, including payment of staff salaries, rent/utilities, and development of disaster management plans, until it is safe to resume. As noted by one CSO in Palestine, “Our main office is in Gaza City, which has been [damaged] by Israeli military bombardment. Due to safety concerns, we cannot access the full extent of the damage…to support the people of Rafah, we opened a new office at the center.” The grant contributed to paying the new office rent and utilities, as well as salaries and transportation costs for employees to be able to continue their activities for women and girls.

Institutional funding has also enabled local women’s organization to build their IT capacities through the purchase of new mobile devices, laptops and software to carry out their work more efficiently, including enabling their abilities to work remotely to reduce risks, carry out data collection and strengthen their financial management systems with 30 organizations installing new software or upgrades to their systems.
IN FOCUS

Conflict Prevention

Women play a wide range of roles in preventing conflict drawing on a variety of approaches in the prevention of conflict at multiple levels – from family and community levels to sub-national and national levels. Such roles, however, are often rendered invisible because of gender bias in how conflict prevention is understood. In some contexts, women’s ability to engage in formal or public conflict prevention activities is severely restricted by social norms and lack of mobility. However, even in these contexts, women still build back-door networks and operate in informal and less overt ways to contribute to easing tensions and resolving conflict.

WPHF partners are deeply rooted in the communities in which they work and have strong networks, relationships, and legitimacy in these spheres. They draw on these networks when engaging in conflict prevention work and have successfully used strategies that range from the development of women-led early warning systems or the inclusion of marginalized women into already established early warning and response systems which allow them to identify gender-related conflict indicators, mediate conflicts ranging from land disputes, inheritance disputes, ethnic conflicts and cases of SGBV, and help to prevent the further escalation of conflicts into widespread violence.

A strong focus is also on connecting grassroots women to larger civil society actors, women’s movements and international actors working on conflict prevention as well as building capacity of women’s rights organizations, women leaders and human rights activists. Not only do they explicitly address intersectionality, but they actively seek to reach the most marginalized women to ensure they participation in conflict prevention is inclusive and representative.

In 2023, 83 CSOs from Burundi, Iraq, Niger*, Palestine, Philippines, and Uganda were at the forefront of conflict prevention work as mediators and representatives in community monitoring mechanisms and early warning systems. This participation has resulted in over 4,580 conflicts being averted, resolved or referred to various community and legal mechanisms.

* Niger began implementation in late 2023 and results will be available in 2024.

Prioritizing Self-Care and Mental Health in Crisis and Conflict Settings

Gender inequality and the normalization of conflicts are among the many contributing risk factors of the exhaustion, burnout and trauma that are increasingly denounced among CSOs and activists working in conflict/post conflict affected settings and fragile contexts. They are systematically targeted, threatened and face retaliation. Almost half of all CSOs (47%) reported that their organization and staff have received threats as a result of their work in WPS-HA in the last 12 months. It is also evident in the growing number of requests by WHRDs for psychosocial support through Safety Net grants. Despite this and the impact to their well-being, they continue to serve and advocate for their communities and advocate.

As part of WPHF’s Strategic Plan (2023-2025), the safety and well-being of women civil society leaders working in WPS-HA is a key cross-cutting area of focus. In 2023, WPHF continued to provide funding opportunities and spaces for protection and self-care of women and girls in conflict and crisis settings.

Several WPHF partners have included safeguarding the physical and mental well-being activities in both institutional and programmatic streams through a variety of approaches. In Haiti, for instance, “YWCA” have integrated relaxation sessions into programme activities to allow beneficiaries to improve their stress management and find a moment of relaxation in a safe space taking into account the mental health of the population. Also in Moldova, ‘Katalyst’ included bi-weekly meetings with female employees from rural areas to re-charge, exchange and focus on their mental health as they work with displaced people.

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Severa...
Since 2016

12.2 million USD allocated to conflict prevention projects

66 programmatic grants by 187 CSOs in 6 countries addressed the impacts of conflict

54% of CSOs financed by the UN for the first time

91% of projects implemented at the local level to address conflicts

736,662 (63% women/girls) people directly reached through conflict prevention interventions

In the Philippines, for example, ‘CRS’ supported female and male leaders and women’s rights organizations to lobby local authorities in the strengthening of early warning and response systems (EWRS) across five municipalities, and integrate CSOs as monitors on the ground. As a result, these organizations now feed directly into the local government’s EWRS, conduct sensitization on WPS issues and women’s role in conflict prevention, and ensure former female combatants are integrated into these processes.

Women continued to be engaged in conflict prevention initiatives through the ‘Women Mediators Network’ and joint safety committees in Burundi. In 2023, 27.2% of women mediators were elected to leadership roles within provincial hill committees aimed at strengthening the role and recourse of community reconciliation processes and as a way to alleviate the courts and tribunals in hearing cases of conflict. More than 3,460 cases of conflict have been averted, resolved or referred (over 13,000 in the past three years) through these mechanisms.

The strengthening of capacities of women in conflict prevention processes is also key. In Iraq, “Women Journalists Forum” strengthened the decision-making and conflict prevention capacities of 354 women across Basra, Baghdad, and Salah Al Din. These women are now effectively contributing to conflict resolution efforts in their communities. Gender-based hate speech is also reduced through newly established media committees which spearhead campaigns focusing on women’s meaningful participation in decision-making processes, and integrate these messages through local, regional and national events and campaigns.

The impact of women’s work in conflict prevention goes beyond the above numbers. Their approach is often transformative, contributing to advancing gender equality, changing attitudes and building more inclusive societies. In 2023, the WPHF commissioned a study to document the impact of women’s rights organizations in conflict prevention, their strategies and challenges. You can read more here.
Youth Peace and Security: Investing in young women’s agency in conflict and crisis-affected contexts

Young women and youth focused organizations play a critical role in humanitarian crisis, conflict and post-conflict settings and serve as engines of greater social cohesion and sustainable peace. Since its inception in 2016, WPHF has supported 92 youth focused and young women led organizations across 25 countries worldwide, almost half of which are first-time funding recipients within the UN system. Projects have focused on women and young women’s participation in conflict resolution, humanitarian response, peacebuilding efforts, and response to sexual and gender-based violence.

In Syria, for instance, the ‘Syrian Youth Council’ received support from WPHF to create the only Youth Friendly Space (YFS) in the region. The YFS is fully equipped with necessary resources and training materials to create an enabling, friendly, and innovative environment for young women and men. As a result, a youth volunteers network was established in Jableh, offering career counseling, entrepreneurship support, and sexual and reproductive health information.

Nine youth focused organizations also received institutional funding in 2023 to cover core costs to strengthen their organizational capacities and sustain their activities during crises. In Haiti, ‘Vision des Jeunes pour la Prospérité de l’Asile’, a local youth focused organization whose mission is to strengthen young women’s leadership in public governance and promote gender equality was able to adapt and sustain itself following the earthquake in Haiti with funding contributing to costs for a new space and equipment, team trainings and digitization of the CSO’s work. As a result the organization managed to retain 25 of its staff and put in place a risk management committee with a contingency plan.

Under the Rapid Response Window, ‘Women Relief Aid’ in South Sudan increased young women’s engagement and leadership in the implementation of the country. Young women led on advocacy meetings reaching out to peace committees at local levels, to present the gaps in the implementation of the peace agreement and the entry points to bring a gender lens to this process. Following this support, a representative of the organization was invited to speak on national TV and radio about the barriers hindering young women’s participation in the peace building efforts and the value of bringing young voices to decision making processes.

While young women human rights defenders’ voices continue to be discredited due to intersecting layers of structural barriers and societal beliefs related to their gender and age, through its Funding Window for Women Human Rights Defenders, a total of 145 young WHRDs were supported to ensure their protection and remove financial barriers to support their advocacy efforts at local, regional, and international levels. Beyond funding, WPHF recognizes the expertise of young women civil society activists and facilitate spaces for them to directly share their experiences, and raise their priorities and demands with the UN, Member States, and other civil society organizations. As a result, 11 young women participated as expert speakers in WPHF advocacy events, capacity strengthening webinars, donors briefings and other exchange opportunities.

Funds such as WPHF are instrumental to the survival of youth movements in conflict and crisis affected countries. As highlighted by Ruby Haji Naif, a young WHRD, “Some of us don’t have the luxury to go to our governments and reach out for support, and many of the countries in the Global South don’t have youth representation. Funds such as WPHF, which supports youth civil society organizations and young women peacebuilders working in conflict and crisis-affected countries, are the only way we can exist.”

Financing Women’s Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action Around the World

REGULAR FUNDING CYCLE
The Regular Funding Cycle made up 80% of all WPHF investments and is the fund’s largest funding window, with 365 active grants in 2023 and the highest number of annual grants implemented in a year since the Fund’s establishment in 2016. In 2023, the RFC was active in 30 countries across Africa, Asia, the Arab States, Latin America and Europe & Central Asia. It has provided institutional funding between 2,500 and 30,000 USD and programmatic funding between 30,000 - 200,000 USD to local women’s organizations across 6 outcome areas.
KEY RESULTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR WPS

214 CSOs actively involved in NAP1325 design, budgeting, implementation and monitoring and evaluation in Myanmar, Philippines, and Sudan.

In 2023, WPHF supported 12 women’s rights organizations with programmatic funding, working towards the localization and implementation of the WPS agenda, including the monitoring of National Action Plans (NAPs) and women’s participation in national and sub-national processes, directly reaching over 4,700 civil society representatives, women leaders and human rights defenders (90.9% women and girls) and indirectly benefiting 14,402 people across three countries.

In the Philippines, given the lack of a constituency for the implementation of the WPS agenda in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), projects contributed to the strengthening of the network of CSOs which was involved in advocating for the National Action Plan (NAP) 1325, recognizing the dynamic and complex roles played by women of diverse and intersecting identities before, during, and after conflict. CSOs increased their skills as monitors of the NAP at the local level, and CSOs were recognized as having a critical role in the development of the fourth generation NAP-WPS (2023-2033) and the third BARMM RAP-WPS (2019-2023). These roles include peace agents, women leaders, and survivors of armed conflict, and carves out an official space and path for women’s rights organizations and those with diverse identities to be actively engaged in its implementation, including the localization of the RWP-WPS.

Further in Myanmar, CSOs have been conducting research that will provide evidence for advocacy for women’s participation in peace processes in Kachin. These documents will be shared with relevant stakeholders in 2024 and are expected to be instrumental for global and national advocacy for greater protection and participation of women in WPS in Myanmar.

CSOs in Sudan, created awareness on the National Action Plan for Sudan and UN Resolution 1325 with local communities and grassroots organizations, as well as religious leaders, police and other stakeholders. These efforts equally advocated for increased accountability, and combating hate speech, sexual and gender based violence, and terrorism. Through national wide consultations with 260 women across Sudan, including women from IDP camps, ‘Nilgina Organization’ established ‘Women Inclusive Stand’, a women’s platform that will advocate for peace and promote the women’s peace agenda in Darfur. Additionally, CSOs and 154 female activists and leaders also increased their skills in negotiation techniques, peace building, peace keeping and conflict resolution, as key actors in the implementation of the WPS agenda.

CONFLICT PREVENTION

7,957 women participated in decision-making in conflict prevention processes and response in Burundi, Iraq, Niger, Palestine, Philippines, and Uganda, resulting in 4,581 conflicts being averted, resolved or referred through local and regional gender-responsive mechanisms.

Under WPHF’s conflict prevention outcome, 59 grants implemented by 83 women’s rights-led and youth focused organizations actively strengthened conflict prevention mechanisms in Burundi, Iraq, Palestine, Philippines, and Uganda, and effectively promoted and advocated for women’s participation in conflict prevention processes, including the monitoring of early warning signals of conflict and violent extremism. These initiatives directly reached 14,457 people (73.0% women and girls) and indirectly benefited 5 million people at local and sub-national levels. In 2023, over 7,900 women and young women participated in conflict prevention decision-making processes across five countries, as mediators, monitors and representatives for women’s contributing in building gender responsive prevention mechanisms at local and regional levels, including land monitor networks, refugee welfare committees, women-led early warning systems, media monitoring systems, and gender peace champion networks. In Iraq, for instance, two local peace teams were established by ‘Dak Organization for Ezidi Women Development’ for referral case processing as well as a hotline to receive cases of conflict for address, and women’s committees supported by ‘Information Center for Research and Development’ for referral case processing as well as a hotline to receive cases of conflict. Women and girls who are members of the Network or its connected solidarity/cooperative groups. In addition, CSOs in these countries established or strengthened 21 different gender-responsive conflict prevention mechanisms at local and regional levels, including land monitor networks, refugee welfare committees, women-led early warning systems, media monitoring systems, and gender peace champion networks. In Iraq, for instance, two local peace teams were established by ‘Dak Organization for Ezidi Women Development’ for referral case processing as well as a hotline to receive cases of conflict. Women and girls who are members of the Network or its connected solidarity/cooperative groups.

Specifically, in Burundi, women and young women continued to be engaged in conflict prevention initiatives within their communities through the ‘Women Mediators Network’ and joint safety committees. In 2023, 27.2% of women mediators were elected to leadership roles within provincial hill committees aimed at strengthening the role and recourse of community reconciliation processes and as a way to alleviate the courts and tribunals in hearing cases of conflict. More than 3,460 cases of conflict have been averted, resolved or referred (over 13,000 in the past three years) through these mechanisms and by women and girls who are members of the Network or its connected solidarity/cooperative groups. In addition, CSOs in these countries established or strengthened 21 different gender-responsive conflict prevention mechanisms at local and regional levels, including land monitor networks, refugee welfare committees, women-led early warning systems, media monitoring systems, and gender peace champion networks. In Iraq, for instance, two local peace teams were established by ‘Dak Organization for Ezidi Women Development’ for referral case processing as well as a hotline to receive cases of conflict. Women and girls who are members of the Network or its connected solidarity/cooperative groups.

13 Niger began implementation in late 2023 and results will be available in 2024.
IN HER OWN WORDS:

Jesula Blanc, Haiti

“If women don’t have inner peace, communities cannot live in peace. In Haiti, that means ensuring that survivors of gender-based violence have access to adequate support to become changemakers in their communities.”

Jesula Blanc is a lawyer and women’s rights activist from Haiti who coordinates the North-East Gender Platform (PGNE), a network of civil society organizations supported by the United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) working along the Haitian-Dominican border to tackle gender-based violence and enhance the protection of vulnerable women and girls.

“Women like me – brave, resilient, and determined – are fueling the feminist movement in Haiti, filling the gaps left by government actors and reaching the most vulnerable and marginalized groups.”

Made possible through a generous contribution by USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), WPHF – in partnership with UN Women Haiti – is supporting Jesula and her organization to provide multidisciplinary services, including medical, psychosocial and legal assistance, to survivors of gender-based violence and migrant women and girls across northeastern Haiti. In addition to providing temporary accommodation to these groups, PGNE is also conducting awareness-raising campaigns and organizing trainings in gender-responsive emergency preparedness, economic empowerment, conflict resolution, organizational strengthening, and project management.

Each case that Jesula and her colleagues respond to is unique. Whereas some women only require a few sessions with PGNE’s team of psychologists and social workers, survivors of sexual assault, particularly rape, always need urgent medical attention and are subsequently referred to a lawyer, who can help them report the crime to authorities. Without this end-to-end support, most women would probably remain silent after the assault, fearing the stigma associated with it and the repercussions of speaking up.

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“Our project with WPHF is making women survivors feel seen, supported, and understood. They’re trusting us to improve their lives and uphold their rights.”

Born in Ouanaminthe, Haiti, one of the major border crossings to the Dominican Republic, Jesula soon became familiar with the dire situation women and girls endure when they migrate to the D.R. in search of safety and better lives. Regardless of the route they take, they are highly exposed to harassment, sexual violence, human trafficking, and kidnappings at the hands of gang groups, who increasingly use rape as a weapon of war to perpetuate instability in local communities, especially in Haiti’s capital, Port-au-Prince.

In the face of this alarming situation, grassroots women’s organizations have proven to be the best placed to reach those bearing the brunt of violence and instability and swiftly respond to their most urgent needs. Serving as support systems for women and girls at the forefront of Haiti’s escalating crisis, these organizations are leveraging their networks and local expertise to ensure survivors have access to specialized support and economic opportunities to become active members of their communities.

“As women-led civil society organizations, our communities trust us and listen to us. We’re women, which means that we fully understand what it means to be vulnerable. So who better than us to recognize our own struggles and know what we’re capable to achieve?”

As with the women she helps every day, Jesula is the daughter of survivors. Almost 90 years ago, her father – born in the Dominican Republic – and his family were forced to flee into Haiti following the Parsley massacre, a week-long mass killing of Haitians living along the Dominican-Haitian border. It was this episode in her family’s past, as well as her experience growing up in a violence-torn region, that pushed her to become a lawyer and dedicate her life to promoting the rights of women and girls, both in her country and around the world. Over the past years, Jesula has become a key pillar of the feminist movement in Haiti, pushing forward a series of initiatives and demands to decriminalize abortion, provide free medical certificates to survivors of all forms of gender-based violence and recognize concubinage (cohabitation) as a lawful type of union that grants women important family, property, and land rights.

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“I became a lawyer because I wanted to make sure that women’s voices were heard, that their rights were respected, and that their demands were met.”

As a champion of transnational activism, Jesula strongly believes that the international community can make a huge difference in bringing grassroots activists together, advancing women’s economic security, and fostering collaboration among community-based organizations working to advance the rights of women and girls. For her, investing in women is, above all, providing them with the right opportunities, spaces, and platforms to raise their voices, showcase their impact, and draw attention to their unique added value as peacebuilders, humanitarians, and human rights defenders at the local level.

“The challenges we face are countless, but so are our strategies to get around them. We’re always moving forward because it’s up to us and no one else to drive change in our communities.”

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HUMANITARIAN AND CRISIS RESPONSE

6,801 women and young women participated in humanitarian and crisis response decision-making across 13 countries addressing the most acute needs of over 107,700 people in crisis settings.

In 2023, WPHF supported 40 projects, including the final two under the COVID-19 Emergency Response Window. These projects were implemented by 86 women’s rights led and youth focused organizations working on humanitarian and crisis response in the D.R.C., Iraq, Jordan, Liberia, Myanmar, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu, and through WPHF’s emergency track in Ethiopia, Haiti, Syria, and Ukraine and Moldova. These initiatives directly reached over 107,716 people (84.4% women and girls, including LGBTIQ+, refugees and IDPs) and indirectly benefited 2.9 million people in these countries.

In Syria, following the devastating earthquake in February 2023, over 6,000 women and girls accessed critical and comprehensive reproductive health services and psychosocial and mental health support in both a rehabilitated health center as well as integrated mobile teams in Aleppo and Barías-Tartous to reach those most affected. Also in the country, a youth friendly space was established in Latakia, serving as the only youth-friendly space in the area and providing access to over 846 young women and men with resources, training, networking opportunities, and vocational skills to build their resilience after the earthquake.

In Ukraine, over 4,500 women leaders strengthened their agency, leadership and participation in humanitarian planning and localized response at the regional and local levels. These leaders and organizations have addressed the most acute needs of over 27,000 women and their families across various Oblasts, including temporary stay for internally displaced persons impacted by the war, psychosocial and legal services, cash assistance and distribution of basic goods for survival. Evacuation and relocation of 2,378 women and their families from the frontlines and border areas to safer places of Ukraine was also carried out by several CSOs. The ‘National Assembly of People with Disabilities’, for instance, facilitated the participation of 127 women in humanitarian planning ensuring the needs of women living with disabilities were considered in the response. The organization ‘Center for Women’s Perspectives’ expanded their participation in humanitarian planning across 19 communities through the creation of interactive mechanisms such as internally displaced persons (IDP) Councils, whereby more than 50% of IDP women reported an increase in their influence in local decision making in regard to the response.

Women’s leadership and participation in humanitarian decision-making processes has also increased in countries like Liberia, where women leaders are participating in County Disaster Management Committees and positioned to represent the needs and priorities of women and marginalized groups and advise on emergency response strategies and plans across multiple counties. A project implemented by the ‘Community Development and Research Agency’ in Nimba County, also saw the integration of a women leader as a focal point on disaster management in office of the County Inspector and actively advising on gender related issues within the committee.

Furthermore, CSOs in Myanmar coordinated gender responsive humanitarian aid to ensure that the needs of women and girls, including marginalized groups and IDPs could meet their basic needs. Over 5,200 individuals received cash for food, in-kind assistive equipment for livelihoods and business development, food and hygiene kits, as well as access to SGBV services for survivors. One CSO, for example, strengthened three counselling centers to support the psychosocial needs of women in the community, and another continued its hotline services along with additional support for survivors of violence with transportation, meals and assistance with legal issues. A total of 36 women self-help groups were also established, connecting them to other organizations to enable their participation in humanitarian response collaboration.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

1,030 women and young women influenced or participated in formal or informal peace processes or negotiations in Colombia and Sudan with various strategies used to contribute to peace processes.

Under WPHF’s conflict resolution outcome, 18 grants in three countries14 were implemented by 29 women’s rights, women-led and youth focused organizations. These projects, while still in their initial phases, actively promoted the inclusion of gender provisions in peace agreements and conflict resolution mechanisms. To date, these initiatives directly reached over 2,000 people (81.6% women and girls) and indirectly benefited 6,164 people at local and sub-national levels.

Advocacy actions by CSOs in Colombia, resulted in 523 women actively participating in formal and informal peace processes and/or implementation of peace agreements in PDET municipalities, including four women who ran in elections, and whereby one woman was elected as a council woman in Meta. CSO who were involved in the monitoring of peace and political plans and programmes in coordination with Municipal Councils and Assemblies, initiated 13 advocacy actions which contributed to positioning their peace agendas during the pre-electoral and post-electoral periods. For instance, the Citizen Oversight Network of Women and Diverse Population in Catatumbo was established through ‘Fundación Comité Permanente Por La Defensa de los Derechos Humanos’ project, as a mechanism of political and social dialogue to provide citizen oversight to verify the incorporation of the gender approach in the PDET, its compliance and the progress of the commitments and initiatives labeled for women and the LGBTI population in various municipalities. Also, for the first time in Colombia, a roadmap was developed for the formulation of the National Action Plan of Resolution 1325, that includes the inputs and priorities of more than 1,500 women who participated through consultations.

In Sudan, three women’s peace committees in North Darfur State were also established, providing a platform for peace negotiations, reconciliation and peacebuilding resulting in the increased participation and confidence of over 238 women leaders. ‘Dar El Salam Women Development Association’ supported the skills building of these committees to enable them to create communication channels between local authorities and communities, and ensuring IDPs, host communities, pastoralists and women with disabilities are informed about peace processes and co-existence. The support also provided skills in negotiation techniques, peace building, peace keeping and conflict resolution for 154 female activists, feminist leaders and female led organizations through dialogue, mediation, reconciliation, facilitation and arbitration.

14 Niger began implementation in late 2023 and results will be available in 2024
15 Participatory Development Programs with Territorial Focus (Programas de Desarrollo con Enfoque Territorial), a national participatory strategy, which promotes a structural transformation of rural Colombian municipalities most affected by armed conflict.
3,089 CSOs including local women’s organizations and autonomous social movements coordinated efforts to advocate and implement interventions to protect women and girls’ human rights and ending SGBV in 13 countries.

2,883 Local women’s organizations with increased influence and agency to advance gender equality and protect women and girls.

Regular Funding Cycle

In D.R.C, Malawi, Nigeria, Haiti and PNG, five conflict-affected and humanitarian settings, notably the civil society organizations working on eliminating SGBV in Spotlight Initiative (SI), WPHF also channeled funding to national levels. In its final year of partnership with PNG, Syria, and Ukraine. These initiatives directly reached Haiti, Lebanon, Malawi, Mali, Moldova, Myanmar, Nigeria, PNG, Syria, and Ukraine. These initiatives directly reached 198,980 people (71.1% women and girls) and indirectly benefited 2.1 million people at local, sub-national and national levels. In its final year of partnership with the Spotlight Initiative (SI), WPHF also channeled funding to civil society organizations working on eliminating SGBV in five conflict-affected and humanitarian settings, notably the D.R.C, Malawi, Nigeria, Haiti and PNG.

In Malawi, ‘ADEL Sahel’ has witnessed community members, CSOs including local women’s organizations and autonomous social movements coordinated efforts to advocate and implement interventions to protect women and girls’ human rights and ending SGBV in 13 countries.

34 ANNUAL REPORT 2023

IN HER OWN WORDS:

Alina Cebotari, Moldova

“Not investing in women doesn’t make sense at all – not from a pragmatic point of view, not from an economic standpoint, and not from a development perspective. We need their voices, knowledge, and power to fight for and live in healthier, wealthier, and more peaceful societies.”

Alina Cebotari is a young women’s rights activist from Chișinău, Moldova, where she’s currently the head of Women for Women, a feminist civil society organization supported by the United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) that is advancing the financial autonomy of women and girls across the country.

“We want to be very open and empathetic to people’s experiences, which results in entire communities trusting us and relying on us to act as peacebuilders and first responders whenever conflict erupts.”

Alina and Women for Women, like thousands of women activists and their organizations, were among the first to respond to the devastating humanitarian crisis unleashed by Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. In the early days of the conflict, they focused their efforts on addressing the urgent needs of refugees, especially women and girls, fleeing the war into Moldova, which soon became the epicenter of the refugee crisis. However, it soon became clear that other types of support, including psychosocial assistance and economic recovery programs, were needed to promote the integration of women and girls into their new communities.

Made possible through a partnership by Germany’s Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), WPHF – in partnership with UN Women Moldova – is supporting Women for Women on a project to improve the socio-economic recovery and civic participation of women and girls, especially Ukrainian refugee living in Moldova after the war. In addition to creating safe spaces where they can share their experiences and heal together, Alina and her colleagues are organizing mentoring sessions, vocational trainings, and interactive capacity-building activities to help them learn their own economic initiatives and small businesses, strengthening their entrepreneurship and allowing them to become financially independent.

“When women are girls depend on their partners, husbands or fathers, they are vulnerable. Only when they achieve economic independence can they be truly free – free from violence, free from harmful stigmas, and free from situations that prevent them from living to their full potential.”

Through her work with refugee women and girls on the front lines of the Ukrainian war, Alina has witnessed first-hand how critical the work of women’s organizations is during conflicts and humanitarian crises. As breadwinners, community leaders, local mediators and first responders, they are a force for change in their communities, mobilizing to reach the most vulnerable and ensure their urgent humanitarian and protection needs are prioritized.

35 ANNUAL REPORT 2023
It is these women peacebuilders, humanitarians and human rights defenders – bold, empowered, and ready to take matters into their own hands – who give Alina the strength, energy and confidence to continue her work at the forefront of Europe’s largest displacement crisis in decades.

“Peace cannot be sustained without women. We know what the needs of the most vulnerable are because we ourselves are discriminated, marginalized, and abused in many different contexts. That’s our strength, and that’s how we drive change in our local contexts. Having witnessed the impact of local women’s organizations since the first day of Russia’s war on Ukraine, Alina firmly believes that real, lasting change can only be achieved from the bottom up, giving agency and resources to grassroots activists and raising their voices so they can voice their needs and inform those at the highest levels of decision-making.

“For peace to last and change to happen, women and girls must have opportunities to lead the processes that directly affect them and to be decision makers in their communities. It is their human right, and society should benefit from their contributions.”

PEACEBUILDING AND RECOVERY

22,875 women increased agency as a result of access to new economic and productive resources.

4,046 women and young women actively participated in political and decision-making processes in 15 countries.

Representing WPHF’s largest outcome with 138 grants implemented by 218 women’s rights-led and youth-focussed organizations, CSOs actively contributed to peacebuilding and recovery efforts, including those for forcibly displaced communities in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Colombia, the D.R.C., Haiti, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Moldova, Nigeria, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Ukraine, and Yemen. These organizations supported the economic recovery of women in crisis settings and advocated for women’s participation in political processes and leadership positions with the aim of transforming their environments and closing the gender gap in this space. The initiatives directly reached over 83,600 people (80.9% women and girls and 19.1% LGBTIQ+) and indirectly benefited over 2 million people at local, sub-national and national levels.

In Ukraine, over 7,900 women affected by the conflict benefited from economic empowerment and livelihood initiatives, including programmes on employment, business skills, and small business start-ups. As the result, 231 women, are newly employed or have expanded businesses to support them during the conflict. ‘NGO Pro Women’, for example, facilitated linkages for 57 women, including IDPs and those living in rural areas into light industry enterprises in Rivne Region providing economic independence with decent salaries and protective contracts, while integrating IDPs into their new host communities.

Under its regional programming, WPHF partners in Moldova provided access to refugees from Ukraine and women from host communities. 1,363 women and young women gained access to employment-related programmes, including job matching and job counselling for refugees in order to build their career path and enter the labor market in their new host country. For example, 774 women and girls attended vocational, education and training courses, in their new host country. For example, 774 women and girls attended vocational, education and training courses, in their new host country. For example, 774 women and girls attended vocational, education and training courses, in their new host country. For example, 774 women and girls attended vocational, education and training courses, in their new host country.

Another 83 displaced women benefited from job placement programmes and successfully became employed, supporting their families. Under ‘Agency for Innovation and Development’’s project, a start-up academy was established for refugee women from Ukraine with 60 women refugees from Ukraine. In addition, 10 representatives from CSOs and 60 women and youth from ‘Nika Generation’ participated in the Women Accelerator Programme and ideation, accessing online learning platforms and mentorship with business experts.

CSOs have also used village saving and lending associations (VSLAs) not only as community mechanisms to increase economic resiliency, but as entry points to discuss issues around women’s participation and peacebuilding in conflict settings. For instance, in Nigeria, women who are members of VSLA groups supported by ‘Scripture Union West Africa’ have generated savings in excess of $200,000 and accessed loans to start new income generating activities, thereby increasing their influence both in their households and in community decision making processes. Other VSLA partners from ‘Hopeful Women Initiative’ are projected to generate over $78,000 through joint business ventures. These informal community groups have equally enabled displaced women to join enhancing social cohesion between host communities and displaced women, like 318 people from IDP camps in Bakassi whereby membership in groups have enabled them to open up bank accounts and facilitate their financial stability in an uncertain context.

2023 also saw a significant shift in changes to women’s participation in leadership and political participation. In Liberia, for instance, new female lawmakers are now representing some of the most traditional counties in Liberia such as Cape Mount, Grand Gedeh, Cape Mount, Bong, and Lofa where CSOs are implementing projects to support women’s rights and women-led organizations under projects by the ‘Institute for Research & Democratic Development’, carried out advocacy dialogues around the limited participation of women in political and local leadership in advance of the 2023 elections, and 12 female aspiring candidates whose capacity were strengthened in conducting political campaigns and prevention of violence in elections pursued their objective to run for office in the 2023 general elections at the national and local levels. A female candidate was elected as a representative in the Legislature for the first time in Grand Gedeh County, with support of a project by ‘Africa Children Initiative for Self-Empowerment’ to increase public awareness on the importance of women’s political participation and inclusion in governance, and women presented a petition to express their dissatisfaction as major political parties’ lists lacked female candidates to run for representative and senator positions.

Forced Displacement

Ongoing and new conflicts continue to drive and increase the number of women and girls in forced displacement. The number of displaced people reached unprecedented heights in 2023 with over 110 million people displaced worldwide. Displaced women and girls are most affected but are also critical actors on the frontlines, across WPHF’s portfolio.

Since 2016, 23.5% of CSOs supported by WPHF have been led by a displaced person and 41.1% of projects have focused on promoting displaced women’s leadership and participation. In 2023 alone, 165 active projects were implemented by 295 CSOs aimed at addressing the impacts of forced displacement and ensured that women and girls who are forcibly displaced were able to access opportunities to influence decision-making while ensuring their safety and wellbeing.

To further accelerate displaced women’s agency and leadership, WPHF established a dedicated funding initiative on Forced Displacement in partnership with the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) with a current investment of 20.5 million EUR. Since 2021, the initiative has supported 311 projects by 177 local civil society organizations across ten countries.

In 2022, WPHF’s Global Learning Hub (L-HUB) also launched a Mentorship Scheme with refugee leaders of the Action Network on Forced Displacement - a visionary network that brings together women leaders who are actively engaged on behalf of and together with displaced women worldwide – and which has provided training on UN human rights mechanisms and fundraising skills for CSOs. An additional CfP was launched in 2023 with 17 new initiatives selected in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Colombia, Germany, Moldova, Nigeria, Pakistan and Ukraine, and which will begin implementation in 2024.

As part of its efforts to amplify displaced women’s participation and leadership in policy making, WPHF also co-organized a ministerial-level event at the sidelines of the Global Refugee Forum, the world’s largest gathering of refugees. The WPHF event featured recommendations of displaced women leaders alongside ministers and high-level government representatives from Germany, Moldova, Colombia, and UNHCR’s Assistant Secretary General. WPHF announced its continued commitment to invest in displaced women and girls with a number of pledges at the Global Refugee Forum. Pledges included further investments in the leadership and participation of displaced women and girls, accelerates the meaningful participation of women in climate security and climate justice in conflict, crisis and displacement settings, and expanding the WPHF Mentorship Scheme for organizations led by or working with displaced women and girls.
Kelly Campo Becerra, Colombia

“The resilience of women in our country is hard to match. We’ve been demanding peace for decades, coming together and weaving life around us. Our bodies have been at the center of the armed conflict, but so has our peacebuilding work on the front lines.”

Kelly Campo Becerra is a young activist and human rights defender who coordinates the Organización Femenina Popular (OFP), a grassroots civil society organization working to advance the rights of women and girls in the Magdalena Medio, an extensive valley located in north-central Colombia that bore the brunt of the violence during the country’s nearly 40-year internal war.

Rich in oil, gas and coal, the region quickly became a stronghold of the two main guerillas involved in the conflict, which destabilized rural communities, particularly women and girls, to maintain their social hegemony, accumulate land, and secure access to these resource-rich territories.

“Every community in Colombia should be able to remain in their territory without being displaced. Day after day, we’re defending our environment and resisting the indiscriminate exploitation of resources, many times at the cost of our own lives.”

In March 2024, Kelly and her organization have partnered twice with WPHF – with technical support by UN Women Colombia – to implement a project aiming to advance the leadership and economic autonomy of women and girls living in Yondó, Antioquia, a region plagued by highly masculinized extractive industries, where women still have very limited access to paid work and good-quality jobs. Thanks to the support received from WPHF – made possible through a contribution by Germany’s Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) – OFP and its more than 2,500 members have been able to provide financial and entrepreneurship opportunities to hundreds of women producers affected by the armed conflict, strengthening their role as community leaders and making them less vulnerable to armed groups.

“In HER OWN WORDS:

“Colombia needs more women in leadership positions – women who have the ideas, the initiative, and the tools to drive transformational and sustainable actions. Because when women acquire certain skills and take up space, they remain committed to everyone around them.”

Born in Barrancabermeja, a city in Antioquia besieged by massacres, kidnappings, forced displacement and rampant poverty for decades, Kelly refuses to speak about the war in past tense. Every day, she says, new actors are joining the conflict in different parts the country, targeting civil society activists, particularly women and indigenous leaders, and undermining the work of women’s organizations like OFP, which remain at the forefront of the fight for peace in Colombia.

Despite these challenges, Kelly has witnessed firsthand the impact of her partnership with WPHF on the ground, mobilizing women and girls in remote areas that were previously hard to reach and giving them the tools to meaningfully engage in community-led peacebuilding activities. This work was, as she puts it, the “perfect social research” to learn more about the issues marginalized women face on the ground, help them respond to those challenges, and reinforce their role in strengthening the social fabric in their communities.

“Peace goes far beyond negotiations and silencing the guns – it’s the right for us, women, to remain in our homes, the right to have social justice, the right to enjoy gender equality, and the right to ensure that our human rights are fully respected.”

For Kelly, investing in women is, above all, investing in the collective power and expertise of those who’ve been in the territories for years, designing and putting forward solutions to break Colombia’s never ending cycle of violence and instability. However, as she points out, money is just part of the support. For peace to prevail, the international community must also be there, in the territories, following what’s happening on the ground and providing support – not just financial, but also political, social, and emotional – to women peacebuilders, humanitarians and human rights defenders.

“When I look at other women leaders from DRC, Myanmar and Haiti, I realize how similar our fights are. We’re all driven by the same hopes and goals, joining our forces and making our communities stronger. There is never a fight that women fight for themselves alone.”

Follow, Engage and Amplify the work of Kelly’s organization.
Championing Women's Participation
in Peace Processes Worldwide

RAPID RESPONSE WINDOW
ON WOMEN’S PARTICIPATION IN PEACE PROCESSES AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PEACE AGREEMENTS

Championing Women’s Participation in Peace Processes Worldwide
Women remain significantly underrepresented in peace and transitional processes worldwide. Recognizing the limited progress made on accelerating women’s meaningful participation in peace processes across the globe, the Rapid Response Window on women’s participation in peace processes and the implementation of peace agreements (RRW) was established in 2021 based on the recommendation of the UNSG’s October 2019 annual report on WPS and after consultations with women peacebuilders, stakeholders and various UN and civil society experts.

The RRW is a global funding mechanism that addresses the urgent and practical support to increase women’s participation in formal peace processes, specifically Track 1 & 2 and the implementation of peace agreements. It provides financial, expert and logistical support to women’s civil society organizations to participate in peace talks or to address the immediate barriers women often face to accessing and influencing peace processes. Applications are received and evaluated on a rolling basis.

In 2023, the RRW supported 42 civil society initiatives by 95 organizations in 23 countries, involving 2,610 women peacebuilders and activists participating in formal peace processes, negotiations or peace agreement implementation, and directly benefiting over 8,104 people (83% women and young women). The majority of interventions focused on Track 2 peace processes (54%) and the implementation of peace agreements (35%).

In 2023, a total of 703 women peacebuilders and 32 men have influenced peace processes through Track I or Track II initiatives, or the implementation of a peace agreement with direct support either by INGOs partners, UN Women and/or the RRW Unit. Logistical and technical support enabled women’s rights organizations and activists to seize opportunities for their participation and influence in high-level peace negotiations; and to develop road maps for inclusive peace agreements and accountability mechanisms. Women peacebuilders and women’s rights organizations in Senegal, the D.R.C, Syria and Ethiopia also identified gender responses and solutions to restore peaceful environments.

In Focus

In the Central African Republic (CAR) two direct support initiatives were supported with UN Women, with the aim of increasing their representation and leadership in the implementation of the peace and reconciliation political agreement (2021) and the Luanda Joint Roadmap for The Central African Republic (2021), as well as the Republican Dialogue (2022). 50 participants including women leaders, members of women’s organizations and youth; members of the Prime Minister’s Cabinet and the Ministry of Gender; representatives of decentralized authorities (prefects and traditional leaders); UN system and media representatives gathered in Bangui from June 1st to 2nd, 2023, to evaluate women’s participation in the implementation of Resolution 1325 and the mutualized political process in CAR.

Following this workshop, over 450 women leaders representing women’s organizations from Bangui and 17 other locations in the country were trained and engaged in the implementation and accountability of national actors in the mutualized political process for peace in CAR.
Through their commitment and outreach missions conducted in eight Prefectures of the country, the Offices and Members of women’s organizations from 12 locations were sensitized and presented recommendations to promote their full participation in the mutualized political process and monitor the recommendations of the Republican Dialogue in their areas. As a result, the Prime Minister’s office, as the guarantor of the mutualized roadmap, received on July 14, 2023, from a delegation of women, a proposed memorandum and set of recommendations to integrate their aspirations into the mutualized roadmap.

INCREASING GENDER PROVISION OF PEACE AGREEMENTS, INCLUSIVE MONITORING MECHANISMS AND COMMITMENTS OF KEY ACTORS: SHORT-TERM GRANTS

To address the gaps to women’s meaningful participation to influence lasting and inclusive peace processes, the RRW funded 26 short-term grants by 55 women’s rights organizations who developed concrete recommendations and key actions to influence peace processes and raise women voices. This was undertaken through innovative strategies to raise awareness and inform stakeholders; and ensure the integration of gender provisions in peace agreements and their implementation.

Track 1 Peace Processes:

- A delegation of seven women from Southwest/Northwest Women’s Taskforce (SNWOT) from Cameroon, shared a joint position and roadmap to peace at the Southern Cameroon People’s Conference in Toronto, Canada where a series of resolutions were signed. The SNWOT delegation was pivotal in providing inputs for the inclusion of gender-responsive measures and towards the forthcoming peace and political process.

- In Ethiopia, the Coalition for Women’s Voice (TIMRAN) carried out country-wide consultations with women on the National Dialogue to develop a gender inclusive agenda to inform the Ethiopian National Dialogue Commission. Not only is the agenda paving the way for the peace process, but women peacebuilders have fostered dialogue and bridged the divide in their communities.

Track 2 Peace Processes:

- Joint community level dialogues conducted with 336 women and 143 young women in Ethiopia following the Abay-Abay model and roll out the peace agreement and calling for the cessation of hostilities between the two communities. Since October 2023, no further violence has occurred.

- From Syria, two women participated in advocacy trips to New York and Washington D.C in advance of UN deliberations on a new institution for missing persons in Syria. As a result, the women shared key recommendations to UN Member States, at the UN General Assembly, and with civil society stakeholders.

Peace Agreements:

- Nine women observers took part in the D.R.C formal peace negotiations in Kenya at the “Nairobi Peace Talks”. An additional 258 women peacebuilders and 56 young women peacebuilders contributed to demands and developed an advocacy framework and action plan to engage with key stakeholders and channel their needs and recommendations with regards to their participation in the peace negotiations.

- 90 women and young women in South Sudan contributed to peace process at both local and national levels, with a focus on the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS).

WPHF’s RRW supported women peacebuilders who contributed to the existence of gender-responsive elements/provisions in peace agreements, dialogues, and/or decision-making processes. In 2023, 13 evidence-based advocacy agendas, policy papers, strategic engagement action plans and studies channeling the needs of women peacebuilders and their recommendations on effective mechanisms to increase their influence on formal and informal peace processes were developed and disseminated amongst international community representatives and key decision makers from Yemen, Cameroon, Mali, DRC, Eswatini, Mozambique, Syria, Palestine, Libya, Colombia and Guatemala.
WPHF officially launched its Window for WHRDs in January 2022, on the margins of the first ever UN Security Council open debate on the protection of woman human rights defenders and peacebuilders. Since then, it has provided support to 456 WHRDs from or working in 22 countries facing crisis or conflict (36.8% young women between 18-29 years), plus 1,221 of their dependents.

The Window for WHRD’s overall objective is to provide rapid, flexible assistance to protect WHRDs working in and/or from conflict and crisis settings, as well as to advance their advocacy efforts. The Window is comprised of two streams: Advocacy Support and Safety Net, and applications are received on a rolling basis in multiple languages.

Funding under the Advocacy Support stream provides logistical support to WHRDs to facilitate their meaningful participation in local, national, regional, or international events, meetings or other forms of decision-making. WPHF directly arranges logistical assistance, including costs for transportation, visas, daily subsistence allowances, interpretation, and accessibility for WHRDs with disabilities. Under the Safety Net Stream, emergency funding of up to 10,000 USD is provided to WHRDs, and their dependents, who are at risk as a result of their activism and human rights work.

In 2023, the Window for WHRDs provided critical support to 369 WHRDs and 1,013 of their dependents from 18 countries. Close to 40% of WHRDs supported were between the age of 18 and 29 years old, and almost half of all WHRDs (49.3%) supported were from Afghanistan.

Support for dependents is provided only through the Safety Net Stream.
A MECHANISM FOR THE PROTECTION OF WHRDs FROM AND WORKING IN CONFLICT AND CRISIS AFFECTED COUNTRIES: SAFETY NET STREAM

With a tailored approach to the protection of WHRDs from working in conflict and crisis-affected countries, WPHF has demonstrated it is flexible enough to meet the intersectional needs of WHRDs. In partnership with trusted five trusted international and national non-governmental organizations, the Window for WHRDs has approached protection holistically, including support for dependents, as well as psychological and medical assistance, digital equipment, and trainings on safety and security online and offline.

Of the 330 WHRDs and their dependents supported under this stream, relocation related costs was supported in 29.9% of instances, followed by livelihoods (25.6%), medical care (11.1%), psychosocial and mental health (10.2%), and equipment (7.0%). The average investment for each Safety Net case was USD 3,969.

Agir Ensemble pour les Droits Humains (AEDH);
Defend Defenders - East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders
Euro-Mediterranean Foundation of Support to Human Rights Defenders (EMHRF);
Front Line Defenders
MADRE, in consortium with Women’s International League for Peace & Freedom (WILPF)

The Window is also proving to reach a diverse range of WHRDs, including those facing exclusion, and made vulnerable by forced displacement, ableism, ageism, discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and/or gender identity, ethnic ties, religious affiliations, and discrimination against indigenous people, among others. In 2023, of all WHRD which identified having multiple and interesting identities, 70.6% of WHRDs were refugees or IDPs, followed by 10.0% who identified as LGBTQI+ and indigenous/ethnic minorities, respectively. Another 3.3% identified with living with a disability, 3.2% as being from a religious minority group, and 0.6% as a single mother. Of these, 40.5% of WHRDs supported during the year identify as having multiple and intersecting identities.

WHRD Global Safety Net Impact Survey

In 2023, WPHF conducted its first global impact survey with 186 WHRDs from 12 countries across five regions, of which 35% were between the ages of 18 and 29 years. The objective of the survey was to measure to what extent safety nets for WHRDs facilitates the protection of WHRDs working in/from conflict and crisis affected countries, and of their dependents, and in order to advocate for more financing towards their protection.

Findings reveal that 74% of WHRDs who received safety net grants have been enabled to continue their activism to some extent or to a great extent, drawing on various strategies to keep them safer. They illustrate various protective strategies that they have been able to adopt as a result of the grant to help mitigate the threats and risk. Specifically, more than half (51%) of WHRDs relocated either within their own country or to another country as a refugee, while 7% also reduced their movements in public to maintain a low profile, and 6% applied new digital security measures to protect their identity or continue online activism in a safe way.

“I have now moved to live in secret and manage protests against the explicit violation of the fundamental rights of Afghan women behind the scenes without personally trying to stay and operate in Afghanistan as much as possible if the anti-security situation intensifies.” (Afghan WHRD)

While the safety net grants have been critical for WHRDs to improve their protection, 45% of WHRDs continue to face new threats, including new arrest warrants, threats to family members even if the WHRD is relocated, raids on homes, risk of being displaced after relocation, physical attacks, illegal detention, being followed, online threats as a result of continued activism, and death threats, among many others.

The findings also reveal that over 68% of WHRDs face continued threats as a result of their activism and work more broadly. Despite these continued threats to themselves and their families, WHRDs remain committed to continue their activism and work. As a result of the survey findings, the Window for WHRDs will advocate for increased financing for WHRDs and additional political support for the protection in the longer term.

These worrying trends underscore the need for more political and financial support for comprehensive approaches to the protection and advocacy of WHRDs from conflict and crisis settings.
WHRD TESTIMONY ABA
Addressing the Urgent Protection Needs of WHRDs in Uganda

“I have been doing activism for the last five years, both online and physically, but since the ‘anti-gay’ law came out, I was targeted with online threats. They sent me threatening messages on my phone and email.”

In May 2023 after the signing of the Anti-homosexuality Act, 2023 in Uganda, Aba describes what many WHRDs in Uganda are experiencing because of the work they do in support of human rights for marginalized and minority groups in crisis and conflict settings. At 29 years old, she works as the Executive Director of an organization that provides mental health and legal support, including capacity building. These services are delivered in partnership with other like-minded organizations in Uganda.

Aba adds that the threats she experienced were not only targeted towards her, but her daughter as well. “They verbally attacked my eight-year-old daughter asking her inappropriate questions about my personal life. And because of this, she didn’t want to go back to school because her friends and teachers were continuously asking her questions about me.” Aba was forced to leave her rented house in order to reduce the tension that was already growing between her and her neighbors. When her family came to know about her work, they too developed hostility towards her, insisting that she abandon her work entirely. Stressed, alienated and restricted in her movements, Aba was unable to leave her home in fear for her and her child’s safety.

“Attacking me is ok, but attacking my child made me feel emotionally down,” she says.

Desperate for a way out, Aba accessed free counselling and was connected with DefendDefenders which provided a safety net grant. As a result, she was able to relocate to a new home, pay her medical bills, and purchased an internet package so she could continue her advocacy work.

“I moved to a residential area in Kampala, where I feel safer, and I have paid six months of rent. I have pneumonia which I contracted from prison, but I am now able to go for all my medical check-ups. My activism is going on smoothly although I had to reduce my online presence. I thank DefendDefenders for their support in my hour of need.”

WHRDs IN FOCUS
Sustaining fragile women’s rights ecosystems in Syria

Following the earthquakes in southern Türkiye and northern Syria, nine Syrian WHRDs (three young women) were supported with Safety Net grants to address their immediate needs such as temporary relocation, health care expenses, and basic necessities. Beyond alleviating the financial burdens and providing crucial stability during times of crisis, the protection grants facilitated their ability to resume their activism and work in their communities. The WHRDs were able to contribute to the international community’s response to the earthquake by providing first-hand testimonies to international organizations and diplomatic representatives on the needs on the ground and the challenges faced by affected communities. Furthermore, the protection support helped WHRDs secure employment and career opportunities, as evidenced by appointments to leadership positions within women’s rights movements.

Protecting the voice of the Afghan WHRDs inside the country

After the Taliban takeover in August 2023, a bold Afghan WHRD started fighting for her rights and the rights of other women in the streets. She organized demonstrations and participated in several other protests fighting for the rights of women and girls in the country. The WHRD was also active on social media platforms advocating for Afghan women’s rights. Consequently, she and her son were arrested by the Taliban in October 2023, and held for three months. During her captivity, she endured torture and multiple acts of cruelty, all due to her activities as a human rights defender. Upon her release, Safety Net funding allowed her to respond to her urgent medical needs, relocate with her family to a safe location in-country, obtain psychological support, and pay livelihood expenses.
In 2023, a total of 39 WHRDs were supported through 13 requests, including eight delegations, to directly share their inputs and recommendations at strategic engagements and decision-making processes at national, regional and international levels. With an average investment of $2,766 USD each, the Window for WHRDs Unit covered the travel costs of the WHRDs, including flights, accommodation, visa fees, and terminal expenses to facilitate their participation in key decision-making processes, events and meetings. Close to half of all advocacy events were held at the international level.

This funding has enabled WHRDs to amplify their voices and advocate at a wide range of events, including the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67), multilateral conferences such as COP28 of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, and regional events such as the 4th Edition of the Lake Chad Basin Governors’ Forum in N’Djamena, Chad, the 188th session of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), and the 42nd Ordinary Session of the African Committee of Experts on the rights and welfare of the child (ACERWC).

Without this funding, several WHRDs reported that their participation would have not been possible otherwise.

**WHRD IN FOCUS**

**Amplifying the voices of Afghan women human rights defenders**

In June 2023, direct logistical support was provided for an Afghan WHRD to participate in the enhanced interactive dialogue on Afghanistan during the 53rd session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC), whereby various United Nations agencies, including the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, other human rights mechanisms, and non-governmental organizations both from Afghanistan and the diaspora were present. The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan and the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls (WGDAW) presented their report on the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan.

During a side event, “Afghan Women’s Perspectives on the Restrictions, Economic Issues, and Mental Health” in Geneva, which was jointly hosted by the office of the Special Rapporteur and the coordination of WGDAW, to share findings of a national mixed methods study, the WHRD was able to amplify and elevate the voices of women inside Afghanistan and also explore the rich and nuanced findings and recommendations gathered from the study on the topics of restrictions on women, economic issues, and mental health. As a result of this participation, the WHRD was able to establish direct channels with the HRC and some Member States to ensure the inclusion of Afghan women’s voices in policy-making circles and the UN system. As a follow-up to an additional side event with academic partners, the WHRD published a policy brief on the impact of Taliban restrictions on women’s mental health and economic conditions.
Established in 2020, the Global Learning Hub (L-HUB) provides an innovative space to facilitate dialogue, strengthen capacity, provide mentoring opportunities and exchange best practices between civil society partners. In 2023, the L-HUB realized a wide range of capacity building, knowledge exchange and peer learning initiatives for civil society partners, further realizing its mandate to serve as a global hub of knowledge for women’s rights organizations working on WPS-HA issues worldwide. Through these interactive sessions and companion resources made accessible through various channels, CSO partners enhanced their competencies in gender-sensitive and feminist monitoring and evaluation, self-protection and self-care, UN human rights mechanisms for WPS-HA, resource mobilization, conflict prevention, communications and advocacy tools to influence peace processes, food security, youth participation and climate change integration in WPS-HA, among others. According to the 2023 Annual CSO Survey, 82.5% of WPHF partners reported applying new knowledge and skills acquired through L-HUB initiatives in their organizations.

A total of 24 capacity strengthening, knowledge exchange and information session activities were conducted involving 965 CSO representatives from 31 countries and including WPHF country focal points. This is a marked increase from 2022, demonstrating how the L-HUB’s scope has expanded to engage additional partners including from the WPHF RRW and Window for WHRDs. Additionally, WPHF leveraged the expertise of 67 CSO partners, including 11 youth speakers, and 22 external panelists to share their knowledge based on themes identified by CSO partners.

"Thanks to the webinar on climate change, we learned to always integrate a climate perspective into our work in conflict and crisis situations". (CSO from Mali)

"We have integrated the Impacts of Conflict on Food Security for Women and Girls into the association’s work plan and collaborative priorities for intervention". (CSO from Moldova)

"The webinar [on UN Human rights mechanisms] was so important for me, I’m introducing a proposal of research to follow women’s violations on their right to participate in the coming elections, mostly documenting political violence. The guidelines provided by the webinar facilitator were exactly what I was looking for!". (CSO from Venezuela)

"After the webinar of self-care, I have managed to take care of myself especially about safety". (CSO from Liberia)

"WPHF L-HUB is really important and useful for local women led organizations in order to strengthen the institutional capacities and build network from different regions". (CSO from Myanmar)
Global Learning Hub (L-HUB)

GLOBAL WOMEN’S FORUM FOR PEACE AND HUMANITARIAN ACTION (GWF)

“The event fostered an environment where all participants felt valued, respected, and encouraged to actively participate. The emphasis on diversity and the inclusion of different perspectives contributed to rich discussions and a vibrant exchange of ideas.”

Notable in 2023, in collaboration with the Germany’s Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), WPHF convened its second Global Women’s Forum for Peace and Humanitarian Action (GWF) in Berlin from 23 to 25 March 2023 with 200 international and government stakeholders, including 87 women’s rights organizations across 29 countries.1 The Forum provided women leaders a unique opportunity to build relationships and solidarity in person, showcase their work, and participate in a call to governments, donors, the United Nations, INGOs, and private companies with a call to support local women’s CSOs in fragile settings, such as Pakistan and Afghanistan, and Moldova and Tajikistan.

The Forum provided a space for civil society leaders to reflect on the importance of providing care and mental health support to women working at the frontlines of peace and humanitarian action, and encouraged the participants to identify approaches and concrete measures that can be taken by their organizations to prioritize staff’s self-care, psychosocial support, and well-being.

The GWF culminated with the adoption of the Berlin Declaration, a document capturing the priorities and recommendations of civil society organizations for action that will serve as an advocacy tool to influence key policy processes.2 Following this, the Global L-HUB launched a new call for proposals for CSO partners that participated in the Forum to identify advocacy actions pushing forward the Berlin Declaration’s recommendations and mobilizing support for women CSOs’ work on WPS. As a result, two joint advocacy actions aimed at accelerating women’s participation in peace and humanitarian response were selected and will be implemented in 2024. Overwhelmingly, CSOs expressed the continued need for similar dedicated spaces to share their experiences and advocate jointly on a global stage.

Read the full declaration here.

Excerpt from the Berlin Declaration 2023: Women Peacebuilders, Humanitarian Responders, and Human Rights Defenders Call on the World to Invest in their Work on the Frontlines

We are leaders and practitioners representing 87 local women’s rights organizations led by women, young women, and marginalized groups from Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia, including South Asia and the Pacific, Europe, and the Middle East. We are leaving Berlin energized, inspired, and committed to re-double our efforts to tackle these challenges. We have devised joint strategies that we are already putting in action. However, the burden of responsibility does not lie solely with us. This is why we turn to governments, donors, the United Nations, INGOs and private companies with a call to demonstrate feminist and ethical leadership and take the following actions:

1. Take a firm, decisive and uncompromising stance against attacks on our safety, wellbeing, lives and work and against the patriarchal norms that lead to the normalization of violence, gender apartheid and gender persecution.

2. Make radical changes to the existing financing structures and mechanisms by providing long-term, flexible and core funding available to grassroots and local organizations, including those led by women and young women in all their diversity.

3. Foster and amplify organizing, movement-building and solidarity among grassroots, local and national women civil society leaders and activists at national, regional and global levels.

4. Ensure that we can participate in and use our peacebuilding experience and expertise to influence all electoral, political decision-making and peace processes.

5. Recognize that our expertise is fundamental to prevent and address global humanitarian crises and foster climate justice.

In collaboration with Women Have Wings (WHW), the Global L-HUB peer learning initiative supported women’s movement building and the development of long-term relationships among local CSOs working in tandems to strengthen their capacity and increase their impact in crisis and conflict settings.

In 2023, four CSO partners from Haiti strengthened the capacity and knowledge of 99 of their staff and volunteers in the implementation of two projects, as well as their internal processes for more intersectionality and better integration of the needs of people with disabilities. Marjynam Organisation Feministe and Mouvement pour l’Intégration et l’Émancipation des Femmes Handicapées (MIEFH) conducted a series of dialogues on gender and inclusion to raise awareness on the needs and perspectives of persons with disabilities. Following this exchange, Marjynam revised its strategic plan to integrate new measures of inclusion, and accessibility. In addition, the Mouvement des femmes de la Grande Anse (MOFEDGA) provided training to Haiti Adolescents Girls Network (HAGN)’s mentors on referral pathways for out of schoolgirls, adolescent mothers and girls with disabilities to increase access to psychosocial and legal support. In exchange, HAGN provided training to representatives of local organizations affiliated to MOFEDGA on data collection techniques. The partnership has continued after the grant, in order to replicate the training in other localities.

Moreover, building on the partnership with the Germany’s Action Network on Forced Displacement, and as part of the L-HUB’s Mentorship Scheme, WHW launched a new multi-country Call for Proposal (CfP) in 2023 to foster the institutional development and collaboration between WPHF CSO partners working with displaced women in conflict and crisis settings. The CIP encouraged first-time collaborations among WPHF CSOs partners in the design of their proposals leading to improved synergy between feminist organizations worldwide. A total of 17 projects involving 34 CSOs were selected from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Moldova, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Ukraine, including partnerships between countries, thereby fostering cross border collaborations and peer-learning to better serve the needs of displaced populations and women. Seven of these CSOs are first time WPHF partners, showing that the L-HUB is able to reach a wide range of CSOs working in forced displacement settings. Implementation of the projects will begin in 2024.

Overall, the Global L-HUB has built a vibrant and active community of CSO partners who are working in solidarity for increased organizational growth and resilience, and which is in alignment with WPHF’s Strategic Plan 2023-2025 and its cross-cutting strategy to foster global learning and coalition building between women’s rights and women-led CSOs working in conflict and crisis settings.

56 ANNUAL REPORT 2023

57 ANNUAL REPORT 2023

21 For more information, please see the 2023 GWF Report


23 For more information, please see https://wphfund.org/2023/05/26/global-women-peace-humanitarian-activists-convene-in-berlin-to-define-key-priorities-call-on-world-to-invest-in-their-work-on-the-front-lines/
L-HUB PARTNERS IN 2023
German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), UN Women, United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY), Spotlight Initiative, Agir Ensemble pour les Droits Humains, Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD), ActionAid, Kvinna till Kvinna, Women’s Refugee Commission (WRC), Inclusive Peace, Feminist Humanitarian Network (FHN)

Learn more about the WPHF Global Learning Hub at https://wphfund.org/wphfund-community/

PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS
Engaging New Audiences in support of Women on the Front Lines
In 2023, WPHF mobilized a total of USD 960,231 of private sector funding, continuing to demonstrate the potential of engaging non-traditional donors to support local women’s organizations and their contributions to crisis response and sustainable peace.

Relationships with diverse actors were cultivated, including corporations, foundations, celebrities, and high net-worth individuals. It strengthened its partnerships with corporations and foundations, including the Clementine Fund, Cremily, and Women and Women Have Wings. WPHF also continued to foster relationships with celebrities, artists, influencers, and media partners throughout the year, including WPHF Global Advocate Kristen Bell, whose social media campaign helped raise over 63,000 USD in support of local women’s organizations responding to the earthquake that struck Syria and Türkiye earlier in the year.

In 2023, WPHF launched an Inaugural Gala, “Portraits of Strength and Resilience,” convening over 300 guests to hear directly from WPHF-supported CSO partners from Afghanistan and Libya, including UN leadership, civil society, and a wide range of high-profile celebrities. As a result, new funding was raised from 13 corporations and family foundations, and with outreach support from the WPHF Gala Committee.

WPHF partnered with Pledge.org to leverage on their innovative crowdsourcing technology and Live Event Displays, which facilitated real-time fundraising during the Gala, resulting in over USD 60,000 raised in just two minutes. Through these innovative partnerships, WPHF is breaking out of traditional UN echo chambers, reaching new audiences, and fostering creative collaborations with the private sector to amplify our impact and advance our mission.

WPHF also continued to engage its Resource Development Steering Committee, a network of philanthropists and high net-worth individuals, to help WPHF meet its resource mobilization goals and diversify its reach within the private sector.

Finally, with new emergencies occurring in 2023, WPHF leveraged opportunities to rapidly mobilize support from the public through the launch of emergency fundraising appeals in response to the Earthquake in Syria and Türkiye, to the escalating conflicts in Sudan and Palestine, and in the fight against food and climate insecurity. The year also saw an expansion of digital constituents with over 2,900 unique contacts now registered from around the world, a channel through which quarterly digital newsletters, advocacy and visibility event invitations, donor appeal emails and other key updates and information on WPHF impact and activities are regularly disseminated.
Amplifying the Voices and Advancing the Advocacy of Local Women Peacebuilders, Humanitarians and Human Rights Defenders on the Front Lines

ADVOCACY & VISIBILITY
In 2023, WPHF seized opportunities to integrate the voices and critical work of local women peacebuilders, humanitarians and WHRDs in a number of key opportunities and public events to advocate for their recognition, enhance their visibility, mobilize financing for their critical work and shape policy at all levels. In addition to the Berlin Global Funding, women and young women civil society activists supported by WPHF, shared their experiences and recommendations in events organized or co-sponsored by WPHF, addressing a diverse range of challenges and providing space to highlight their key recommendations.

WPHF conducted over 30 global advocacy initiatives, which aimed to enhance flexible financing to local women’s rights organizations (WROs) globally. This included various international and/or national advocacy events focused on thematic areas such as investing in women human rights defenders (WHRDs), young women peacebuilders, displaced women’s local solutions, gender dimensions of climate-related emergencies, and humanitarian action, among others. This included targeted funding appeals for WROs in Libya, Palestine, Syria/Türkiye and Sudan.

In December, Germany together with the WPHF held a side-event at the COP28 in Dubai, to showcase the importance of increasing local women’s leadership in conflict prevention, socioeconomic recovery and peacebuilding as a means of addressing climate security and climate justice. Speakers mentioned existing policy gaps and efforts to promote women’s leadership through feminist foreign policies and discussed the importance of providing flexible feminist funding local women’s organizations.

WPHF brought women leaders and representatives of local CSOs from Colombia and the D.R.C to the panel discuss challenges, opportunities and good practices of investing in women’s leadership and meaningful participation in climate security and climate justice. The event concluded with a Call to Action led by the co-hosts to accelerate joint action to promote women’s leadership in climate security and climate justice.

Also in December, the WPHF, together with UNHCR, UN Women and in partnership with the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Action Network on Forced Displacement, organized an interactive conversation with displaced and refugee women from Myanmar, Moldova, Ukraine and Syria on the sidelines of the Global Refugee Forum in Geneva. The hybrid side event “Women as Agents of Change - Investing in Displaced Women’s Local Solutions to Global Crises” demonstrated that displaced women’s active engagement introduces feminist and gender transformative solutions across the Humanitarian, Development, and Peace (HDP) nexus. It calls on decision-makers to shift from the conventional needs-based model and narrative of providing aid to displaced women and girls to making strategic investments in their meaningful participation and leadership to find solutions to global crises. WPHF partners and representatives of the Action Network on Forced Displacement shared personal stories of displacement and highlighted the specific protection and livelihood needs of displaced women, including those living with disabilities.

As leaders and civil society organizations, they showed strength, resilience and innovation in their response to the displaced communities they represent and serve. The Minister of Labor of Moldova and the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia highlighted the importance of including displaced women in the design and implementation of initiatives addressing the needs of displaced people. The WPHF and BMZ committed to continue to work together in investing in displaced women’s leadership and participation in peacebuilding and humanitarian efforts.

To usher in and celebrate the launch of the campaign, three global landmarks – the London Eye in the United Kingdom, the Jet d’Eau in Switzerland and the CN Tower in Canada – lit up the skies in the colors of WPHF, helping to spark a global movement to invest in women leaders and their local organizations and harnessing global attention and momentum leading up to the WPHF Invest-In-Women Global Summit in October 2023.

INVEST-IN-WOMEN GLOBAL CAMPAIGN
In 2023, WPHF launched its Invest-In-Women Global Campaign on International Women’s Day to accelerate support, amplify the voices, unlock the power and scale up the impact of frontline women’s civil society groups in the face of a rapidly evolving world. The campaign aims to mobilize 300 million USD in new financing for local women’s groups by the end of 2025 and commits to supporting 3,500 local civil society organizations working to respond to crisis, negotiate and build peace, prevent conflict, protect women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence, and meaningfully participate in humanitarian response efforts in their communities.
A MILESTONE MOMENT: THE INVEST-IN-WOMEN GLOBAL SUMMIT

On 25-26 October 2023, WPHF held its first ever Invest-In-Women Global Summit on the sidelines of the UN Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security to scale up financial commitments for local women’s organizations responding to crisis and building sustainable peace at the forefront of the world’s biggest challenges. Convening government, private sector and civil society leaders, including UN Secretary-General António Guterres, UN Women Executive Director Sima Bahous, and First Lady of Ukraine Olena Zelenska, this two-day summit mobilized a total of 56 million USD in new financing for frontline civil society groups against WPHF’s #InvestInWomen Campaign goal.

The Summit culminated with a series of interactive civil society dialogues in which local women peacebuilders, humanitarians and human rights defenders engaged with INGO and government partners to underscore the critical needs and central roles that local women’s organizations play in peace and security and humanitarian settings and strategize how to actively support their transformational work on the front lines.

CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED

Building on previous lessons learned and best practices, this section identifies common and emerging challenges while reflecting on how WPHF and its partners have mitigated and responded to these issues. WPHF’s approach has continuously been driven and shaped by a feminist lens and guided by its core mandate to ensure quality and flexible funding is directly channeled to local women’s rights organizations. This mandate has become even more relevant in the wake of escalating crisis and conflict, and whereby funding to women’s rights organizations has stagnated and grassroots organizations and WHRDs continue to face increased retaliation, threats and push back.

ENSURING SPACES FOR SELF-CARE AND WELL-BEING OF WOMEN’S RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS AND WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

The contexts in which CSOs and activists are working poses increased risk factors of exhaustion, burnout and trauma. They are systematically targeted, threatened and face retaliation as a result of their work, and in traditional spaces are expected to continue without complaint or time for themselves. For example, through the funding window for WHRDs, 10.2% of all protection grants provided to date to WHRDs at risk due to their activism include funding to access mental health and psychosocial support. Many CSOs in 2023 have also included safeguarding the physical and mental well-being of both their staff, and in their programmatic approaches through healing circles, safe spaces for critical dialogue, psychological first aid, and easier access to essential services through mobile teams. As part of WPHF’s Strategic Plan (2023-2025), the safety and wellbeing of women civil society leaders and WHRDs working in WPS-HA is a key cross-cutting area of focus, and it will continue to provide funding opportunities and spaces for protection and self-care, while supporting initiatives covering psychosocial assistance for CSO partners, development of internal policies for staff protection and healing, with particular focus to locally innovative approaches to trauma healing.

ITERATIVE AND FLEXIBLE FUNDING MODALITIES FOR CSOS IN CRISIS AND CONFLICT CONTEXTS

In several countries including Afghanistan, Palestine, and Sudan, CSOs have been unable to continue their programming due escalating violence and conflict. WPHF has employed flexible approaches in its modalities to ensure these organizations can continue despite the challenges and restrictions they face. In 2023, WPHF allowed the reallocation of funds from programmatic interventions to institutional ones for CSOs at risk to ensure the continuity of the organizations until it is safe for them to resume their activities, such as in Palestine. In a climate where women have been prevented from working in Afghanistan due to the Taliban restrictions, WPHF will continue to support both CSOs and WHRDs in all their diversity, while still maintaining safeguarding and Do No Harm as a key principle.
2023 was a momentous year.

Globally, highlights included the Global Women’s Forum for Peace and Security and the Berlin Declaration by women’s rights organizations, the Invest-In-Women Summit, and the launch of the strategic plan and WPHF’s goal to mobilize $100 million USD for local women’s organizations in fragile settings.

Across 38 countries, over 380 civil society organizations made significant impact and progress in advancing gender equality in conflict and crisis settings through programmatic and institutional funding streams, and hundreds of WHRDs were protected through safety nets and provided opportunities for advocacy.

2024 promises to be equally bold and determined.

WPHF will continue to implement its strategic plan. It will also bring on board new partners under the Window for WHRDs, work through our emergency track to address the immediate needs of women and girls while at the same time supporting women’s rights organizations through comprehensive and flexible funding. Next year, WPHF will also implement new climate and food security initiatives in several countries, increase our delivery and sustain our presence and investments in current countries.

WPHF will continue to advocate on the international stage, collaborate within networks and lead in the financing discussions to accelerate flexible and quality financing and support for local women’s rights and women-led organizations in conflict and crisis settings. It will also continue its role as a catalytic member of the Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action Compact of the Generation Equality Forum as spaces to continue this dialogue.

Findings from the 2023-2024 Fund-wide evaluation will also become available, serving to directly inform WPHF’s current and future programming, as well as improve its overall efficiency across its funding windows and to further streamline operations to ensure women on the frontlines access flexible funding as quickly as possible. Findings from the evaluation will also help define concrete implementation strategies for WPHF’s Strategic Plan.

As we look ahead to the 25th anniversary of UNSCR 1325 in 2025, and with the support of its expanding and generous base of donors and diverse makeup of global partners, WPHF will continue to build on its priorities, guided by the strategic vision of the Funding Board. It will continue to capitalize on new opportunities, contribute to the global discourse on WPS-HA, leverage innovative partnerships and adapt to emerging challenges. As the world continues to witness increasing violent and volatile political and humanitarian crises around the world, negatively impacting women and the most vulnerable populations, WPHF will continue to endeavor to fulfill its core mandate of providing flexible and quality institutional and programmatic financing for women’s rights organizations, women peacebuilders and women human rights defenders, supporting them to respond to crisis and build lasting peace.

THE WAY FORWARD

CHANNELING FUNDS RAPIDLY WHILE REACHING ORGANIZATIONS IN THEIR DIVERSITY

WPHF’s support to local women’s rights organizations in crisis and conflict settings has proven to reach organizations in their diversity, as well as organizations receiving funding from the UN for the first time (46.2%). In 2023, WPHF used its emergency track in Syria and Haiti, to ensure funding is channeled to local women’s rights organizations on the frontlines, rapidly through a targeted call for proposals to UN local women’s rights organizations who previously partnered with the UN or WPHF. The second phase of the response, aimed to be more inclusive by publishing a call for proposal open for a longer period of time, reached more organizations, in all sizes and regions. With diversity, comes different capacities and rhythms. Leaving no one behind applies not only at the application stage but also the selection and implementation stages. Donor flexibility for project duration as well as capacity building of small local women’s rights organizations in remote areas and from marginalized groups are key to building local capacities and increase local ownership for more inclusive peace and humanitarian response. The limited capacity and/or connectivity, particularly in remote areas, of local women’s rights organizations remained a challenge. Several WPHF partners needed additional capacity building and coaching in financial reporting and results-based reporting. WPHF provided organizational and M&E capacity building at the global level through its Community of Practice and Global Learning Hub, as well as an M&E guide with tools and tips for WPHF partners. At the country level, UN Women offices also supported partners in strengthening their reporting and quality implementation. At the same time, it is important to adapt and simplify onboarding processes in high conflict and crisis settings, to ensure Do No Harm and feminist approaches for equal, mutually beneficial, and collaborative partnerships.

FACILITATING UNREGISTERED AND GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATIONS TO CONTINUE THEIR MANDATES

In several countries including Afghanistan, Palestine, and Sudan, CSOs have been unable to register or renew registration for their organizations due to the breakdown of state or cumbersome processes that make it difficult for emerging organizations to legalize. To ensure that these organizations are not excluded in accessing critical funding, WPHF has employed flexible approaches in select cases, including the acceptance of unrenewed legal registration. Moreover, in a call for proposals with the Philippines, two national organizations were selected to specifically support smaller and unregistered organizations obtain the necessary legal registration in country.
APPENDIX A

WPHF Dashboard (2016-2023)

732 Approved Grants
44 Number of Countries
1,207 CSOs Supported
46.2% CSOs financed by UN for the first time

$132,386 USD Average size of grants
90% women’s rights and/or led Types of CSOs
5% youth focused and/or led

$175,458,315 Resources Mobilized

The Women's Peace & Humanitarian Fund (WPHF), launched in 2016, mobilizes critical support for local and grassroots civil society organizations working on women, peace and security and humanitarian action. WPHF is a flexible and rapid financing mechanism supporting quality interventions designed to enhance the capacity of women to prevent conflict, respond to crises and emergencies, and seize key peacebuilding opportunities.

LOCALIZATION

60.9% Local
28.1% Sub-National
9.4% National
1.5% International

23.5% CSOs Led by a Forcibly Displaced Person
220.8% Lead CSOs
29.2% Co-Implementing Partners

APPROVED GRANTS BY OUTCOME

Outcome 1: Enabling Environment for WPS
Outcome 2: Conflict Prevention
Outcome 3: Humanitarian & Crisis Response
Outcome 4: Conflict Resolution
Outcome 5: Protection of Women & Girls
Outcome 6: Peacebuilding & Recovery

Outcome 1: 24
Outcome 2: 91
Outcome 3: 117
Outcome 4: 59
Outcome 5: 212
Outcome 6: 229

REGULAR FUNDING CYCLE (644)

COVID-19 ERW (48)

WINDBOWNER ON WHRDS

369 women human rights defenders supported through advocacy and safety net support in 18 countries

ALLOCATED FUNDS BY REGION

LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

39% Improving the situation for women who are forcibly displaced (refugees and IDPs)
17% Improving the lives of women and men living with disabilities
3% Projects focused on Climate Security

36% Prevention and services for survivors of SGBV
4% Advocating for the rights of LGBTQI communities
20% Projects targeting youth and young women’s active participation

5% Projects supporting Indigenous and Ethnic Minorities

Beneficiaries (2016 - 2023)

5.05 million directly served
74% women and girls
45 million indirect beneficiaries

ANNUAL REPORT 2023
APPENDIX B

WPHF Partners by Country (2023)24

AFGHANISTAN
1-38 32 lead civil society organizations and 6 co-implementing partners (anonymized for protection)

BANGLADESH
39 AGRAJATRA
40 Bangladesh Nari Pragati Sangha (BNPS)
41 Rohingya Women Empowerment and Advocacy Network

BURUNDI
48 Association pour une Jeunesse Africaine Progresiste (AJAP)
49 Action Burundaise pour l’Afrique
50 Flambeau de la vie
51 Association de la Promotion de la File Burundaise (AFPIP)
52 Association des Femmes Rapatriées du Burundi (AFAPABU)

CAMEROON
62 Reach out Cameroon (ROC)
63 Young Women Mediators Cameroon (YWMC)
64 Community Women Peacebuilders Network (CWOP-NET)
65 Voices of Community Women (VCW)
66 Women Peacebuilders Network (WPYN)

COLOMBIA
74 Fundación Mujer Afro Empoderada
75 Corporación Ecológica Educativa (ECOSUR)

24 Co-implementing partners of lead CSOs are presented in italics.

ANNUAL REPORT 2023
ETHIOPIA

163 TIRIMAN
164 Good Samaritan Association
165 Mothers and Children Development Organization (MCDO)
166 Initiative for Peace Development (IPD)
167 Ethiopia Civil Society Organizations Forum (ECSF)

GUINEA

177 La Guinée en Politique/LGP

HAITI

179 Mouvement des Femmes pour le Développement de la Grande Arse (MOFEDG)
180 Haiti Adolescent Girls Network
181 Association des Femmes de Madinie (AFM)
182 Refuge des Femmes d’Haiti (REF-Haiti)
183 Fédération des organisations de femmes pour l’égalité des droits humains (FEDFDH)
184 Federation des Femmes au Bas-Antibonite (FEFBA)
185 Cabinet Willy Délrose
186 Initiative for Youth Development (IDJEN)
187 Fondation Tiywa
188 Young Women’s Christian Association Haiti (YWCA Haiti)
189 Zami Lasante
190 Rapha House International

IRELAND

195 Centre from Dublin, of Recherche et de formation (CEDRF)
196 ARB-Haiti
197 Association jeunes combattants contre discrimination et stigmatisation (AICES)
198 Planforme des Organisations de Femmes Haïtiennes pour le Développement (POFHD)
199 Association des parents des personnes handicapées du Sud (APPHS)

IRAQ

227 Civil Development Organization (CODO)
228 Paswan Organization
229 DAK Organization for Ezidi Women Development
230 Iraqi Women Journalist Forum (IWF)
231 Jinda Organization
232 Bring Hope Foundation
233 Zukunft Al Iraq Organization for Humanitarian Relief
234 Information Center for Research and Development
235 Al Manahil Association
236 Ayal Association for the Development of Intelligence and Creativity
237 Youth Forum for Peace

JORDAN

266 Sisterhood is Global Institute Jordan (SIGI)
267 Arab Women Organization (AWO)

KENYA

273 Garissa County Women’s Peace Movement

LIBERIA

202 Latin American and Caribbean Women’s Rights Network (LACWRN)

MALI

210 Groupe d’Appui du Développement Famille Haïtienne (PROFAMIL)
211 Association des parents des personnes handicapées du Sud (APPHS)

MOROCCO

204 Association des Femmes pour l’Empowerment (AFEM)
205 Organisation pour le Développement de Derouzé (ODFREBH)
206 Centre de Débats, de Recherche et de formation (CEDRF)
207 Association des parents des personnes handicapées du Sud (APPHS)

PALESTINE

232 World Council of Churches (WCC)
233 Al Hub Wa Al Salam (AHS)
234 UN Women

PHILIPPINES

215 Centre Communautaire Perpétuel Sacurs de Jérusalem (CCPS)
216 Marjijn Organisation Feministe
217 Fondation Essence Elle (FEE)
218 Organisation pour l’Intégration des Personnes Handicapées (IMPH)
219 Initiative for the Protection of the Child (IPPI)
220 Advocacy Center for Democracy & Development (ACDD)
221 Mums for Mums (MFM)

PORTUGAL

219 Menorah Jewish Women’s Network (MJWN)
220 Refugees International (RI)
221 Solidarity Fund (SF)

RUSSIA

232 World Council of Churches (WCC)
233 Al Hub Wa Al Salam (AHS)
234 UN Women

SUDAN

210 Groupe d’Appui du Développement Famille Haïtienne (PROFAMIL)
211 Association des parents des personnes handicapées du Sud (APPHS)

SWITZERLAND

206 The National Organization for Women (NOW)
207 Organisation pour le Développement de Derouzé (ODFREBH)
208 Gender Platform of the Northeast (PGNE)
209 Women’s Association for the Protection and Promotion of Children’s Rights (AWOPPCR)
210 Groupe d’Appui du Développement Famille Haïtienne (PROFAMIL)
211 Association des parents des personnes handicapées du Sud (APPHS)

TANZANIA

203 Le Foyer Des Femmes
204 Four Women Marigny
205 Organisation des Femmes (Exemplaires de Tenor) (OET)
206 Groupe de Femmes Progressistes (GFP)
207 Organisation du Rapprochement Aide Humanitaire (ORRAH)
208 Information Center for Research and Development
209 Al Manahil Association
210 Ayala Association for the Development of Intelligence and Creativity
211 Youth Forum for Peace

THAILAND

205 Marjijn Organisation Feministe
206 Association des Femmes en Mouvement
207 Fondation IDE
208 Solidarity for a Youthful Resilient (SOJER)
209 Association of Women living with the Virus (APWMA)
210 Lutte des Femmes Haïtiennes infectées et affectées par le VIH (LUFHAI/H)

TOGO

203 Le Foyer Des Femmes
204 Four Women Marigny
205 Organisation des Femmes (Exemplaires de Tenor) (OET)
206 Groupe de Femmes Progressistes (GFP)
207 Organisation du Rapprochement Aide Humanitaire (ORRAH)
208 Information Center for Research and Development
209 Al Manahil Association
210 Ayala Association for the Development of Intelligence and Creativity
211 Youth Forum for Peace

UKRAINE

205 Marjijn Organisation Feministe
206 Association des Femmes en Mouvement
207 Fondation IDE
208 Solidarity for a Youthful Resilient (SOJER)
209 Association of Women living with the Virus (APWMA)
210 Lutte des Femmes Haïtiennes infectées et affectées par le VIH (LUFHAI/H)

UNITED KINGDOM

203 Le Foyer Des Femmes
204 Four Women Marigny
205 Organisation des Femmes (Exemplaires de Tenor) (OET)
206 Groupe de Femmes Progressistes (GFP)
207 Organisation du Rapprochement Aide Humanitaire (ORRAH)
208 Information Center for Research and Development
209 Al Manahil Association
210 Ayala Association for the Development of Intelligence and Creativity
211 Youth Forum for Peace

UNITED STATES

203 Le Foyer Des Femmes
204 Four Women Marigny
205 Organisation des Femmes (Exemplaires de Tenor) (OET)
206 Groupe de Femmes Progressistes (GFP)
207 Organisation du Rapprochement Aide Humanitaire (ORRAH)
208 Information Center for Research and Development
209 Al Manahil Association
210 Ayala Association for the Development of Intelligence and Creativity
211 Youth Forum for Peace

VENEZUELA

203 Le Foyer Des Femmes
204 Four Women Marigny
205 Organisation des Femmes (Exemplaires de Tenor) (OET)
206 Groupe de Femmes Progressistes (GFP)
207 Organisation du Rapprochement Aide Humanitaire (ORRAH)
208 Information Center for Research and Development
209 Al Manahil Association
210 Ayala Association for the Development of Intelligence and Creativity
211 Youth Forum for Peace

WESTERN SAHARA

203 Le Foyer Des Femmes
204 Four Women Marigny
205 Organisation des Femmes (Exemplaires de Tenor) (OET)
206 Groupe de Femmes Progressistes (GFP)
207 Organisation du Rapprochement Aide Humanitaire (ORRAH)
208 Information Center for Research and Development
209 Al Manahil Association
210 Ayala Association for the Development of Intelligence and Creativity
211 Youth Forum for Peace

YEMEN

203 Le Foyer Des Femmes
204 Four Women Marigny
205 Organisation des Femmes (Exemplaires de Tenor) (OET)
206 Groupe de Femmes Progressistes (GFP)
207 Organisation du Rapprochement Aide Humanitaire (ORRAH)
208 Information Center for Research and Development
209 Al Manahil Association
210 Ayala Association for the Development of Intelligence and Creativity
211 Youth Forum for Peace

ZEaland

203 Le Foyer Des Femmes
204 Four Women Marigny
205 Organisation des Femmes (Exemplaires de Tenor) (OET)
206 Groupe de Femmes Progressistes (GFP)
207 Organisation du Rapprochement Aide Humanitaire (ORRAH)
208 Information Center for Research and Development
209 Al Manahil Association
210 Ayala Association for the Development of Intelligence and Creativity
211 Youth Forum for Peace

ZimbABwe

203 Le Foyer Des Femmes
204 Four Women Marigny
205 Organisation des Femmes (Exemplaires de Tenor) (OET)
206 Groupe de Femmes Progressistes (GFP)
207 Organisation du Rapprochement Aide Humanitaire (ORRAH)
208 Information Center for Research and Development
209 Al Manahil Association
210 Ayala Association for the Development of Intelligence and Creativity
211 Youth Forum for Peace

ANUAL REPORT 2023
Appendix B

PAKISTAN

431  PAMAN Almuni Trust
432  Pakistan Alliance for Girls Education (PAGE)
433  Individualland Pakistan

PHILIPPINES

460  Balya Mindanao Foundation, Inc
461  Catholic Relief Services
462  United Youth for Peace and Development (UYPAD)
463  Generation Peace Youth Network Inc.
464  Gaston Z. Ortigas Peace Institute
465  Women Engaged in Action on ILO (WE ACT)

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

477  Kup Women for Peace (KWP)

PAKISTAN

431  PAMAN Almuni Trust
432  Pakistan Alliance for Girls Education (PAGE)
433  Individualland Pakistan

PHILIPPINES

460  Balya Mindanao Foundation, Inc
461  Catholic Relief Services
462  United Youth for Peace and Development (UYPAD)
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431  PAMAN Almuni Trust
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433  Individualland Pakistan

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431  PAMAN Almuni Trust
432  Pakistan Alliance for Girls Education (PAGE)
433  Individualland Pakistan

PHILIPPINES

460  Balya Mindanao Foundation, Inc
461  Catholic Relief Services
462  United Youth for Peace and Development (UYPAD)
463  Generation Peace Youth Network Inc.
464  Gaston Z. Ortigas Peace Institute
465  Women Engaged in Action on ILO (WE ACT)

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

477  Kup Women for Peace (KWP)
TAJIKISTAN
543 Refugees, Children and Vulnerable Citizens (RCVC)

UGANDA
545 Mothers of Hope (MOPE)
546 Two-Karamoja Women Initiative for Peace
547 Karamoja Elders on Borders and Peace
548 Aker Elders for Peace and Development
549 Koli Women Development Organization (KOWDO)
550 AIO Uganda
551 Women and Rural Development Network (HORDUNET)

UKRAINE
552 Uganda Society for Disabled Children
553 Sense International Uganda (SIU)
554 Peace and Human Security Resources (PHSR)
555 SHED
556 Center for Human Rights and Legal Support (CHRLS)
557 Rays of Hope Development Initiatives (ROHDI)
558 Rwenzori Forum for Peace and Justice (RFPJ)
559 Action on Women Foundation (AWF)
560 National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE)
561 Baitambo Community Healthcare Initiative (BACHI)
562 Mid-western Region Anti-corruption Coalition (MRACC)
563 Center for Conflict Resolution (CECORE)

617 Center Women’s Perspectives (CWP)

618 Ukrainian Public Association “National Assembly of People with Disabilities” (NAPD)
619 Public organization «Open Hearts» Association for Rights Advocacy and Assistance to People with Disabilities
620 Zhytomyr Regional NGO for People with Disabilities «Right Women, Family»
621 Public organization “Institute of Social and Cultural Development of Young People with Disabilities and Protection of Their Rights: ‘Step into the Future’”
622 Charitable Foundation “Medical and Social Rehabilitation Center “The Road of Life” of Zakarpattia region”
623 Public association “Iz-Ukrainskii League for Organizations of People with Vision Disabilities ‘Modern Look’”
624 NGO “Poltava City Association of Persons with Disabilities ‘Iro””

600 “Ridico” Community Fund
601 Charitable Organization “Berezan Community Fund”
602 Boyanka Community Foundation
603 Podil’ske gromada Community Fund
604 Public Organization “Community Development Fund of Ukraine”
605 Vaznesenskii community foundation
606 “Bair” Community Fund
607 Studio of Public Women’s Initiatives
608 Ukrainian Women’s Lawyer Association JurFem
609 World Jewish Relief
610 Public organisation “Fund” Professional Development
611 Fight for Right NGO
612 Helping to Leave
613 LAMPA
614 Charitable Fund POMOGAEM
615 Youth non-governmental organization “Christian Association YMCA”
616 Zaporuksa Foundation
617 Sokolniki Foundation

625 Public organization “Center of Social Adaptation for People with Disabilities ‘The Ocean of Kindness’”
626 All-Ukrainian public organization of people with oncology-related disabilities “Together against Cancer”
627 Public NGO “Chernivtsi Regional Organization of People with Disabilities ‘Leader’”
628 Public organization of people with disabilities “The initiatives of Sloha brothomchyna”
629 Center for the provision of humanitarian aid - Volunteer 68
630 Women’s Association Sphere
631 Ukrainian Foundation for Public Health (UFPH)
632 Marshu Fund
633 International Network for Aid, Relief, and Assistance (INARA)

634 The Council of Women from Donetsk
635 Mokriy Youth Union
636 Andrew Family Foundation
637 Rural Women Business Network (RWBNN)
638 Cooperative Academy Jinjiro
639 NGO “Kabynesko Youth and Women’s Center
640 Women Farmers Council in Zaporižzhia
641 Jinjiro Agricultural Advisory Services
642 Ukraine Women Farmer’s Council
643 All-Ukrainian Association of Organizations in the Interest of Persons with Disabilities
644 New Ukrainian Narratives
645 Centre for Social and Labor Research (CSLR)
646 Enlightening Initiative “Tolnerky Regional Young NGO”

VENEZUELA
564 Positive Women
565 Ukrainian Women’s Fund (UWF)
566 Vinitya
567 Development of Yulyn
568 Pidlyazastra
569 Center Women’s Perspectives (CWP)
570 Temopul City Women’s Club “Revel of the Nation”
571 Center for the Support of Public initiatives “Choykoe”
572 “PodVatkiv Center ‘Gender Council’”
573 Pro Women UA
574 Space of Knowledge
575 Equality in Action
576 All Ukrainian Associated of Agalmated Territorial Communities
577 Association of Democratic Development (ADD)
578 Bureau of Gender Strategy and Budgeting
579 NGO “Gender Culture Center”
580 Youth organization “CYD KROK”
581 Center Pribiatym

582 Association of Roma Women (Voice of Romni)
583 NGO Invisible
584 NGO Core Center
585 Global Network of Women Peacemakers (GNWP)
586 Democracy Development Center
587 Unity for the Future
588 Zhou Ro
589 Slededkivslyi Abyty
590 Ukraiinske Podvitiy
591 Insight Public Organization
592 Institute for Peace and Common Ground (IPCG)
593 GPPRC (The Hague)
594 Middle East Nonviolence and Democracy (Palestine)
595 Foundation for Tolerance International (Kyrgyzstan)
596 National Network of Local Philanthropy Development
597 National Council’ Women of Ukraine
598 NGO Interactive Platform “Prostir”
599 Public Organization “Ecoynits”

606 “Ridico” Community Fund
607 Charitable Organization “Berezan Community Fund”
608 Boyanka Community Foundation
609 Public Organization “Community Development Fund of Ukraine”
610 Vaznesenskii community foundation
611 “Bair” Community Fund
612 Studio of Public Women’s Initiatives
613 Ukrainian Women’s Lawyer Association JurFem
614 World Jewish Relief
615 Public organisation “Fund” Professional Development
616 Fight for Right NGO
617 Helping to Leave
618 LAMPA
619 Charitable Fund POMOGAEM
620 Youth non-governmental organization “Christian Association YMCA”
621 Zaporuksa Foundation
622 Sokolniki Foundation

634 The Council of Women from Donetsk
635 Mokriy Youth Union
636 Andrew Family Foundation
637 Rural Women Business Network (RWBNN)
638 Cooperative Academy Jinjiro
639 NGO “Kabynesko Youth and Women’s Center
640 Women Farmers Council in Zaporižzhia
641 Jinjiro Agricultural Advisory Services
642 Ukraine Women Farmer’s Council
643 All-Ukrainian Association of Organizations in the Interest of Persons with Disabilities
644 New Ukrainian Narratives
645 Centre for Social and Labor Research (CSLR)
646 Enlightening Initiative “Tolnerky Regional Young NGO”

647 Cauc Civil Association
648 Women for Dialogue and Peace of Venezuela (informal group)

649 Venezuelan Association for Alternative Sex Education (AVESA)
650 University Youth Foundation for Development
651 Alzahra Women’s Foundation
652 Jar Foundation for Social Development
653 Thokem for Media Production
654 Youth Without Borders Organization for Development

655 Wizi Foundation
656 Yemni Women Union
657 Enough for Humanitarian Protection
658 Youth Leadership Development Foundation (YLDF)
659 YODET Technology for Humanity

660 Social Development Hodishid Girls Foundation (SDHGF)
661 Yemen Peace School Organization (YPS)
662 Marib Girls Foundation
### Results Framework

The following summarizes the consolidated key results achieved in 2023 for each of the WPHF Outcome areas based on document review of country reports.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATOR</th>
<th>CONSOLIDATED RESULTS (2023)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 1: Enhanced role of civil society organizations in advocating for and ensuring accountability on WPS commitments</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;MYANMAR, PHILIPPINES, SUDAN&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;1.1 Number/Percentage of supported CSOs involved in NAP1325 design, budgeting, implementation and monitoring and evaluation&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;214 CSOs actively involved in NAP1325 design, budgeting, implementation and monitoring and evaluation.</td>
<td>&lt;br&gt;13 various evidence-based recommendations by CSOs into key policy documents related to NAP1325, including the involvement of youth, women-led early warning response mechanisms, women mediators, and the documentation of human rights violations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Number/Types of propositions by civil society that are included into policy documents</td>
<td>&lt;br&gt;13 various evidence-based recommendations by CSOs into key policy documents related to NAP1325, including the involvement of youth, women-led early warning response mechanisms, women mediators, and the documentation of human rights violations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 2: Increased meaningful participation and decision-making of women in conflict prevention processes and response</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;BURUNDI, IRAQ, NIGER, PALESTINE, PHILIPPINES, UGANDA&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;2.1 Number/Percentage of women participating in decision-making in conflict prevention processes and response&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;7,957 women participated in decision-making in conflict prevention processes and response resulting in 4,561 conflicts being averted, resolved, or referred through local and regional gender-responsive mechanisms.</td>
<td>&lt;br&gt;21 various gender-sensitive conflict prevention mechanisms established or strengthened, including women-led early warning systems, reporting platforms and conflict resolution forums.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Number/Types of conflict prevention mechanisms that are gender responsive</td>
<td>&lt;br&gt;21 various gender-sensitive conflict prevention mechanisms established or strengthened, including women-led early warning systems, reporting platforms and conflict resolution forums.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 3: Enhanced participation and leadership of women in humanitarian crisis planning and response</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;D.R.C, ETHIOPIA, HAITI, IRAQ, JORDAN, MOLDOVA, MYANMAR, PACIFIC, SYRIA, UKRAINE&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;3.1 Number/Percentage of women participating in decision-making in humanitarian and crisis response&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;6,601 women and young women from 68 CSOs actively participated in decision-making processes in humanitarian planning and crisis response across 13 countries addressing the most acute needs of over 107,700 people in crisis settings.</td>
<td>&lt;br&gt;Gender-responsive humanitarian and crisis mechanisms established in four countries (UKR, MMR, SYR, PFC) including inter-ethnic crisis action resource hubs, women-led self-help groups, participatory vulnerability and capacity analysis processes, community disaster management committees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2 Types of mechanisms established to improve gender responsive humanitarian and crisis planning, frameworks and programming</td>
<td>&lt;br&gt;Gender-responsive humanitarian and crisis mechanisms established in four countries (UKR, MMR, SYR, PFC) including inter-ethnic crisis action resource hubs, women-led self-help groups, participatory vulnerability and capacity analysis processes, community disaster management committees.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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25 Niger began implementation in late 2023 and results will be available in 2024.
Outcome 6: Improved socio-economic recovery and political participation of women and girls in peacebuilding contexts

AFGHANISTAN, BANGLADESH, COLOMBIA, D.R.C, IRAQ, JORDAN, LIBERIA, MOLDOVA, NIGERIA, PAKISTAN, TAJIKISTAN, UKRAINE, YEMEN

6.1 Number/Types of plans and/or policies in peacebuilding contexts influenced by women or civil society organizations

CSOs in six countries have contributed to ensuring plans and policies in peacebuilding contexts are gender-responsive, including key recommendations by CSOs in Pakistan for Afghan refugees and their documentation, public prevention and protection policies in Colombia, and local refugee response plans in Nigeria. CSOs in Iraq also informed camp management plans and policies.

6.2 Number/Percentage of women with increased agency as a result of access to new economic and productive resources

22,875 women increased their agency as a result of access to new economic and productive resources, including those who are forcibly displaced.

6.3 Number/Percentage of women participating in political and decision-making processes

4,046 women and young women actively participated in political and decision-making processes in 15 countries.

Institutional Funding

AFGHANISTAN, BURUNDI, COLOMBIA, ETHIOPIA, IRAQ, JORDAN, LEVANON, MALI, MOLDOVA, NIGERIA, PALESTINE, PHILIPPINES, PNG, SUDAN, SYRIA, UKRAINE, YEMEN

1.1 Average number of months organization can be sustained as a result of institutional funding

A total of 94 local women's CSOs have sustained their organizations for an average of 396 months with an average of 4.4 additional months each.

1.2 Number/percentage of staff retained as a result of institutional funding

613 staff and volunteers retained through staff remuneration, stipends and payment of office costs to sustain organization operations.

1.3 Development of risk management and contingency plans or strategies for organization

24 various plans and strategies were developed and adopted, including risk management and humanitarian contingency plans/strategies, WPS-HA strategies, developed by/for local CSOs in six countries.

1.4 Number/Types of adaptive strategies, tools or systems adopted by organization for continuity of operations

16 new adaptive strategies, tools and/or systems developed or adopted by CSOs in 34 countries, including financial and procurement policies, strategic plans, human resource policies, resource mobilization strategies, gender and diversity policies, PSEAH policies, financial systems and installation of new IT for continuation of work, and strategic plans.

Background

Working across the peace-development-human rights nexus, local women’s organizations are often best placed to foster transformative and sustainable change to achieve peace and gender equality in conflict and crisis-affected contexts. They expand the reach and impact of humanitarian aid, accelerate economic recovery, prevent and mediate conflict, respond to the immediate needs of the most marginalized people and advance gender equality, which results in more sustainable and inclusive peace. They play critical roles as first responders and peacebuilders in fragile settings. Despite this, their work is consistently underfunded and often goes unrecognized.

More than two decades after the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security, which established women’s right to full participation in peace and security decision-making, women’s participation remains minimal, and financial resources for local women’s rights organizations remains low.

In 2023, the United Nations Secretary General called on the international community and recommended to (i) raise USD $300 million in new financing for women’s organizations in crisis settings over the next three years, including through support to the United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF); and to (ii) allocate a minimum of 15% of ODA to gender equality, including a minimum of 1% to women’s organizations, especially grassroots groups mobilizing for peace.5 Despite the latest funding commitments and recommendations, the share of bilateral aid supporting feminist, women-led and women’s rights organizations and movements in fragile or conflict-affected countries still remains at only 0.3 per cent,6 and total commitments remained at $148 million in 2023, a decrease from the 2020 commitment of $176 million.2

The lack of funding and support for local women’s organizations is increasingly worrying in the context of escalating conflicts and crises such as Sudan, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Myanmar and Haiti, in addition to forgotten crises in many countries where funding remains scarce in the face of rising needs for women and girls.

There have also been repeated calls to make long-term, flexible and core funding available to local women’s rights and women-led organizations as part of a strategy to build peace, stability and social cohesion. The United Nations Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF), an instrument for the localization of the WPS agenda and Grand Bargain commitments, is responding to these calls by enhancing women’s rights organizations’ participation and leadership in the design of locally and women-led responses to conflict and crisis. In 2023 alone, WPHF raised over $45.8 million, the highest annual amount since the Fund was launched in 2016. Since its establishment, the Fund has supported over 1,200 local women’s civil society organizations in 46 crisis and conflict-affected countries, including support to 98 organizations with critical institutional funding to safeguard their existence, strengthen their capacities and adapt to evolving challenges.

WPHF 2023 Global CSO Survey on WPS-HA

In 2023, WPHF launched its fourth global survey with local women’s rights and women led organizations that have received programmatic or institutional funding from WPHF since its establishment in 2016. The objective of this survey was to take stock of the space and the extent and quality of support for local women’s organizations working on women, peace, security and humanitarian action (WPS-HA) issues in countries where WPHF is channeling funding, uncover
priorities of women civil society leaders, and to effectively advocate with the international community for more flexible and quality funding for local women’s rights organizations on the frontlines.

Made available in English, French, Arabic and Spanish, 337 representatives from local women’s organizations from 35 countries participated in the survey, including from Africa (127), Arab States (60), Asia and the Pacific (55), Latin America and Caribbean (49), and Europe and Central Asia (46). Overall, 85% of organizations that participated identify as women’s rights and/or led by women, 10% youth rights and/or led by youth and 6% as another type of civil society organizations such as disability focused, humanitarian and/or indigenous rights focused organizations. 21% of responding organizations this year were also headed by someone who is forcibly displaced (refugee, IDP, returnee, or asylum seeker). Over half (56%) of respondents are also from organizations who have received funding through the UN system for the first time.

The anonymous survey specifically explores questions related to risks related to lack of funding for women’s rights and led CSOs, the challenges they face in securing flexible funding, as well as the challenging contexts in which local women’s rights and led organizations working on WPS-HA often operate. This includes the impact of the security or political situation at the country level, the experience of retaliation or threats to their organizations, and the level of consultation or engagement of these organizations in advancing policy related to WPS-HA. CSO respondents were also asked about their key priorities in funding modalities for women’s rights organization in the WPS-HA space.

Results of the survey should be read considering the following limitations: i) only quantitative methodology was used, limiting the descriptions of in-depth experiences from women’s organizations; ii) the contexts in which the survey is conducted is ever-changing considering that new conflicts and tensions have arisen since its launch; and iii) new women’s organizations in Niger, Guinea, and Venezuela participated in the survey for the first time and thus comparisons from the previous year are not directly comparable. Despite these limitations, this year’s findings demonstrates the continued need and urgency to support women’s rights organizations in conflict and crisis settings and the importance of ensuring that the experiences and priorities of local women’s organizations are prioritized.

Key Findings

Risks to the work and existence of local women’s organizations

In 2023, over 66% of local women’s organizations across WPHF targeted regions felt that their organization was at either a high or very high risk for continuity due to the lack of programmatic or institutional funding for local women’s organizations working on WPS-HA, showing a fairly consistent trend since 2021. This is more alarming when including those who also felt a moderate levels of risk, with 95% of women’s organizations identifying themselves at risk due the lack of sustained funding.

Moreover, just under half of all organizations (43%) reported that their organization and staff have directly received threats as a result of their work in WPS-HA in the last 12 months. This trend is generally consistent over the past three years (46% in 2021 and 47% in 2022), demonstrating the continued risk that local women’s organizations face in engaging in WPS-HA work in their contexts.

In 2022, the UN Security Council called for specific measures to protect women’s rights activists and their organizations and held its first-ever formal meeting focusing on reprisals against women participating in peace and security processes. These measures include long-term support for civil society actors so that they can strengthen their own safety measures, or emergency help for protection or relocation when most at risk.

The security and/or political situation, in countries where WPHF is active, continued to impact local women’s organizations, particularly in Afghanistan, Ukraine, Ethiopia, Palestine and Haiti. Overall, over half (52%) of organizations reported that the context in which they work negatively impacted their ability to effectively carry out their mandate in WPS-HA. This was most pronounced among organizations in the Arab States region and LAC with 67% and 60% respectively, followed by those in Asia and Pacific with 53% and Europe and Central Asia with 52%.

Moreover, 60% of organizations (43%) reported that their organization and staff have directly received threats as a result of their work in WPS-HA in the last 12 months. This trend is generally consistent over the past three years (46% in 2021 and 47% in 2022), demonstrating the continued risk that local women’s organizations face in engaging in WPS-HA work in their contexts.

Figure 1: Percentage of CSOs that report high or very high levels of risk to their organizations as a result of lack of programmatic or institutional funding.

More than half of the organizations surveyed also noted that risks threatening the continuity of their operations or ability to implement programming have persisted and remained constant over the past 12 months, as a result of increased violence and conflict and volatile contexts, lack of long-term funding, and funding that does not prioritize vulnerable groups such as those who are forcibly displaced, living with disabilities or from LGBTIQ+ communities, representing a 6 percentage point increase in the number of organizations who responded to the same question a year earlier in 2022.

Threats and retaliation faced by local women’s organizations in WPS-HA

Local women’s organizations operate in complex crises and fragile contexts, where the activities of their organizations, security of their staff and rights of their communities are often at dire risk. They continue to serve their communities despite these risks, including targeted threats or retaliation as a result of their advocacy and work in WPS-HA.

In 2023, CSOs from Myanmar and Papua New Guinea reported the highest rates of threats as a result of their work, with over 80% of CSOs reporting direct threats. This was followed by South Sudan, Cameroon, Palestine, Haiti, Iraq, Syria and Yemen where over 60% of organizations in these countries reported facing threats. It is also evident in the growing number of requests by women human rights defenders (WHRDs) for relocation and psychosocial support through WPHF’s Window for WHRDS, which was launched in 2022. In 2023 alone, the Window for WHRDS received over 1,400 requests for urgent protection support due to their activism and to ensure the safety of their dependents.

As continued escalation of crisis and war continue in these regions, women’s organizations need more flexible funding and political support in order to safely operate. In response, WPHF has launched several emergency track calls during the year for proposals to ensure rapid and flexible funding of these organizations, including funding for safety, well-being and psychosocial support initiatives for staff and women working on the frontlines of crisis and conflict settings. Moreover, the funding Window for WHRDS is another mechanism to ensure individual WHRDS receive the critical support they need to ensure their protection and well-being with 456 WHRDS and their 1,221 dependents supported since 2022.

Securing Resources for WPS and Humanitarian Action

Findings also reveal that over 40% of CSOs have received less funding than two years ago to carry out their mandates. This trend is consistent with 2022 whereby 44% of CSOs noted the same. The lack of access to multi-year programmatic or institutional funding also remains a key concern for local women’s organizations in fragile and crisis contexts, with over 60% of local women’s organizations noting this as a core challenge. 23% of organizations also highlight that more broadly, there is insufficient funding available specifically for WPS-HA work and well over half (67%) of organizations stress that the lack of multi-year programmatic or institutional funding compromises their ability to carry out their mandates effectively.

Figure 3: Percentage of CSOs and the level of funding received over the past two years.
Barriers to accessing funding and the lack of flexibility in the donor environment for grassroots organizations working in crisis and fragile contexts continues to be a concern with an equal proportion of CSOs noting that funding is not prioritized for local and grassroots organizations in crisis and conflict settings. The lack of access to information about appropriate funding opportunities is also reported as a challenge in securing resources. Complex application processes and procedures continue to act as a deterrent for engaged and qualified local women’s organizations from securing needed funding and 13% of organizations also note that funding is not flexible enough for the contexts in which they work.

This is consistent with recent global research carried out, whereby the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) highlights that, “women’s rights organizations struggle to meet many of the application criteria and requirements necessary to secure country-based pooled fund resources. These include fund sizes that are too large for many [women’s rights and led organizations], the inability for funding applications to be made in local languages, and requirements for [organizations] to have written policies in place specific to partnering with the UN.”

AWID, the global feminist movement, equally calls for making eligibility criteria and funding mechanisms fit for purpose to fund organizations that have the greatest impact on women's rights. The WPHF reviews on an annual basis its procedures for increased accessibility. Almost half of the women’s organizations supported are receiving UN funding for the first time, a number that demonstrates WPHF’s ability to effectively reach grassroots civil society organizations that serve the most marginalized communities.

An overwhelming 83% of CSOs surveyed called for the need to balance between programmatic and institutional funding in order to effectively deliver in this space. In 2020, WPHF established institutional or core funding as a new stream for local women’s organizations, supporting them to institutionalize and strengthen their institutional capacities – funding which is often not available to smaller entities. To date, over 98 women’s organizations have received institutional support through WPHF’s core funding, and another 27% feel this risk has continued to threaten their sustainability in the past 12 months.

Barriers and Challenges for effective implementation of WPS and Humanitarian Action

Once funding is secured or women’s rights organizations have successfully been selected for funding, several barriers and challenges continue to impede their effective engagement and implementation. More than half of all organizations (52%) report that once selected, the final approval processes are lengthy and cumbersome. This includes waiting and not knowing whether donors fund on the need for documentation and narrative and financial reporting, detering them away from the most important work. Another 18% of organizations note that, more broadly in the donor landscape, funding is not prioritized for grassroots and local civil society organizations – a unique feature of the WPHF, which has to date supported over 89% organizations at the local level. Other challenges that CSOs highlight are the demands for government compliances and a lack of acceptance from local authorities. This resonates with the broader discussions amongst the international donor community around issues of trust for civil society organizations and the heavy and time-consuming due diligence processes they often face.

Some organizations (9%) also flag that support for their efforts during the implementation phase is limited and that more support in this area would be welcomed, including capacity strengthening opportunities. This accompanying support is also important to occur prior to project implementation - during the project design phase. WPHF has aimed to address this through its Global Learning Hub (L-HUB) and country level capacity strengthening which provides organizations with exchange opportunities for all its CSO partners. WPHF also provides technical support during the application processes, including information sessions and guidance documents. In addition, since mid-2022, under its Rapid Response Window for Women’s Participation in Peace Processes and the Implementation of Peace Agreements (RRW), prospective applicants are contacted directly if concept notes are approved to work with WPHF and its INGO partners to discuss their project designs and receive technical support before they launch their projects.

The critical role of women’s rights organizations in WPS-HA

Despite the challenges persistently faced by local women’s rights organizations working in conflict and crisis settings, some positive transformations are occurring. In the last three years, more than half of all organizations have consistently been consulted or invited to engage on policy or action plans in WPS-HA at local, regional or national levels. 65% of local women’s organizations stated that they were sometimes, often or frequently consulted to engaged on WPS-HA issues, indicative of women’s rights organizations becoming more influential and consolidating their positions as critical agents of change and representing a positive increase of 4% since last year.

Regionally, women’s organizations in Africa were consulted the most with 76% of CSOs noting this, followed by those in Asia and the Pacific (69%), Arab States (68%), and Europe and Central Asia (60%), while just over half (56%) of organizations in LAC reported that they were either consulted or invited to engage on policy or action plans for WPS-HA.

Priorities of local women’s organizations

Participating organizations were asked about their priorities in WPS-HA given their intimate knowledge of their communities and contexts. They highlighted that peacebuilding and economic recovery and the protection of women and girls in conflict and crisis settings continues to be core areas needed with 26% and 24% respectively citing this as their main priority. Another 12% note creating an enabling environment for WPS to be a key concern, including the monitoring of the implementation of National Action Plans. Other programmatic priority areas for CSOs also include mental health, legal support and human rights.

In 2023, CSOs were asked for the first time about climate security and to what extent they consider climate insecurity to be exacerbating the conflict/humanitarian crisis in their country. Referring to the negative physical (climate-related) impacts that exacerbate food, water, or livelihood insecurity which can lead to increased pressure on peace and security in fragile and conflict-affected settings, 43% of all CSOs responding noted that there is a high risk that climate change is exacerbating the situation and will worsen in the future, with this trend being most pronounced in both Arab States (55%) and Africa (48%).

The Way Forward

Despite the gains made since UNSCR 1325 and the global calls for enhanced women’s leadership and participation in WPS-HA, continued and dedicated financing is needed to support local women peacebuilders, humanitarians and women human rights defenders and their organizations’ work to build peace, advance gender equality and respond to crisis. Not only does financing need to increase, but funding modalities from the international community and private sector actors need to continue to be flexible and aligned with the realities of grassroots organizations working on the frontlines in crisis and conflict settings. It is essential to sustain local women’s organizations’ leadership, work and impact to avoid rolling back vital progress made on inclusive peace and the realization of women’s rights.

Recommendations for Donors and Key Actors in the International Community

Accelerate flexible and quality funding to support local women’s rights organizations working in crisis and conflict settings, including multi-year institutional/core funding and programmatic funding which extends beyond 24 months.

Mainstream key emerging priorities such as food security and climate security within the WPS-HA context and providing local women’s organizations with spaces to respond contextually to these priorities and based on their experiences.

Recognize the value of and supporting the safety, security and well-being of CSO personnel and volunteers and encouraging integration of initiatives such as psychosocial support and mental health support which will ensure their well-being is prioritized.

Invest in strengthening the institutional capacity of local women’s organizations working in conflict and crisis settings to increase their access to funding, improve their financial and risk management, enhance their agility to adapt, and support the overall continuation and sustainability of their work to impact WPS-HA.

Provide spaces to local women’s organizations to consult and receive technical support from funders during the design phase to ensure more impactful interventions, and to have opportunities to build their internal capacity in resource mobilization with other donors.

Minimize the need for arduous documentation and processes for local and youth grassroots organizations in applying for funds for WPS-HA, including diverse languages, streamlined templates, more support/guidance on project proposal writing and in implementation, while still ensuring a demand-driven and contextual process.

Invest and support for women human rights defenders and civil society organizations facing increased threats and retaliation with emerging crisis and conflicts.
APPENDIX E

Issues Report

1. INTRODUCTION

The following report outlines the measures and actions taken by WPHF and Management Entities (ME) for WPHF funded projects in relation to cases of fraud, corruption, Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (SEAH) and other allegations about WPHF-funded organizations.

In 2023, seven new cases involving mismanagement of finances, fraud or corruption were detected by MEs, including five in PNG and one in Afghanistan and Lebanon respectively. Previous cases from 2021 in Uganda and Nigeria, and in 2022 in the D.R.C and Malawi have been successfully closed and remaining funds allocated and absorbed for successful project implementation by five WPHF partners.

UN Women Country offices (CO) as ME apply the UN Women Policy on Fraud and Corruption & Addressing Allegations of Fraud by a Partner or its Personnel, revised in June 2021.

The following report outlines the measures and actions taken by WPHF and Management Entities (ME) for WPHF funded projects in relation to cases of fraud, corruption, Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (SEAH) and other allegations about WPHF-funded organizations.

In 2023, seven new cases involving mismanagement of finances, fraud or corruption were detected by MEs, including five in PNG and one in Afghanistan and Lebanon respectively. Previous cases from 2021 in Uganda and Nigeria, and in 2022 in the D.R.C and Malawi have been successfully closed and remaining funds allocated and absorbed for successful project implementation by five WPHF partners.

2. CASES INVOLVING ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION, ABUSE, AND HARASSMENT

In 2023 no cases of misconduct were registered under this category.

3. CASES INVOLVING MISMANAGEMENT OF FINANCES, FRAUD AND CORRUPTION

CASES FROM 2021:

Uganda: The cases have been successfully closed and remaining funds of the two projects terminated used to cover currency exchange losses.

Nigeria: The National Steering Committee has reallocated the remaining funds in line with the Rules and Regulations of the WPHF in 2023 to another organization that was on the shortlist. This project has successfully closed in December 2023.

CASES FROM 2022:

D.R.C: The audit findings raised severe gaps in the financial management of one partner organization and the decision was taken to terminate the project. The remaining funds were then distributed to two ongoing projects by the NSC, which have successfully closed.

Malawi: The UN Women office continued efforts to retrieve the misappropriated funds without success and a write off was approved. The NSC has reallocated the remaining funds from this partner to two ongoing projects from the same call for proposals in line with the rules and regulations of the WPHF, and which have now successfully closed.

NEW CASES FROM 2023:

PNG: Five partners were found to have misused and mismanagement of funds, based on which UN Women terminated both projects and funds have been reallocated to other partners in PNG.

Afghanistan: During the capacity assessment stage, a false registration document of one of the selected organizations from CfP 2 was discovered. Consequently, the organization was excluded, and the funds allocated to another project and approved by the NSC.

Lebanon: A project partner was found of breaching good governance, anti-fraud and conflict of interest policies and the UN Women Office paused the partnership to conduct further investigations. The partner was given the option to rectify the situation, however this was not accomplished by the partner. Hence, the project was terminated and after consultation with the NSC, the remaining funds from the organization were allocated to a successfully ongoing project for a cost extension and an additional project from the reserve list was selected.

References

2 Ibid.
3 Ibid.
4 Ibid.
6 Institutional funding refers to resources provided to an organization to sustain themselves through a crisis and build its institutional capacity. This is also referred to as core funding.
8 See also reports by AWID and Mama Cash (November 2020). Moving More Money to the Drivers of Change: How Bilateral and Multilateral Funders can Resource Feminist Movements.

For additional information on the WPHF, please visit:

- WPHF’s Regular Funding Cycle: https://wphfund.org/calls-for-proposals/
- WPHF’s Rapid Response Window: https://wphfund.org/rrw/
- WPHF's Funding Window for Women Human Rights Defenders: https://wphfund.org/whrds/
- WPHF’s Global Learning Hub: https://wphfund.org/community/
4. TERRORIST LISTS
In 2023, no cases were registered.

5. MITIGATION MEASURES
Risks and mitigation measures linked to anti-corruption and fraud as well as Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) are integrated in the WPHF risk matrix, as found in its Operations Manual. Concerning the mismanagement of funds, the WPHF Secretariat submits budgets and allocation suggestions, as well as relevant ME/Transmittal forms to the WPHF Funding Board for review and approval for each call for proposals. In country, the ME also conducts regular financial checks and controls as per its respective rules and regulations as well as financial trainings with WPHF COS partners. In line with the respective financial rules and regulations of the ME, any partnership based on any sign of financial mismanagement the partnership and all activities are paused, and an investigation conducted. The WPHF is informed throughout the process and next steps are being discussed with the ME. Where a case of financial mismanagement is evidenced, the ME will terminate the project, inform the WPHF and request the funds misappropriated to be repaid and take any other legal measure, if necessary. The WPHF informs all relevant internal and external stakeholders as appropriate.

All Partnership Cooperation Agreements (PCA) of UN Women include language on SEA. WPHF has a zero-tolerance policy towards SEA and all cases reported have to be investigated. Therefore, during inception meetings with grantees SEA and the zero-tolerance policy towards SEA is being stressed. In case SEA is evidence the Management Entity will terminate the contract with the grantee after consulting the WPHF NSE. At the country level organizations are checked against the UN Security Council consolidated sanctions list before contracts are signed for organizations are checked against the UN Security Council grantees after consulting the WPHF NSC. At the country level, Management Entity will terminate the contract with the grantee after consulting the WPHF NSC. At the country level, Management Entity will terminate the contract with the grantee after consulting the WPHF NSC.

6. WPHF GLOBAL LEARNING HUB AND COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE
As part of WPHF Global Learning Hub (L-HUB), a series of webinars and training materials on risk management, anti-corruption and PSEA have been developed in order to reinforce CSO’s knowledge. This includes resources developed in partnership with UN Women’s Uganda on risk management and anti-corruption, outlining the different forms of fraud and bribery and provides effective strategies to detect them. Examples of CSO’s anti-corruption policies and response mechanisms that can be adopted were also included, aiming to encourage the reporting of fraud cases within CSOs. The webinar recording on risk management and fraud conducted in 2022 registered 28 views in 2023. An additional resource developed in 2022, Response to Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH), in collaboration with PSEAH and safeguarding experts from CARE International, has continued to be made available in multiple languages through the L-HUB digital library. The module which defines and presents different forms of SEA and provides effective strategies to detect and report cases, also includes a Tip Sheet ‘Acting against Sexual Harassment, Exploitation and Abuse in Civil Society Organizations.

According to the WPHF Annual CSO Survey 2023, several organizations declared using new methods to prevent SEA and improve their internal policy and institutional practices because of WPHF learning opportunities. For example, CSOs have reported they have established internal PSEA processes, updated their PSEA policies and trained their employees on this issue. Participants have noted, “we have built a stronger structure to prevent and with PSEA and Fraud”, and “since the webinar we have put in place policies to protect and combat sexual abuse and exploitation and deeds of commitments have been signed by staff and members of our organisation”. In 2024, additional webinars and knowledge exchange sessions will be organized in multiple languages to engage new CSO partners in the culture of risk prevention, share good practices and examples of zero-tolerance to SEA strategies, and foster the adoption of anti-fraud and PSEA procedures.

APPENDIX F
CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT of the Administrative Agent

DEFINITIONS
Allocation/Total Approved Budget
Amount approved by the Steering Committee for a project/programme. The total approved budget represents the cumulative amount of allocations approved by the Steering Committee.

Approved Project/Programme
A project/programme including budget, etc., that is approved by the Steering Committee for fund allocation purposes.

Contributor Commitment
Amount(s) committed by a contributor to a Fund in a signed donor agreement with the UNDP Multi Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office), in its capacity as the Administrative Agent. A commitment may be paid or pending payment.

Contributor Deposit
Cash deposit received by the MPTF Office for the Fund from a contributor in accordance with a signed donor agreement.

Delivery Rate
The percentage of funds that have been utilized, calculated by comparing expenditures reported by a Participating Organization and Non-UN Organization against the ‘net funded amount’. This does not include expense commitments by Participating Organizations.

ORIC PSEA Working Group
A series of webinars and training materials on risk management, anti-corruption and PSEAH have been developed in order to reinforce CSO’s knowledge. This includes resources developed in partnership with UN Women’s Uganda on risk management and anti-corruption, outlining the different forms of fraud and bribery and provides effective strategies to detect them. Examples of CSO’s anti-corruption policies and response mechanisms that can be adopted were also included, aiming to encourage the reporting of fraud cases within CSOs. The webinar recording on risk management and fraud conducted in 2022 registered 28 views in 2023. An additional resource developed in 2022, Response to Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH), in collaboration with PSEAH and safeguarding experts from CARE International, has continued to be made available in multiple languages through the L-HUB digital library. The module which defines and presents different forms of SEA and provides effective strategies to detect and report cases, also includes a Tip Sheet ‘Acting against Sexual Harassment, Exploitation and Abuse in Civil Society Organizations.

In country, the ME also conducts regular financial checks and controls as per its respective rules and regulations of the ME, any partnership based on any sign of financial mismanagement the partnership and all activities are paused, and an investigation conducted. The WPHF is informed throughout the process and next steps are being discussed with the ME. Where a case of financial mismanagement is evidenced, the ME will terminate the project, inform the WPHF and request the funds misappropriated to be repaid and take any other legal measure, if necessary. The WPHF informs all relevant internal and external stakeholders as appropriate.

In 2024, additional webinars and knowledge exchange sessions will be organized in multiple languages to engage new CSO partners in the culture of risk prevention, share good practices and examples of zero-tolerance to SEA strategies, and foster the adoption of anti-fraud and PSEAH procedures.

27 The video was not made public, only to targeted CSOs.
Project Operational Closure
A project or programme is deemed operationally closed once all activities funded for Participating Organization(s) have been concluded, and the Steering Committee has approved the final narrative report.

Project Start Date
Project/ Joint programme start date as per the programmatic document.

US Dollar Amount
The financial data in the report is recorded in US Dollars.

Transferred Funds
Funds transferred to Participating Organizations by the Administrative Agent in accordance with the Steering Committee’s request.

INTRODUCTION
This Consolidated Annual Financial Report of the Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund is prepared by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) in fulfillment of its obligations as Administrative Agent, as per the terms of Reference (TOR), the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the UNDP MPTF Office and the Participating Organizations, and the donor agreement signed with contributors/donors.

The MPTF Office, as Administrative Agent, is responsible for concluding an MOU with Participating Organizations and donor agreements with contributors/donors. It receives, administers and manages contributions, and disburses these funds to the Participating Organizations. The Administrative Agent prepares and submits annual consolidated financial reports, as well as regular financial statements, for transmission to stakeholders.

This consolidated financial report covers the period 1 January to 31 December 2023 and provides financial data on progress made in the implementation of projects of the Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund. It is posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY (https://mptf.undp.org/fund/gai00).

2023 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

This chapter presents financial data and analysis of the Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund using the pass-through funding modality as of 31 December 2023. Financial information for this Fund is also available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY, at the following address: https://mptf.undp.org/fund/gai00.

1. SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS

As of 31 December 2023, 24 contributors deposited US$ 156,995,801 and US$ 1,885,940 was earned in interest. The cumulative source of funds was US$ 158,881,741. Of this amount, US$ 111,645,423 has been net funded to 27 Participating Organizations, 5 non-UN organizations (NUNos) and a country level Fund, of which US$ 65,674,111 has been reported as expenditure. The Administrative Agent fee has been charged at the approved rate of 1% on deposits and amounts to US$ 1,569,958. Table 1 provides an overview of the overall sources, uses, and balance of the Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund as of 31 December 2023.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sources of Funds</th>
<th>Prior Years Up To 31 Dec 2022</th>
<th>Financial Year Jan-Dec 2023</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions from donors</td>
<td>116,507,805</td>
<td>40,487,996</td>
<td>156,995,801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-total Contributions</td>
<td>116,507,805</td>
<td>40,487,996</td>
<td>156,995,801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Interest and Investment Income Earned</td>
<td>740,798</td>
<td>1,145,142</td>
<td>1,885,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: Sources of Funds</td>
<td>117,248,603</td>
<td>41,633,138</td>
<td>158,881,741</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use of Funds</th>
<th>Prior Years Up To 31 Dec 2022</th>
<th>Financial Year Jan-Dec 2023</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transfers to Participating Organizations</td>
<td>64,013,834</td>
<td>34,966,674</td>
<td>98,980,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers to MPTFs</td>
<td>4,250,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4,250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers to Participating Organizations for Direct Cost - Fund Secretariat etc</td>
<td>5,420,985</td>
<td>2,994,380</td>
<td>8,415,365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Total Transfers</td>
<td>73,684,819</td>
<td>37,961,054</td>
<td>111,645,873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refunds received from Participating Organizations for Direct Cost</td>
<td>(450)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(450)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Total Refunds</td>
<td>(450)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(450)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Agent Fees</td>
<td>1,165,078</td>
<td>404,880</td>
<td>1,569,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Charges</td>
<td>1,928</td>
<td>1,445</td>
<td>3,373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: Uses of Funds</td>
<td>74,851,375</td>
<td>38,367,379</td>
<td>113,218,754</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Change in Fund Cash Balance with Administrative Agent | 42,397,228 | 3,265,759 | 45,662,987 |
| Opening Fund balance (1 January) | 33,343,741 | 42,397,228 |
| Closing Fund balance (31 December) | 42,397,228 | 45,662,987 |
| Net Funded Amount (Includes Direct Cost) | 73,684,819 | 37,961,054 | 111,645,873 |
| Participating Organizations Expenditure (Includes Direct Cost) | 40,284,323 | 25,389,788 | 65,674,111 |
| Balance of Funds with Participating Organizations | 33,400,046 | 12,571,266 | 45,971,312 |

*Contracts for two contributions of USD 5 million from USAID and USD 386,326 disbursed from the United Nations Foundation were signed in 2023 and as such are being counted towards 2023 Resource Mobilization figures amounting to USD 45,874,323.
### 2. PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

Table 2 provides information on cumulative contributions received from all contributors to this fund as of 31 December 2023. The Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund is currently being financed by 24 contributors, as listed in the table below.

#### Table 2. Contributions, as of 31 December 2023 (in US Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTRIBUTORS</th>
<th>TOTAL COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>TOTAL DEPOSITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austrian Development Agency</td>
<td>12,279,931</td>
<td>12,279,931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Albania</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Australia</td>
<td>8,253,847</td>
<td>8,253,847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Belgium</td>
<td>2,117,175</td>
<td>2,117,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Canada</td>
<td>9,652,242</td>
<td>9,652,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Cyprus</td>
<td>51,500</td>
<td>51,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Estonia</td>
<td>24,264</td>
<td>24,264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Germany</td>
<td>70,915,685</td>
<td>70,915,685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Ireland</td>
<td>377,672</td>
<td>377,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Italy</td>
<td>2,239,597</td>
<td>2,239,597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Japan</td>
<td>10,231,297</td>
<td>10,231,297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Liechtenstein</td>
<td>52,500</td>
<td>52,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Lithuania</td>
<td>377,672</td>
<td>377,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Malta</td>
<td>24,264</td>
<td>24,264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of the Netherlands</td>
<td>2,272,727</td>
<td>2,272,727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Norway</td>
<td>11,704,323</td>
<td>11,704,323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Slovenia</td>
<td>11,704,323</td>
<td>11,704,323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Spain</td>
<td>3,103,477</td>
<td>3,103,477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Switzerland</td>
<td>421,000</td>
<td>421,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of the United Kingdom (Foreign, Commonwealth &amp; Development Office)</td>
<td>3,666,208</td>
<td>3,666,208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of the United Kingdom</td>
<td>3,676,789</td>
<td>3,676,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sida</td>
<td>2,380,541</td>
<td>2,380,541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN Foundation / UN Partnership Office</td>
<td>2,152,174</td>
<td>2,152,174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRAND TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>156,995,801</strong></td>
<td><strong>156,995,801</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

28 Contracts for contributions of USD 1,000,000 from USAID and USD 386,326 disbursed from the United Nations Foundation were signed in 2023 and have therefore been counted towards the overall 2023 resource mobilization figure of USD 45,874,323.

29 UN Foundation / UN Partnership Office: USD 2,586,500 in total commitments, as of 31 December 2023.

30 USAID: USD 15,000,000 in total commitments, as of 31 December 2023.

31 Grand total: USD 162,382,127 in total commitments, as of 31 December 2023.

### 2.2 SPOTLIGHT CONTRIBUTION

The Spotlight Initiative Fund is a contributor to the WPHF and has provided funding within the WPHF framework, governance structure, and oversight, while the administration remains in parallel due to the specific contracting modality of the EU Spotlight arrangement. The table below provides the details on the Spotlight contribution.

#### Table 2.2 Funding from Spotlight Initiative Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROJECT ID</th>
<th>FUND</th>
<th>APPROVED BUDGET (REAL-TIME)</th>
<th>TRANSFERS</th>
<th>REFUNDS</th>
<th>EXPENDITURES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>001177247</td>
<td>Spotlight Initiative Fund</td>
<td>$7,075,472</td>
<td>$7,075,472</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$6,726,676</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00123503</td>
<td>Spotlight Initiative Fund</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,888,489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00123504</td>
<td>Spotlight Initiative Fund</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,990,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00123505</td>
<td>Spotlight Initiative Fund</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$946,785</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Table 3. Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2023 (in US Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTEREST EARNED</th>
<th>PRIOR YEARS UP TO 31 DEC 2022</th>
<th>FINANCIAL YEAR JAN-DEC 2023</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Interest and Investment Income</td>
<td>740,798</td>
<td>1,145,142</td>
<td>1,885,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: Fund Interest Earned</td>
<td>740,798</td>
<td>1,145,142</td>
<td>1,885,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: Agency Interest Earned</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRAND TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>156,995,801</strong></td>
<td><strong>156,995,801</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,492,165</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Table 4. Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2023 (in US Dollars)

#### Table 4. Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2023 (in US Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTEREST EARNED</th>
<th>PRIOR YEARS UP TO 31 DEC 2022</th>
<th>FINANCIAL YEAR JAN-DEC 2023</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Interest and Investment Income</td>
<td>740,798</td>
<td>1,145,142</td>
<td>1,885,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: Fund Interest Earned</td>
<td>740,798</td>
<td>1,145,142</td>
<td>1,885,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: Agency Interest Earned</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRAND TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>156,995,801</strong></td>
<td><strong>156,995,801</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,492,165</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Table 4. Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2023 (in US Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTEREST EARNED</th>
<th>PRIOR YEARS UP TO 31 DEC 2022</th>
<th>FINANCIAL YEAR JAN-DEC 2023</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: Agency Interest Earned</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td><strong>11,492,165</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTEREST EARNED</th>
<th>PRIOR YEARS UP TO 31 DEC 2022</th>
<th>FINANCIAL YEAR JAN-DEC 2023</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>740,798</td>
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<td>1,145,142</td>
<td>1,885,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: Agency Interest Earned</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRAND TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>156,995,801</strong></td>
<td><strong>156,995,801</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,492,165</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Table 4. Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2023 (in US Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTEREST EARNED</th>
<th>PRIOR YEARS UP TO 31 DEC 2022</th>
<th>FINANCIAL YEAR JAN-DEC 2023</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>740,798</td>
<td>1,145,142</td>
<td>1,885,940</td>
</tr>
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<td>740,798</td>
<td>1,145,142</td>
<td>1,885,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: Agency Interest Earned</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRAND TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>156,995,801</strong></td>
<td><strong>156,995,801</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,492,165</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Allocations to Participating Organizations are approved by the Steering Committee and disbursed by the Administrative Agent. As of 31 December 2023, the AA has transferred US$ 111,645,873 to 2 Participating Organizations, 5 non-UN organizations (NUNOs) (see list below) and a country level Fund.

Table 4 provides additional information on the refunds received by the MPTF Office, and the net funded amount for each of the Participating Organizations.

Table 4. Transfer, Refund, and Net Funded Amount by Participating Organization (in US Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>APPROVED AMOUNT</th>
<th>NET FUNDED AMOUNT</th>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
<th>DELIVERY RATE %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prior Years up to 31-Dec-2022</td>
<td>Financial Year Jan-Dec-2023</td>
<td>Cumulative</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agr</td>
<td>110,720</td>
<td>249,127</td>
<td>359,847</td>
<td>359,847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COL FUND</td>
<td>4,250,000</td>
<td>4,250,000</td>
<td>4,250,000</td>
<td>4,250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DefendDef</td>
<td>319,888</td>
<td>399,971</td>
<td>719,859</td>
<td>719,859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMHRF</td>
<td>104,000</td>
<td>130,661</td>
<td>234,661</td>
<td>234,661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLD</td>
<td>192,218</td>
<td>406,495</td>
<td>598,713</td>
<td>598,713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MADRE</td>
<td>383,604</td>
<td>655,845</td>
<td>1,039,449</td>
<td>1,039,449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNFPA</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>666,390</td>
<td>666,390</td>
<td>666,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNWOMEN*</td>
<td>13,370,459</td>
<td>22,674,940</td>
<td>14,618,647</td>
<td>64.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNWOMEN NGO*</td>
<td>54,953,480</td>
<td>22,674,940</td>
<td>44,808,432</td>
<td>55.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>73,684,019</td>
<td>111,645,873</td>
<td>65,674,111</td>
<td>58.82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL DELIVERY RATES

All final expenditures reported are submitted as certified financial information by the Headquarters of the Participating Organizations. These were consolidated by the MPTF Office.

Joint programme/project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization, and are reported to the Administrative Agent as per the agreed upon categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. The expenditures are reported via the MPTF Office’s online expenditure reporting tool. The 2023 expenditure data has been posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY at https://mptf.undp.org/fund/gai00.

5.1 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION

In 2023, US$ 37,961,054 was net funded to Participating Organizations, and US$ 25,389,788 was reported in expenditure.

As shown in the table below, the cumulative net funded amount is US$ 111,645,423 and cumulative expenditures reported by the Participating Organizations amount to US$ 65,674,111. This equates to an overall Fund expenditure delivery rate of 58.82 percent.

Table 5.1 Net Funded Amount and Reported Expenditures by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2023 (in US Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>APPROVED AMOUNT</th>
<th>NET FUNDED AMOUNT</th>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
<th>DELIVERY RATE %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prior Years up to 31-Dec-2022</td>
<td>Financial Year Jan-Dec-2023</td>
<td>Cumulative</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agr</td>
<td>387,529</td>
<td>359,847</td>
<td>245,007</td>
<td>294,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COL, MPTF*</td>
<td>4,250,000</td>
<td>4,250,000</td>
<td>1,256,950</td>
<td>1,256,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DefendDef</td>
<td>799,859</td>
<td>719,859</td>
<td>464,315</td>
<td>533,734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMHRF</td>
<td>260,827</td>
<td>234,661</td>
<td>118,803</td>
<td>118,803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLD</td>
<td>607,690</td>
<td>598,713</td>
<td>465,093</td>
<td>465,093</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MADRE</td>
<td>1,083,534</td>
<td>1,039,449</td>
<td>999,745</td>
<td>999,745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNFPA</td>
<td>666,390</td>
<td>666,390</td>
<td>186,495</td>
<td>186,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNWOMEN*</td>
<td>26,435,156</td>
<td>22,674,940</td>
<td>44,808,432</td>
<td>44,808,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNWOMEN NGO*</td>
<td>80,341,990</td>
<td>22,674,940</td>
<td>65,674,111</td>
<td>65,674,111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>73,684,019</td>
<td>111,645,873</td>
<td>65,674,111</td>
<td>58.82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The expenditures reported represent payments made against obligations made by PUNOs prior to the operational closure of projects.
5.2. EXPENDITURES REPORTED BY CATEGORY

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization and are reported as per the agreed categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. In 2006 the UN Development Group (UNDG) established six categories against which UN entities must report inter-agency project expenditures. Effective 1 January 2012, the UN Chief Executives Board (CEB) modified these categories as a result of IPSAS adoption to comprise eight categories.

Table 5.2. Expenditure by UNSDG Budget Category, as of 31 December 2023 (in US Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL PROGRAMME COST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prior Years up to 31-Dec-2022</td>
<td>Financial Year Jan-Dec-2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff &amp; Personnel Cost</td>
<td>3,057,651</td>
<td>2,484,927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies, commodities and materials</td>
<td>1,594,328</td>
<td>57,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment, vehicles, furniture and depreciation</td>
<td>1,318,083</td>
<td>177,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractual Services Expenses</td>
<td>14,602,854</td>
<td>1,761,765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>2,393,441</td>
<td>819,743</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers and Grants</td>
<td>1,403,710</td>
<td>16,203,312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Operating</td>
<td>11,216,440</td>
<td>3,106,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Costs Total</td>
<td>35,586,508</td>
<td>24,611,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect Support Costs Total</td>
<td>4,697,815</td>
<td>778,622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAND TOTAL</td>
<td>40,284,323</td>
<td>25,389,788</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. COST RECOVERY

Indirect Support Costs charged by Participating Organization, based on their financial regulations, can be deducted upfront or at a later stage during implementation. The percentage may therefore appear to exceed the 7% agreed upon for on-going projects. Once projects are financially closed, this number is not to exceed 7%.

The policies in place, as of 31 December 2023, were as follows:

- **The Administrative Agent (AA) fee:** 1% is charged at the time of contributor deposit and covers services provided on that contribution for the entire duration of the Fund. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2023, US$ 1,569,958 has been charged in AA-fees.

- **Indirect Costs of Participating Organizations:** A general cost that cannot be directly related to any particular programme or activity of the Participating Organizations. Participating Organizations may charge 1% indirect costs based on UNSDG policy, establishing an indirect cost rate as a percentage of the programmable costs for interagency pass-through pool funds. In the current reporting period, US$ 778,622 was deducted in indirect costs by Participating Organizations. Cumulatively, indirect costs amount to US$ 5,476,437 as of 31 December 2023.

7. ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

In order to effectively provide fund administration services and facilitate monitoring and reporting to the UN system and its partners, the MPTF Office has developed a public website, the MPTF Office Gateway (https://mptf.undp.org). Refreshed daily from an internal enterprise resource planning system, the MPTF Office Gateway has become a standard setter for providing transparent and accountable trust fund administration services.

The Gateway provides financial information including: contributor commitments and deposits, approved programme budgets, transfers to and expenditures reported by Participating Organizations, interest income and other expenses. In addition, the Gateway provides an overview of the MPTF Office portfolio and extensive information on individual Funds, including their purpose, governance structure and key documents. By providing easy access to the growing number of narrative and financial reports, as well as related project documents, the Gateway collects and preserves important institutional knowledge and facilitates knowledge sharing and management among UN Organizations and their development partners, thereby contributing to UN coherence and development effectiveness.

8. DIRECT COSTS

The Fund governance mechanism may approve an allocation to a Participating Organization to cover costs associated with Fund coordination covering overall coordination, and fund level reviews and evaluations. These allocations are referred to as ‘direct costs’. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2023, US$ 8,414,915 has been charged as Direct Costs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>APPROVED AMOUNT</th>
<th>NET FUNDED AMOUNT</th>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
<th>DELIVERY RATE %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prior Years up to 31-Dec-2022</td>
<td>Financial Year Jan-Dec-2023</td>
<td>Cumulative</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNWOMEN</td>
<td>8,415,365</td>
<td>8,414,915</td>
<td>4,603,109</td>
<td>2,918,178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>8,415,365</td>
<td>8,414,915</td>
<td>4,603,109</td>
<td>2,918,178</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Annexes to Financial Report

ANNEX 1. EXPENDITURE BY PROJECT GROUPED BY THEME/OUTCOME

Annex 1 displays the net funded amounts, expenditures reported and the financial delivery rates by Theme/Outcome by project/joint programme and Participating Organization.

Table Annex 1: Expenditure by Project within Theme/Outcome/Window

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WINDOW / PROJECT NO. AND PROJECT TITLE / PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>PROJECT STATUS</th>
<th>TOTAL APPROVED AMOUNT</th>
<th>NET FUNDED AMOUNT</th>
<th>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</th>
<th>DELIVERY RATE %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CONFLICT PREVENTION</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00112903</td>
<td>ME Function of the Global Acce</td>
<td>On Going</td>
<td>3,276,147</td>
<td>3,276,147</td>
<td>2,957,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00124176</td>
<td>Iraq (outcome 1 &amp; 2)</td>
<td>UNWOMN NGO</td>
<td>On Going</td>
<td>5,693,747</td>
<td>5,693,747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00125451</td>
<td>Management Entity (ME) functio</td>
<td>UNWOMN NGO</td>
<td>On Going</td>
<td>2,140,799</td>
<td>2,140,799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00131730</td>
<td>ME function of the Women's Pea</td>
<td>UNWOMN NGO</td>
<td>On Going</td>
<td>1,643,625</td>
<td>1,643,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00140287</td>
<td>Palestine (Outcome 2) ME funct</td>
<td>UNWOMN NGO</td>
<td>On Going</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00140371</td>
<td>Niger (Outcome 2) ME WPHF</td>
<td>UNWOMN NGO</td>
<td>On Going</td>
<td>1,972,848</td>
<td>1,972,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conflict Prevention: Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16,727,165</td>
<td>16,727,165</td>
<td>11,744,278</td>
<td>70.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COVID-19 Emergency Resp Window</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00125511</td>
<td>ME function of the WPHF COVID</td>
<td>UNWOMN NGO</td>
<td>On Going</td>
<td>5,999,289</td>
<td>5,999,289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00125557</td>
<td>ME function of the WPHF COVID</td>
<td>UNWOMN NGO</td>
<td>On Going</td>
<td>769,694</td>
<td>769,694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COVID-19 Emergency Resp Window: Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6,768,983</td>
<td>6,768,983</td>
<td>6,350,145</td>
<td>93.81</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CRISIS RELIEF</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00105405</td>
<td>ME Function of the Global Acce</td>
<td>UNWOMN NGO</td>
<td>On Going</td>
<td>2,018,628</td>
<td>2,018,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00105703</td>
<td>ME function of the WPHF</td>
<td>UNWOMN NGO</td>
<td>On Going</td>
<td>1,999,789</td>
<td>1,999,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00116785</td>
<td>WPHF ME DRC</td>
<td>UNWOMN NGO</td>
<td>On Going</td>
<td>1,581,800</td>
<td>1,581,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00118001</td>
<td>WPHF Iraq (outcome 3)</td>
<td>UNWOMN NGO</td>
<td>Financially Closed</td>
<td>490,936</td>
<td>490,936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Crisis Relief: Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14,331,032</td>
<td>14,331,032</td>
<td>10,344,101</td>
<td>72.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DIRECT COST BUDGET</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00101769</td>
<td>WPHF Secretariat DC</td>
<td>UNWOMEN</td>
<td>On Going</td>
<td>8,173,738</td>
<td>8,173,738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00119411</td>
<td>Global Women's Forum for Peace</td>
<td>UNWOMEN</td>
<td>Financially Closed</td>
<td>241,177</td>
<td>241,177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Direct Cost Budget: Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8,415,915</td>
<td>8,415,915</td>
<td>7,521,488</td>
<td>89.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ENABLING ENVIRONMENT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00134245</td>
<td>ME function of the Women's Pea</td>
<td>UNWOMN NGO</td>
<td>On Going</td>
<td>1,034,303</td>
<td>1,034,303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Enabling Environment: Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,034,303</td>
<td>1,034,303</td>
<td>107,395</td>
<td>10.38</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>GLOBAL LEARNING HUB</strong></td>
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<th>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</th>
<th>DELIVERY RATE %</th>
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Annex 2 displays the net funded amounts, expenditures reported and the financial delivery rates by Country by project/joint programme and Participating Organization.

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<th>TOTAL APPROVED AMOUNT</th>
<th>NET FUNDED AMOUNT</th>
<th>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</th>
<th>DELIVERY RATE %</th>
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<td>1,709,814</td>
<td>1,709,814</td>
<td>1,302,255</td>
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<td>00140373 Lebanon (Outcome 5) ME WPHF</td>
<td>1,459,271</td>
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<td>3,169,085</td>
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<td>1,302,255</td>
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<td>00132698 ME function of the Women's Pea</td>
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<td>00133172 ME function of the Women's Pea</td>
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**CONTRIBUTORS**

- Austrian Development Agency
- Government of Albania
- Government of Australia
- Government of Belgium
- Government of Canada
- Government of Cyprus
- Government of Estonia
- Government of Germany
- Government of Iceland
- Government of Ireland
- Government of Italy
- Government of Japan
- Government of Liechtenstein
- Government of Lithuania
- Government of Malta
- Government of Netherlands
- Government of Norway
- Government of Slovenia
- Government of Spain
- Government of Switzerland
- Government of the United Kingdom (Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office)
- Sida
- UN Foundation/UN Partnership Office
- USAID
UN PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

UNFPA
UN Women

OTHER PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

Agir Ensemble
FLD (Front Line Defenders)
Defend Defenders
Colombia Post
Conflict MPTF
Madre Inc.

EMHRF (Euro-Mediterranean Foundation of Support to Human Rights Defenders)

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