

Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2024

(Regular Funding Cycle)

Country	Submitted by PUNO(s) UN Women or NUNO(s) ¹		
Uganda	Name of Entity: UN Women		
	Name of Representative: Paulina Chiwangu		
MPTF Project Number (s)	Reporting Period		
00125449	January 1 - December 31, 2024		
Track Select all that apply			
Regular Funding Track			
Emergency Funding Track			
WPHF Outcomes ² to which report contributes for repo	rting period Select all that apply		
Outcome 1: Enabling Environment for WPS	Outcome 4: Conflict Resolution		
Outcome 2: Conflict prevention	Outcome 5: Protection of Women & Girls		
Outcome 3: Humanitarian and Crisis Response	Outcome 6: Peacebuilding and Recovery		
Programme Start Date	Total Approved Budget (USD)		
1 st December 2023	USD 2,062,513		
Programme End Date	Amount Transferred to CSOs (USD)		
31 May 2026	USD 882,629.37		

¹ Non-UN Organization. Applicable to Rapid Response Window for Peace Processes

² As per WPHF results framework nested model, WPHF outcome areas are equivalent to the impact level for grantees



Executive Summary

In 1 page, summarize the most important achievements of the Programme during the reporting period. The executive summary should be <u>an analysis and consolidation</u> of the achievements and should serve as a standalone summary of the WPHF country' results for the year. Please include:

a) Background on WPHF: overview of calls for proposals (CfPs) that were launched (date), and details on NSC meetings, how many CSOs were selected, and when implementation is estimated to begin/has begun

b) How WPHF funding has contributed to advancing WPS, gender equality and peacebuilding, gender-responsive humanitarian action in the country and explain if any linkages with national processes (NAPs, humanitarian response, peace processes, etc) or how it aligns with country priorities.

c) Overall/consolidated WPHF impact at the country level by Outcome

d) One sentence with the consolidated direct and indirect beneficiaries (disaggregated by sex).

e) Overall challenges (based on context)

f) *If the CO has received additional funding for capacity strengthening (5%) and/or if CSOs received L-HUB grants for peer learning initiatives, please include one sentence on the results.*

In September 2023, the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) launched a third Call for Proposals (CfP) for Uganda under its regular funding window, focusing on Impact Area 2 (Conflict Prevention), Impact Area 5 (Protection of Women and Girls) and Institutional Funding. Following a rigorous selection process, 12 grantees were approved during the National Steering Committee (NSC) meetings in November 2023 to implement projects across Uganda, including in Central Buganda, Busoga, Rwenzori, West Nile, and Western Uganda. After onboarding in early 2024, implementation began in April 2024, marking a significant milestone in promoting gender-responsive peacebuilding and humanitarian efforts across the country.

WPHF funding has played a key role in advancing Uganda's Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda, gender equality, and peacebuilding efforts. The program aligns with Uganda's Third National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security 2021-2025 (NAP III), Uganda's National Development Plan III, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee GBV Cluster Guidelines, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 5 and 16, fostering a multi-sectoral approach to GBV prevention and response and peacebuilding. Integrating peacebuilding with GBV activities has enhanced the protection of women and girls while promoting their meaningful participation in peace and security processes, as envisioned by UNSCR 1325. WPHF grants also contribute critical resourcing towards the implementation of NAP III, which, while comprehensive in its approach, remains significantly under-funded. The new grants also build on the successes of the previous WPHF program (2021–2023), ensuring women's rights and leadership remain at the forefront of national priorities.

In 2024, the program benefited 13,346 direct beneficiaries (8,170 Women and 5,176 men) and an estimated 3,586,322 indirect beneficiaries. Under Impact Area 2, there was increased meaningful participation and decision-making of 399 women in conflict prevention processes and response. A total of 225 conflict cases were resolved and an additional 5 referred because of WPHF interventions. Under Impact Area 5, 20 additional CSOs have been reached in capacity strengthening efforts to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), 76 young women now have access to sustainable livelihoods through vocational training, 81 women with disabilities are now empowered following psychosocial support and strengthened community protection and response, and over 3,000 men and boys have become champions for gender equality and fighting GBV. Institutional strengthening has also helped multiple grantees access funding from additional sources, enabling them to continue to deliver their mandates and missions in a sustainable way.

Beyond programmatic grants to CSOs, 5% of the program budget was allocated to strengthen CSO capacities, enhancing project delivery and sustainability. This was realised through targeted capacity strengthening on key topics of interest including reporting, financial management, and communications, including taking a peer-learning approach among the grantees. As a result, accountability among 12 grantees has been strengthened through improved narrative and financial reporting, ensuring timely submission of quality quarterly reports. Additionally, enhanced communication skills developed through the peer-to-peer learning approach contributed to the development of eight success stories—one published, three under review by the secretariat, and four pending publications, effectively showcasing project impact and lessons learned.

Through the WPHF Global Learning Hub (L-HUB) initiative, two grantees, Great Lakes Union for Inclusive Development (GUIDE) and Women's Organization Network for Human Rights Advocacy (WONETHA) were also successful in applying for additional grant of USD 8,000 each to support peer learning activities with other CSOs, fostering collaboration, solidarity, and recognition of women-led CSOs' contributions in their respective fields, which will start implementation in 2025.

Despite these achievements, challenges persist. CSOs experienced delays in obtaining Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with local governments due to a new approval process requiring clearance from the State Attorney, which delayed some project timelines. Nevertheless, the WPHF program continues to address these barriers and acceleration plans have been discussed as needed, ensuring that results will be achieved during the project period.



1. Project Profile for Reporting Period

Use the following table for an overview by each project/organization. For each grant (programmatic, institutional and L-HUB grants), please use a separate row. Refer to definitions in the footnotes.

Funding CFP ³	Lead Organization Name	Type of Organization ⁴	WPHF Outcome/ Impact Area ⁵	Project Location (State, Province or Region)	Name of Implementing Partner(s) and type of Organisation ⁶	Project Start and End Date as per Partner Agreements ⁷	Total Approved Budget (USD)
CfP3	Action for Humanitarian Initiatives Uganda AFHI	Women's Rights/Led	Outcome 5	Nakivale Refugee Settlement, Isingiro District	Prosperity Mission Uganda (youth-led, refugee- led)	30 April 2024-30 April 2026	200,000
CfP3	The African Institute for Investigative Journalism AIIJ	Women Led	Outcome 2	Wakiso and Jinja city	N/A	13 May 2024-31 August 2025	102,581
CfP3	Association of Refugees with Disability ARD	Women's Rights	Institutional Funding	Kampala	N/A	25 April 2024-14 April 2025	30,000
CfP3	Community Empowerment and Rehabilitation Initiative for Development CERID	Youth Focused	Outcome 5	Koboko Municipality, Koboko District	N/A	9 May 2024-30 April 2026	200,000
CfP3	Great Lakes Union for Inclusive Development GUIDE	Women's Rights/Young Women Led	Institutional Funding	Mpigi	N/A	9 May 2024-30 April 2025	30,000
CfP3	Kolir Women Development Organization KOWDO	Women's Rights/Led	Outcome 2	Mbale, Tororo, Bududa	N/A	30 April 2024-30 April 2026	200,000
CfP3	Mid-Western Region Anti-Corruption Coalition MIRAC	Women's Rights	Outcome 2	Hoima City, Hoima District, and Kikuube District	N/A	9 May 2024-30 April 2026	180,000
CfP3	Northern Uganda Widows and Orphans Support Organization NUWOSO	Women's Rights/Led	Outcome 5	Agago, Lamwo and Nwoya districts	1. Organization for Development of Women in Lamwo (ODOWOL) (woman's rights/led) 2. Nwoya Women Organization Development Initiative (NWODI) (woman's rights/led)	9 May 2024-14 Apr- 2026	190,000
CfP3	Paradigm for Social Change and Development PSD	Women's Rights/Led	Outcome 2	Busiro North, Busiro East and Busiro South	N/A	13 May 2024-30 April 2026	200,000

³ For each grant, indicate if it is Country CfP 1; CfP 2; CfP 3, etc. Please also note if it is a CfP for the Food Security Initiative, Climate Security Initiative, Forced Displacement Initiative, or Peer Learning Grant

⁴ Type of organizations are: i) Women's Led; ii) Women's Rights; iii) Both Women-led and Women's Rights; iv) Youth Focused; v) young women led; vi) both youth focused/young women led; vii) LGBTQI+; viii) Other as identified by the CSO.

⁵ WPHF Outcomes are Outcome 1: Enabling environment for the implementation of WPS commitments; Outcome 2: Conflict prevention; Outcome 3: Humanitarian and Crisis Response; Outcome 4: Conflict resolution; Outcome 5: Protection; Outcome 6: Peacebuilding and recovery. If the partner received institutional funding, please use this column to note this. As per WPHF results framework nested model, WPHF outcome areas are equivalent to the impact level for grantees

⁶ For each co- implementing partner (those on cover page and who received a transfer), state if they are i) Women's Led; ii) Women's Rights; iii) Both Women-led and Women's Rights; iv) Youth-led/focused; or v) Other. ⁷ Use the official start and end dates as per the partner agreement and/or amendment. If the project received an extension, please note this.



Funding CFP ³	Lead Organization Name	Type of Organization ⁴	WPHF Outcome/ Impact Area ⁵	Project Location (State, Province or Region)	Name of Implementing Partner(s) and type of Organisation ⁶	Project Start and End Date as per Partner Agreements ⁷	Total Approved Budget (USD)
CfP3	Rwenzori Forum for Peace and Justice RFPJ	Other	Outcome 2	Kasese, Bundibugyo, Ntoroko, Kyenjojo and Kabarole districts	N/A	9 May 2024-30 Apr 2026	200,000
CfP3	SHED	Women's Rights/Led	Outcome 2	Kampala, Wakiso and Kayunga	KAD Initiative Uganda (women's rights organization)	9 May 2024-30 April 2026	200,000
CfP3	Women's Organisation Network for Human Rights Advocacy WONEHTA	Women's Rights/Led	Institutional Funding	Wakiso	N/A	9 May 2024-30 April 2025	30,000



2. Beneficiaries and Reach (Consolidated)

a) Complete the Excel spreadsheet called "WPHF Beneficiary Template 2024" for each project and submit with your report. Instructions for this working sheet are found in the template. The excel sheet tracks beneficiaries by each CSO.
b) In the tables below, provide the <u>consolidated</u> number of direct beneficiaries reached for all projects during the reporting period and cumulative numbers.

Current Reporting Period (2024)						
Age Category	Women/Girls	Men/Boys	Other (LGBTQI+)	Total Direct	Indirect Beneficiaries	
0-17 years	0	0	0	0		
18-29 years	238 ⁸	161	0	399		
30 years +	7,932	5,015	0	12,947		
Total	8,170	5,176	0	13,346	3,586,322	

*ATTACH WPHF Excel Beneficiary Template.

Cumulative						
Age Category	Women/Girls	Men/Boys	Other (LGBTQI+)	Total Direct	Indirect Beneficiaries	
0-17 years	0	0	0	0		
18-29 years	238 ⁹	161	0	399		
30 years +	7,932	5,015	0	12,947		
Total	8,170	5,176	0	13,346	3,586,322	

3a. Context/New Developments

Describe any relevant updates in the peace/security/humanitarian/political/human rights context experienced by the country during the reporting period. Specifically describe how it has impacted women and operations at the country level.

In 2024, Uganda experienced significant political and security developments that shaped the country's peace and humanitarian landscape. Heightened tensions in the Rwenzori and West Nile regions due to resource-based conflicts and cross-border instability disrupted community cohesion and increased displacement. This instability disproportionately affected women and girls, intensifying their vulnerabilities to gender-based violence (GBV) and limiting their access to critical services such as healthcare and education. For WPHF operations, these conditions emphasized the need for targeted interventions to strengthen the resilience of women and their participation in conflict resolution and peacebuilding processes. The humanitarian context was further compounded by climatic shocks, including prolonged droughts and flash floods, which displaced communities and strained resources in the Busoga and Western regions. Women, as primary caregivers and key economic actors in these areas, bore the brunt of these challenges, with many forced into unsafe migration or informal labour to sustain their families. WPHF-funded projects implementing in the affected regions responded by integrating gender-responsive humanitarian action into their programming, ensuring that women had access to psychosocial support, livelihood opportunities, and GBV prevention services specifically in the Western region.

Uganda's political landscape in 2024 was notably influenced by preparations for the upcoming 2026 general elections, marked by the public release of the electoral roadmap. Women-led civil society organizations (CSOs) played a critical role in advocating for increased female participation in political processes. A prominent example occurred in September 2024, during a gathering in Gulu where the Uganda Women's Network called on the government and the Electoral Commission to implement policy reforms aimed at enhancing women's inclusion in leadership roles. The network highlighted the persistent underrepresentation of women in high-level political positions and urged for concrete, actionable changes to address this imbalance ahead of the elections. This advocacy underscores the urgent need to bridge gender gaps in political leadership and foster a more inclusive democratic process in Uganda, all the while promoting violence against women in elections; an area in which some WPHF grantees are placing specific focus.

In the realm of human rights, Uganda faced international scrutiny over environmental and social issues. A Human Rights Watch report found that the initial stages of a planned oil development in Hoima in the Mid-western region, including a pipeline, led to food insecurity and household debt among affected communities. These developments had significant implications for women's livelihoods, as they often bear the primary responsibility for household sustenance.

These political and human rights contexts significantly impact the operations of the WPHF in Uganda as persistent challenges of GBV and the socio-economic effects of large-scale projects necessitate a strategic focus on supporting women's rights initiatives and enhancing community resilience. WPHF's commitment to supporting women-led CSOs in these contexts remained steadfast, with grantees playing a critical role in amplifying women's voices, fostering community resilience, and advancing Uganda's Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda amidst evolving challenges.

⁸ Kindly note that WPHF grantees in many cases were using a different disaggregation model so the breakdown of young women/young men and women/men may not be exact. Henceforth we will be asking the grantees to use the revised categorizations. ⁹ Ibid.



3b. Coordination in Humanitarian/WPS

Describe if your office has participated in any humanitarian/GBV in emergencies UN cluster meetings (CERF, UNFPA, IOM, UNHCR), or peace and security (PBF, UNDP, UNICEF) coordination meetings/efforts at the national level during the reporting period ? What were the outcomes of these meetings, and have WPHF partners been invited to brief?

In 2024, UN Women actively participated in key coordination efforts in humanitarian/GBV and WPS domains in Uganda. This included attending GBV in emergencies cluster meetings convened by UNHCR, as well as peace and security-focused coordination sessions under the sectoral frameworks in the Rwenzori and West Nile region. These engagements provided platforms for multi-stakeholder dialogue, aligning interventions, and addressing emerging challenges in Uganda's humanitarian and peacebuilding landscape.

During the GBV in emergencies cluster meetings, UN Women emphasized the need for gender-responsive interventions in conflict-affected regions, particularly in West Nile and Rwenzori region, which were hotspots of displacement and GBV cases. One significant outcome was the adoption of a localized action plan in Nakivale refugee settlement to integrate GBV prevention and response across sectors, including health, education, and protection. WPHF partners (CERID in West Nile and AFHI in South Western Region) contributed by sharing grassroots insights and identifying gaps in service delivery, enabling the cluster to prioritize survivor-cantered approaches and community-driven solutions.

UN Women Uganda also works closely with the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD) in implementing the Third National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (NAP III) and co-chairs the Technical Working Group on NAP III alongside the Ministry. In late 2024, UN Women and the MGLSD commenced a mid-term review of the NAP III and consultations were held in all regions. WPHF partners in districts where consultations were being held were invited to participate in these to ensure that their work and perspectives on NAP III implementation were properly captured. The outcome of this review, expected to be finalized in early 2025, will illustrate successes and challenges of NAP III implementation thus far, and will inform a potential extension of the current NAP beyond 2025 to ensure that the goals and targets can be achieved.

4a. Overall Results (Impact and Outcomes) Achieved

Country Level Impact and Results:

Provide a short, consolidated COUNTRY LEVEL description of the impact and results achieved for all projects (1-2 paragraphs maximum, drawing on the impact level indicators. DO NOT INCLUDE REACH NUMBERS.

The Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) significantly advanced peacebuilding and conflict prevention through a movement of 399 peace actors including local community women, women leaders and paralegals who collectively mediated and resolved 225 conflict cases such as land conflicts, electoral related conflicts, ethnic tensions, resource based conflicts (e.g. access to water and grazing land), gender based violence and domestic disputes, and conflicts arising from large scale investments like oil extractions, resulting in the protection of women and girls across Uganda's regions, including Acholi, Rwenzori, Buganda, Bugisu, West Nile, and Bunyoro. Among these, 58 pre-electoral conflicts cases were mapped, analysed and resolved by women leaders and community monitors demonstrating their effectiveness in local conflict resolution. Community leaders, peace monitors/ambassadors, and local council leaders have been empowered to address community conflicts effectively and advocate for gender-responsive policies such as the enforcement of inheritance law and succession laws to prevent property grabbing from widows and orphaned girls, and advocating for accessible legal aid services to support women to access justice. Further, key stakeholders such as female journalists are now publishing conflict-sensitive reporting and communities across the central mid-western regions have enhanced awareness on conflict prevention strategies which will be critical ahead of the 2026 elections.

WPHF's work has also contributed to economic empowerment of 29 Women and institutional resilience of 3 organizations who were able to retain 18 staff members (13 women and 5 men). Vocational training for vulnerable women and girls has equipped them with skills for improved wellbeing, self-reliance and economic stability. WPHF will continue tracking the women and girls' progress in 2025 as they enter the job market and/or start their own enterprises. Simultaneously, institutional strengthening efforts have bolstered organizational capacity in resource mobilization and financial management, resulting in the submission of successful funding proposals, including two via the WPHF Peer-Learning Awards. Together, these interventions have contributed to building sustainable peace, enhancing gender equality, and ensuring the meaningful participation of women in conflict prevention and community resilience efforts.

CSO Impact and Results:

a) Report on the results achieved¹⁰ or progress towards¹¹ results for EACH OUTCOME area and associated indicators for EACH project by WPHF impact area in the country. Also, use any relevant impact and outcome indicators from the CSO results framework (programmatic funding) to help illustrate the change, including the change from the previous year. <u>Do not describe</u> outputs or activities. Ensure that the linkages between the projects and building peace, gender equality and WPS are explained.

¹⁰ Progress achieved of the impact level or of an outcome is defined as actual change in the value of indicators being tracked as well as other indications that the project has had an effect in contributing to the impact/outcome as stated.

¹¹ Progress towards an outcome means the target has not yet been met but there is evidence (through data) of meeting incremental milestones towards the eventual achievement of the outcome.



4a. Overall Results (Impact and Outcomes) Achieved

b) If an organization has received funding under two impact areas (e.g., Stream 1 (Impact Area 1) and another impact area), please report them separately.

d) For any Global L-HUB grants, please report this in Section 8.

For countries with 10 projects or more, you can consolidate the impact and results by WPHF impact area, rather than for each individual project. Complete the Table in **Annex A: Summary of Results** for a summary of all results, ensuring they align with what is reported in the narrative section.

WPHF Impact Area 2: Conflict prevention

Impact statement: Increased meaningful participation and decision-making of women in conflict prevention processes and response

During 2024, 399 women peace actors mediated and resolved 225 conflict cases contributing to conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts in the target areas. Prior to WPHF interventions conflict prevention efforts were mostly reserved for select leaders at the sub-county level. However, with the WPHF interventions, there has been an increase in number of local community women in peace building processes through advocacy on gender-sensitive conflict prevention mechanisms such as Inclusive Early Warning and Response Systems, Community-Based Mediation, and Dialogue that were adopted across the target areas, contributing to a stronger and more gender-responsive policy framework.

"I never imagined I would mediate GBV cases in men's homes—but now, it's my daily work, and they listen to me." – Peace Monitor in Bududa district.

African Institute for Investigative Journalism (AIIJ)

Outcome 1: Skills and knowledge of female journalists and media Influencers in conflict reporting, peace journalism, and conflict resolution techniques enhanced.

25 female journalists in the Busoga region are empowered to report more effectively on complex conflict dynamics, promoting accurate and responsible media coverage. This is as a result of capacity strengthening on conflict-sensitive reporting. Journalists are better equipped to support peacebuilding and informed public discourse in the region as this was achieved through the development of a comprehensive training manual, which enhanced the effectiveness of training sessions by providing a structured and systematic approach to skill-building. Additionally, the manual ensures sustainable knowledge transfer, serving as a key reference for future training initiatives.

Kolir Women Development Organization (KOWDO)

Outcome 1: Enhanced involvement of women peace monitors and other local partner organizations to identify and respond to threats and early warning signs of conflicts in Mbale, Tororo and Bududa districts

Community governance has been enhanced and the target districts are experiencing reduced conflicts and greater stability and cooperation at grassroots level. This is due to the work of 200 mediators and local leaders trained by the project. Institutional frameworks were also reinforced as KOWDO supported group registrations and permit renewals for local organizations. Improved documentation practices, facilitated by providing case intake books to peace monitors, led to the review of 16 cases and the successful mediation and resolution of 10 disputes, promoting sustainable peace in the target areas.

Mid Western Region Anti-Corruption Coalition (MIRAC)

Outcome 1: Strengthened women participation in land conflict prevention, management and resolution in Hoima City, Hoima, and Kikuube Districts in Bunyoro Sub Region

Women in the project's target area increased their knowledge of land governance, women's land rights, and resolving landrelated conflicts by attending informative meetings and land conflict resolution training with community members, land conflict monitors, and local council leaders. Furthermore, public awareness and access to land rights information, particularly for women, to strengthen women's participation were improved through the distribution of 500 land law booklets, 1,000 posters, and 700 reflector jackets, as well as through radio talk shows targeting the local communities.

Paradigm for Social Justice and Development (PSD)

Outcome 1: Transformed attitudes and practices towards women's meaningful participation in decision making processes and conflict resolution in Wakiso district

28 conflict cases were mediated and resolved, and three referred to police by women leaders/local peace committee members who were identified and equipped with knowledge and skills to advance community-led peacebuilding efforts. This empowered the women leaders and key stakeholders to address conflict and promote sustainable peace. The baseline findings showed that, prior to the intervention, women leaders were mainly focused on resolving issues related to domestic violence and participating in meetings related to family matters, and that majority did not have the capacity to handle other cases. However, following PSD's intervention, they are now handling all conflicts in their jurisdiction. An increase in community members seeking their support has also been noted. Fellow leaders are also increasingly referring conflicts to them beyond just domestic related conflicts. They are now being invited to attend meetings regarding conflict resolutions and are actively participating in these because of PSD's work. Community members also have greater confidence in having their cases handled by the Local Peace Committees (LPC) as a result of the capacity strengthening.

Outcome 2: Strengthened women-led Community Based Early Warning and Response mechanism linked to the District



4a. Overall Results (Impact and Outcomes) Achieved

Enhanced advocacy by 40 women leaders resulted in the integration of conflict prevention, resolution, and early warning into their decision-making processes, thereby advancing the role of women in peacebuilding and promoting broader community engagement. 3 cases were resolved through early warning response with the leaders.

Rwenzori Forum for Peace and Justice (RFPJ)

Outcome 1: Enhanced multi-stakeholder timely response in the prevention of pre-2025/2026 electoral conflicts

An informed and prepared environment to mitigate electoral violence has been created in target area as a result of a proactive approach and strengthened collaboration among stakeholders. This was achieved through multi-media messaging including radio talk shows, the distribution of IEC materials, dialogues with conflict monitors, and outreach efforts, ensuring that women play a key role in decision-making and conflict resolution, leading to an inclusive, peaceful, and resilient region in the lead-up to the 2025/2026 elections.

Outcome 2: Increased women's capacity in pre-2025/2026 electoral conflict mapping, analysis and prevention

Women leaders in political parties, women's leagues, media, and the community enhanced their skills in conflict mapping, analysis, and prevention through training which included learning Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) techniques and participating in regular coordination meetings, where they shared and discussed conflict cases, successfully resolving 19 cases and referring 5, and identifying potential risks.

SHED

Outcome 1: Increased conflict prevention and social cohesion among citizens in hot spot districts of Kampala, Wakiso and Kayunga through improved women participation in decision making process and responses related to electoral conflict prevention before, during and after 2026 Uganda elections.

28 conflict cases were reported with a gender sensitive lens by 45 women journalists at different media houses. 75 more women leaders have improved knowledge to advance conflict prevention and mediate cases.

WPHF Impact Area 5: Protection of Women & Girls

Impact statement: Enhanced safety, security and mental health of women and girls' and their human rights respected

Self-reliance and economic opportunities were improved for 76 young women (75 refugees, 1 host) as a result of vocational and life skills training, which will permit them to access more sustainable livelihoods. 81 women with disabilities (16 refugees, 65 host) have enhanced emotional resilience, well-being, and ability to recover from trauma, enabling them to lead more empowered and stable lives as a result of the psychosocial support and strengthened community protection and response. Further, 3,337 men, 99 male champions, and 18 male advocacy groups advanced gender equality through advocacy efforts and case management and 73 paralegals (40 female, 33 male) successfully mediated 24 GBV cases.

Action for Humanity Initiative (AFHI)

Outcome 1: Improved protection of women and girls from risk of Sexual & Gender Based Violence through influencing positive attitude and behaviour change.

AFHI promoted safer, cohesive communities through enhancing community knowledge of GBV prevention and Mental Health and Psycho-social Support (MHPSS) systems among 185 community members (122F, 63M), sparking positive social change and empowering individuals to build healthier, resilient communities. Sensitization on MHPSS included a focus on causes, triggers, and prevention through joint activities featuring drama performances and local experience sharing.

Outcome 2: Improved self-reliance and economic wellbeing of young women and girls' refugees and host communities

There was increased economic opportunities for 76 young women and girls (75 refugees and 1 from the host community) following life skill trainings, including practical vocational skills in hairdressing and modern backyard kitchen gardening. Further, 170 young women benefited from hands-on training in planting cabbages, tomatoes, and green peppers, equipping them with sustainable skills for improved livelihoods. The women graduated in late December and AFHI will follow up with them as they now seek employment or opportunities to start their own businesses for self-reliance in 2025.

Outcome 3: Strengthened local women led Community Based Organizations to influence relevant peace, security and justice processes and decision-making at district/regional and national levels

26 Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) were identified through a comprehensive scoping study and assessment, positioning them to play a critical role in addressing GBV and driving community development in the target area. AFHI will be working with these CBOs in 2025.

Community Empowerment and Rehabilitation Initiative for Development (CERID)

Outcome 1: Reduced exposure to violence, exploitation, and insecurity due to enhanced Safety and Security for Urban Refugee Women and Girls with Disabilities:

81 women and girls (65 from the host community and 16 refugees) in Kobobo, Yumbe, and Arua City have improved wellbeing following psychosocial support and the provision of dignity kits and shelter by CERID. These efforts addressed immediate needs, enhanced emotional resilience, and restored dignity for vulnerable women and girls facing social and economic hardships. **Outcome 2: Increased participation in decision-making processes due to due to increased access to vocational and income-generating opportunities.**

WPHF Annual Report 2024 (Uganda)



4a. Overall Results (Impact and Outcomes) Achieved

29 women and girls now have valuable skills in hair dressing, garment cutting/tailoring and financial management following eight months of training in Koboko. This nurtured self-reliance and has created pathways to financial independence, hence strengthening their economic resilience to improve their livelihoods and contribute positively to their communities.

Outcome 3: Enhanced capacity of local CSOs to support and advocate for urban refugee women and girls with disabilities. Local CSOs working in the area of disability inclusion are now better coordinating to reduce duplication of efforts as a result of project review meetings convened by CERID. The meetings reached 15 members (3M, 12F) consisting of representatives from local CSOs and CERID staff.

Northern Uganda Widows and Orphans Support Organization (NUWOSO)

Outcome 1: Improved abilities and engagement of targeted 48,000 women and girls in 3 targeted districts on their human rights agency, SGBV prevention and response, access to essential specialized services and support, and sustainable economic activities for poverty eradication and economic self-reliance by April 2026.

2,002 women and girls in Lamwo, Agago, and Nwoya districts have enhanced knowledge on human rights, SGBV prevention and response, contributing to strengthened community actions against SGBV. 219 women leaders are now advocates for the protection of women's and girls' rights, amplifying their voices in decision-making spaces and strengthening gender equality efforts in their communities. Further, 65 women Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) facilitators are now promoting economic self-reliance among their groups to support women's economic empowerment, enabling sustainable livelihoods and financial independence in target communities.

Outcome 2: Improved abilities, engagement, responsibility, and social accountability of 90,000 civil society/local community members in 3 targeted districts to monitor and actively engage in the protection of women and girls against SGBV, influence women's rights agency, gender equality advocacy to end SGBV by April.

Men and boys are now more engaged and accountable in promoting gender equality and advocating for the protection of women and girls in NUWOSO's target communities. This follows the engagement of 99 male champions and mentoring 18 male advocacy groups (each comprising 25 members) to champion community-based advocacy for women's rights and SGBV prevention. 3,337 men also now have the knowledge and skills to actively engage in women's rights advocacy, gender equality promotion, and SGBV prevention efforts within their families and communities. Through media messaging and community dialogues, NUWOSO further mobilized 11 civil society organisations to monitor and take responsibility in protecting women and girls against SGBV.

Outcome 3: Improved abilities and active involvement and engagement of targeted 2,100 relevant stakeholders and CSOs in Agago, Lamwo and Nwoya districts to influence women's rights agencies, gender equality advocacy to end SGBV, monitor and engage in the protection of women and girl's rights, and SGBV against women and girls in the societies by April 2026

There is improved coordination and accountability through multi-stakeholder collaboration as 2,100 relevant stakeholders and CSOs were engaged to better advocate for gender equality, protecting women's rights, and preventing SGBV in the three target districts. They now have enhanced capacity to influence policies, support survivors, and engage communities in SGBV prevention efforts. In addition, 40 female and 33 male community-based paralegals have enhanced capacity to engage in women's rights advocacy, legal counselling, and dispute mediation, leading to the successful mediation and closure of 24 GBV cases and ongoing support for three defilement cases.

WPHF Institutional Funding

Impact statement: Enhanced role of civil society organizations in advocating for and ensuring accountability on WPS commitments

WPHF Institutional Funding has led to a significant improvement in advocacy for refugees with disabilities, contributing to a safer environment for target beneficiaries. Furthermore, organizational effectiveness has been enhanced as a result of targeted capacity building. Skilling in financial management, monitoring evaluation, information systems and security enhancements have bolstered the overall impact and efficiency of the organizations to achieve their missions and enabled them to successfully access new funding sources for continuity of operations and programming.

Association of Refugees with Disability (ARD)

Outcome 1: Enhanced institutional capacity and human resource of ARD to advocate for rights of refugees with disability

ARD staff are now better able to manage resources transparently and implement institutional programs efficiently as a result of targeted training for four staff members and one volunteer (2 female, 3 male) in financial management and project information systems. This has further strengthened ARD's ability to advocate for the rights of refugees with disabilities, ensuring more effective service delivery and impactful, well-managed programs that directly benefit this vulnerable group

Outcome 2: Strengthened operational policies systems and resource mobilization

ARD's resource management capacity is now strengthened to ensure compliance with internal standards and donor requirements, increasing accountability and transparency. These improvements have enabled ARD to better mobilize resources and strengthen its programs, resulting in more effective support for refugees with disabilities.

Great Lakes Union for Inclusive Development (GUIDE)

Outcome 1: Strengthened capacity of 9 (7F, 2M) GUIDE staff to effectively advocate for women/girls refugee rights in target areas through the institution's innovative approach to environmental-GBV/conflict in the natural resource and climate change contexts



4a. Overall Results (Impact and Outcomes) Achieved

GUIDE staff (7F, 2M) are now better able to advocate for women/girls refugee rights and deliver their mandate following specialised capacity building training on key skills. This includes strengthened abilities in data collection and analysis, reporting, an integrated Information Management System, and the use of statistical software (SPSS and IBM Statistics), which is enhancing their data-driven approaches to tackling environmental-GBV/conflict in the natural resource and climate change context.

Outcome 2: Strengthened capacities in finance management and resource mobilization.

GUIDE's financial transparency has improved and they now have the ability to ensure greater compliance with internal and donor requirements on financial management following targeted training and the installation of financial management software. GUIDE's management and finance staff have been able to use the tool to forecast, evaluate and manage financial risks. This has aided in improving resource management within the organization to enable them to more efficiently deliver their mandate.

Women's Organisation Network for Human Rights Advocacy (WONETHA)

Outcome 1: Enhanced security and functionality of WONETHA secretariat to effectively run projects empowering female sex workers in Uganda

Staff safety and the safeguarding of assets at WONETHA has been achieved, also enhancing productivity by reducing lost work hours due to security incidents. A safer and more secure environment has positively affected staff morale and job satisfaction, as a result of creating a more secure and professional work environment through this project. Enhanced security measures, such as lighting installation, reduced office break-ins and protected sensitive information, ensuring the confidentiality of vulnerable groups like sex workers and HIV/AIDS victims. 5 staff members (4F, 1M) (Executive Director, Finance Officer, Head of Programmes, Monitoring & Evaluation and Communication and Advocacy) were retained as a result of WPHF institutional funding.

4b. New Resource Mobilization and Sustainability

a) New Resource mobilization of CSO partners: For CSOs where new resources/funding has been mobilized (as indicated in the Beneficiary Excel File), share 1-2 examples of CSOs who have mobilized new funding during the reporting period, describing how much they accessed, from where and how their grant with WPHF/Country office has contributed to securing more funding, if relevant.

b) Sustainability: Share a couple of examples and strategies used by CSOs to ensure the sustainability of their project's impact

WONETHA developed a robust Resource Mobilization Strategy with support from WPHF and subsequently submitted 11 funding proposals. During 2024 they successfully secured resources from four different calls, including a catalytic fund from the Infectious Diseases Institute, AJWS (American Jewish World Service) M-Pox prevention, and two UHAI grants. The total amount received through these grants was USD 160,237, ranging in size from USD10k-51k per grant. The grants are focused on supporting the wellbeing and capacity-building of sex workers in Uganda. This includes efforts to advocate for changes in laws, policies, and practices that contribute to violations against sex workers, as well as initiatives for M-Pox prevention. WONETHA, along with GUIDE, have also both been successful in their applications for the WPHF L-Hub Peer-Learning Awards, resulting in USD8,000 apiece for cross-CSO learning and capacity development.

ARD successfully mobilized USD 4,000 in resources from Young African Refugee for Integral Development, which facilitated the establishment of a skills development hub for refugees with disabilities in Kampala. With this funding, 40 refugees (31 females and 9 males) have been skilled in tailoring and arts & crafts. This was possible because the institutional capacity of ARD staff, including project and financial management skills, was strengthened through the WPHF programme.

To enhance sustainability and empower local communities to independently resolve conflicts in the future, MIRAC is training more Land Conflict Monitors than originally targeted (adding six additional trainees from beneficiaries of WPHF programme 2020-2023) to strengthen and maintain their knowledge of land dispute resolution and mediation skills. KOWDO is also dedicating resources to provide ongoing training for beneficiaries who participated in the WPHF program from 2020-2023, further enhancing their conflict resolution and reporting skills, with a focus on ensuring the long-term sustainability of these efforts within the community. By continuously engaging local communities in conflict resolution and developing their capacity to systematically collect various cases, these contribute to the ongoing peacebuilding efforts within the region.

4c. Outputs and Activities Completed

Summarize the progress on OUTPUTS and key activities in narrative form by each project. Describe how these outputs were reached (or in progress) and explain if any variance in achieved versus planned results during the reporting period. Ensure all data is disaggregated if reporting on training, capacity building or other outputs. Please put organization names in the same order as Section 4a.

Please note that you <u>DO NOT</u> need to complete Annex A for the <u>output level</u>. For countries with 10 projects or more, you can consolidate the outputs by outcome area.

WPHF Impact Area 2: Conflict Prevention

Output 1: 50 female journalists provided comprehensive training programs in various aspects of election reporting, research, interviewing techniques, fact-checking, and ethical considerations.



4c. Outputs and Activities Completed

AllJ strengthened the capacity and skills of 25 female journalists on conflict sensitive reporting in Busoga region sub-region. The journalists represented private and public media houses. The training helped to bridging the knowledge gap on sensitive reporting and preparation for the 2026 elections. 25 more will be engaged in 2025 as planned.

Output 1.1: 25 trained journalists outputting stories on media platforms

25 female journalists are effectively using social media platforms to develop conflict sensitive social media content as demonstrated by their posting of conflict sensitive storylines and content. The training focused on effective digital storytelling, content creation, and responsible online engagement to improve advocacy and awareness on key conflict sensitive issues ahead of the 2026 general elections. To reinforce learning, a handbook/manual was developed, serving as a guide for best practices in social media content development and ethical journalism.

Output 1.3: 25 female media influencers facilitated to shot of short videos carrying messages on peacebuilding Activities under this output will be implemented in 2025.

Kolir Women Development Organization (KOWDO)

Output 1.1: 200 women equipped with information and knowledge on human rights, leadership, conflict, and peace building 200 women and 48 clan and religious leaders (1 female, 47 males) enhanced their knowledge on conflict dynamics, human rights and local based peaceful mechanisms as a result of training delivered by KOWDO.

Output 1.2: Cases identified and engaged by women peace actors in the community

122 community WPS actors (65 females, 57 males) from a target of 300 in the project lifespan now have enhanced knowledge and skills on legal frameworks, human rights, gender analysis, and conflict prevention as a result of capacity building training on legal frameworks and justice and conflict prevention. The training highlighted the importance of integrating gender and human rights into peacebuilding efforts to avoid violations. This output is on-track.

Output 1.3: Stronger collaboration among women organizations and social justice groups in the region

16 peace groups have been established. Of these, 14 (6 in Bududa, 5 in Mbale, and 3 in Tororo) were supported to register in 2024 so that they are now formalized organizations. 200 peace monitors (117 female, 94 male), as per the project target, have started applying the SASA approach and received case in-take log books where they document details of GBV survivors, description of the case, type of violence, actions taken to resolve the case and referral (if required). Before identifying cases, training was provided to Peace Monitors and others on how to collect/identify cases. So far the peace monitors have recorded 168 cases in 2024 from a target of 2,400 in the entire project period. Fewer cases were recorded than initially anticipated in 2024, however, more proactive case collection is expected to take place in 2025.

Mid-Western Region Anti-Corruption Coalition (MIRAC)

Output 1.1: Local council leaders and women groups equipped with knowledge on land laws, regulation, and policies

365 local council leaders (193M, 172F) enhanced their knowledge of land regulations, laws, land transaction agreements, and conflict resolution basics following training across seven sub-counties. This is on track to meet the project target of 960. Twelve women's groups (25 in each group on average) reaching a total of 300 people (240F, 60M) were also equipped with knowledge on land and property rights and their role in preventing and resolving land conflicts. Furthermore, 19 land conflict monitors (13 female, 6 male) - exceeding the target of 16 - gained skills in identifying, documenting, and reporting land-related cases, contributing to strengthened community mechanisms for land conflict prevention and resolution.

Output 1.2: Institutions trained to handle land related conflicts on the legal framework and women's land rights

11 local government institutions including district land boards and subcounty area land committees, enhanced their knowledge of the legal framework and women's land rights through targeted training sessions. Additionally, 500 pocket-friendly land law books were printed and distributed to community members in the project target areas as planned, further strengthening institutional capacity to handle land-related conflicts effectively.

Output 1.3: Awareness created on Negative Social cultural beliefs that affect women in land use and management

Community awareness of the negative socio-cultural beliefs affecting women's land use and management was enhanced through targeted sensitization efforts, including five drama performances and five radio communication campaigns. These initiatives contributed to shifting perceptions and promoting gender-inclusive land rights practices. These activities are slightly behind schedule but the partner has agreed an acceleration plan in order to catch up.

Output 1.4. Quarterly monitoring and follow up sessions conducted on land conflict interventions.

MIRAC conducted a baseline survey in Kikuube district as well as four monthly mediations to address and report identified landrelated conflicts/cases. They also held two quarterly reflection meetings where they presented to the board members to review progress on outputs, activities and achievements, ensuring the project stays on track.

Paradigm for Social Justice and Development (PSD)

Output 1.1: Women leaders and stakeholders are knowledgeable on conflict resolution, early warning and response

Women leaders and local stakeholders are more aware of their roles in conflict resolution, prevention, early warning and response through comprehensive trainings, dialogues, and mentorship sessions. These capacity building sessions targeted 52 women leaders (40 women local peace monitors, and 12 other local WPS actors), 29 primary actors (13 female, 16 male; including from the Police, Prisons, Local Council, and district leadership) and 19 representatives from lower local government (7 female, 12 male; including Community Development Officers, Sub-county chairpersons, Chief Administrative Officers, and Resident District Commissioners). The 40 women local peace monitors also received specialized training which enhanced their skills in mediation, negotiation, and gender-based violence prevention. These initiatives collectively strengthened women's role in peacebuilding,



4c. Outputs and Activities Completed

conflict prevention, and governance, ensuring inclusive and effective community leadership. The output is on track will continue throughout the project period.

Output 1.2: Women are supported to establish early warning mechanisms that are linked to the district reporting and response mechanisms.

40 women leaders, from a project target of 50, have been empowered to identify conflicts and work with other leaders to develop early responses to foreseen conflicts. Consequently, the Local Peace Committee of Kakiri Town Council and sub-county identified three conflicts (of a project target of 25) and worked with the district leaders including the Environment Officer, Commercial Officer, Natural Resources Officer and Community District Officer to develop responses. This helped to avert violence in the communities.

Output 1.3 Communities in Wakiso district have knowledge and information on conflict resolution and conflict prevention through early warning and response

203 community leaders and community members (102 female, 101 male) have enhanced knowledge on conflict early warning and response as resulting of participating in the "Know Your Role "baraza in Wakiso district to address the conflicts identified that were causing tensions in the community. In addition, 2,314 community members (1,855 female, 522 male) were reached through 96 awareness clinics and 135 community radio programs, promoting knowledge and awareness on Conflict Awareness, Gender-Based Violence, and Children's Rights throughout the communities.

Rwenzori Forum for Peace and Justice (RFPJ)

Output 1.1: Surveys conducted to profile and take stock of existing and emerging pre-2025/2026 general electoral conflicts, impact on women and their respective potential triggers and drivers

RFPJ conducted a baseline survey to document pre-2025/2026 general election conflicts, their impact on women, and their respective potential triggers and drivers. The survey sought to gather insights on existing and emerging electoral conflicts in the Rwenzori region and it identified ethnic, religious, and intra-political party conflicts as the key issues. Additionally, respondents recognized that pre-2025/2026 election conflicts have a disproportionately higher impact on women than on men. The survey has aided in validating RFPJ's approach to the project and helped to better target some of the other interventions.

Output 1.2: Women-led advocacy campaigns conducted with different duty bearers to share and discuss existing and emerging pre-2025/2026 general electoral conflicts, impact on women and their respective potential triggers and drivers

RFPJ conducted one women-led dialogue meeting in each of the three districts of Kasese, Bundibugyo and Kyenjojo, creating space for 128 stakeholders (73 males 55 females) from a target of 1,000 individuals during the project period to share and discuss existing and emerging pre-2025/2026 general electoral conflicts, their impact on women and their respective potential triggers and drivers. This meeting allowed participants to gain a clearer understanding of the current situation and identify the actions they may need to take to effectively mitigate conflict. As the 2025/2026 election campaigns are launched in 2025, more proactive pre-election conflict advocacy efforts, including women-led dialogues, will be carried out.

Output 1.3: Women-led public awareness campaigns conducted to share and discuss with the public existing and emerging pre-2025/2026 general electoral conflicts, impact on women and their respective potential triggers and drivers

30 radio talk shows were conducted across multiple districts (Kasese: sevem, Bundibugyo: eight, Kabarole: 12, Kyenjojo: three) to raise public awareness on emerging pre-2025/2026 electoral conflicts, their impact on women, and the potential triggers and drivers. These had an estimated reach of 13,200 people. Also, RFPJ produced and distributed Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials, including 600 T-shirts, 4 pull-up stands, 1,000 stickers, 4 tear drops, and 1,050 posters to stakeholders such as community reporters to increase publicity and awareness for RFPJ and the project.

Output 2.1: Trainings for women leaders in conflict mapping, analysis and reporting conducted

Trainings in five districts (Kasese, Bundibugyo, Ntoroko, Kabarole, and Kyenjojo) on conflict mapping, analysis, and reporting were conducted to improve the knowledge of community reporters, women's leagues, political party leaders, women's wings in cultural institutions, and female media practitioners, benefiting 194 stakeholders (173 female, 21 male) from a target of 200 in the project period. This has improved their understanding of upcoming conflicts and resolution, so they are well placed to respond. This effort is expected to continue in 2025.

Output 2.2: Trainings for women leaders in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) conducted

RFPJ conducted five trainings in ADR, one in each of the five districts of Bundibugyo, Ntoroko, Kabarole, Kyenjojo and Kasese. Across the five districts, 175 women and 25 men were trained with content covering aspects of mediation, negotiation, arbitration, conflict sensitivity and alternative to violence practice to resolve the conflicts effectively in the community.

Output 2.3: Women coordination meetings conducted

RFPJ conducted 22 monthly community reporters' meetings (five meetings in each of Kasese, Kyenjojo and Kabarole, and four meetings in each of Ntoroko and Bundibugyo). In total 50 reporters attended (40 female and 10 male). In line with this, one womenled coordination meeting targeting community representatives was conducted in each of Bundibugyo, Kabarole, Ntoroko, Kasese and Kyenjojo, bringing together 204 leaders (173 women and 31 men). These meetings help women to share experiences, challenges and learning.

SHED

Output 1: Women CSO leaders trained as local peace monitors to actively take part in electoral conflict analysis and prevention



4c. Outputs and Activities Completed

SHED strengthened the capacity of 75 Women CSO leaders in Conflict Prevention and Election Preparedness through targeted capacity-building that enhanced their skills and confidence in conflict prevention, mediation, advocacy, and election preparedness, positioning them as key actors in promoting peaceful electoral processes. The activity is on track.

Output 2: Relevant power holders and key stakeholders constructively engaged to address pressing needs, consensus building and better relations.

Activities under this output will be carried out in 2025. There was a slight delay owing to unavailability of key stakeholders, but SHED is confident that the target will be achieved as planned.

Output 3: Awareness campaigns (Peace education) conducted to transform mental models and social norms driving election violence.

There is increased awareness of women's positive role in peacebuilding through the widespread distribution of 13,600 IEC materials (leaflets and fliers) and 652 branded t-shirts promoting UN Security Council Resolution 1325 to peace actors, women local leaders, CSOs in the target districts. These efforts engaged communities, women leaders, district officials, and key stakeholders, promoting support for women's active participation in conflict prevention and resolution.

Output 4: Coordination and partnership meetings among key actors on electoral conflict prevention and women empowerment conducted at local and national levels.

The district consultative meetings in Kampala and Kayunga fostered collaboration among key stakeholders, including government officials, security agencies, civil society, and religious and cultural leaders. As a result, there is increased commitment to expanding spaces for women's participation in electoral conflict prevention, strengthening multi-stakeholder coordination, and enhancing proactive measures to mitigate conflicts before, during, and after the 2026 elections.

Output 5: Advocacy materials developed and/ or disseminated on Women's participation in electoral conflict prevention and Peace building.

There is increased awareness of the importance of women's full participation in peace and stability efforts within the community as a result of developing and distributing 13,600 posters and 652 T-shirts

Output 6: Capacity of local Journalists from key media houses in peace Journalism (gender and conflict sensitive reporting) enhanced.

The capacity of 45 women journalists from Kampala, Wakiso, and Kayunga was strengthened in peace journalism, equipping them with critical skills in gender-sensitive and conflict-sensitive reporting. Through expert-led training, journalists are now better positioned to promote responsible election reporting, conflict prevention, and balanced media coverage, contributing to peaceful and informed electoral processes in their communities. This activity is on track.

WPHF Impact Area 5: Protection of Women & Girls

Action for Humanity imitative (AFHI)

Output 1.1: Improved awareness of women, men, boys and girls on GBV prevention and response Mechanisms.

Increased awareness on GBV prevention and response mechanisms was achieved through a series of activities. 420 participants (138 males and 282 females) gained knowledge on GBV prevention and reporting during five awareness sessions. Additionally, 438 beneficiaries (194 females and 244 males) benefited from 10 targeted dialogues led by GBV champions, enhancing their understanding of peaceful co-existence and the importance of reporting cases to relevant authorities. This is on track.

Output 1.2: Project introduced officially to Isingiro and Nakivale settlement partners for buy in.

There is strengthened collaboration with 20 stakeholders (13 males and 7 females) due to the district project inauguration meeting. This oriented stakeholders on the project and sought formal approval for implementation. The meeting involved staff from AFHI as well as the District Refugee officer, Agricultural Officer, and District Community Development Officer (DCDO).

Output 1.3: Improved access to comprehensive mental health and psychosocial (MHPSS) support services

10 cases requiring support in the refugee settlement were identified by case workers. These were identified via awareness sessions on MHPSS and GBV. Two cases were referred for further management while eight are being followed up. This is a continuous activity and more cases will be handled in 2025.

Output 2.1: Young women and girls in refugees and host communities received economic opportunities

76 young women and girls (75 refugees and one from the host community) have increased economic opportunities through life skills training focused on practical vocational skills in hairdressing and modern backyard kitchen gardening. 170 other young women were equipped with the knowledge to grow cabbages, tomatoes, and green peppers. This has enhanced economic self-sufficiency of participants, opening new avenues for income generation and improving livelihoods within the community. This is on track.

Output 3.1: Local women led Community Based Organizations acquired knowledge to influence relevant GBV programming processes and decision making at district/regional and national levels.

A scoping study and assessment identified 26 Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) with whom AFHI will engage in 2025. The assessment highlighted several gaps in areas such as resource mobilization, documentation of GBV cases, dispute resolution, referral pathways, and community mobilization. These findings will guide targeted interventions to strengthen the capacities of these CBOs in addressing critical community needs.

Community Empowerment Rehabilitation Initiative for Development (CERID)

Output 1.1: Conduct three project entry / inception meeting with key stakeholder both from Divisions, Municipality and District. CERID strengthened collaboration with stakeholders as three inception meetings were conducted in Koboko Municipality, Yumbe District and Arua City. These involved 53 females and 60 males, and provided and opportunity to introduce the project to the leadership and technocrats in the districts to secure their buy-in.



4c. Outputs and Activities Completed

Output 1.2: 3 Safe spaces established

CERID established three women's safe spaces in Arua city, Koboko municipality and Yumbe district to support Psychosocial activities.

Output 1.3: Conduct awareness campaigns on rights and protection measures against SGBV and VAWG.

This will be reported in 2025. The activity faced delays, however an acceleration plan has been adopted to fast track delivery. **Output 1.4: Facilitate community dialogues on safety and security issues, particularly SGBV and VAWG.**

This will be reported in 2025. The activity faced delays, however an acceleration plan has been adopted to fast track delivery. Output 1.5: Offer psychosocial support and resources/materials to urban refugee women and girl survivors of SGBV and host community members.

CERID enhanced the well-being and protection of survivors through provision of psychosocial support to 81 women and girls across friendly spaces in Koboko (24), Yumbe (52), and Arua City (5). This included 65 from host communities, 16 refugees, and 10 PWDs (6 girls, 4 women). 17 cases were referred for further services (including 6 to the police), 11 were monitored, and 63 received non-food items (dignity kits) (Yumbe: 36, Koboko: 24, Arua City: 3), enhancing the well-being and protection of survivors. **Output 1.6: Establish peer support networks for emotional resilience among refugee women and girl survivors of SGBV** This will be reported in 2025. The activity faced delays, however an acceleration plan has been adopted to fast track delivery. **Output 2.1: Offer vocational training and income-generating opportunities to urban refugee women and girl survivors of SGBV**

and host community members.

29 of 30 enrolled women and girls have been equipped with adaptable skills and knowledge to prepare for career trades in various fields of work. 19 of the enrolled learners come from the host communities and 11 are refugees. The number also includes 12 PWDs. Of the 29 who graduated, 16 obtained skilled in salon and hair dressing (SHD) and 13 in tailoring and garment cutting. The one learner who did not graduate will complete her qualification in SHD in Q1 2025 as CERID enrolls the next cohort. Cohorts will be continuously enrolled throughout the project period.

Output 2.2: Conduct leadership and advocacy training for urban refugee women and girls and host community members. This will be reported in 2025. The activity faced delays, however an acceleration plan has been adopted to fast track delivery. Output 2.3: Facilitate community forums for urban refugee women and girls and host community members to voice their concerns.

This will be reported in 2025. The activity faced delays, however an acceleration plan has been adopted to fast track delivery. **Output 3.1: Conduct capacity-building workshops for local CSOs on gender-responsive approaches and disability inclusion.** CERID conducted a project performance review meeting in December 2024 to review project performance and strengthen coordination among local actors. This was attended by 15 people (3M, 12F) comprising staff from local CSOs and CERID. Out of the 15, one was a PWD. Two more will be conducted in year II.

Output 3.2: Foster collaboration between local CSOs and the implementing organization for joint advocacy and support. CERID established partnerships and collaboration through shared understanding of project goals, roles, and responsibilities as a result of a project performance and review meeting. The meeting reviewed project performance and strengthened coordination among local actors, including 15 representatives (3m, 12f) of local CSOs and CERID staff. Out of the 15, one was PWD.

Northern Uganda Widows and Orphans Support Organization (NUWOSO)

Output 1.1: 68 community-based Paralegals specialists trained on women and girls' rights and SGBV response including SRHR agency, social, economic, cultural, and religious rights, mediation and reconciliation, legal counseling, representation, and referral

122 community-based paralegal specialists (59 females and 63 males) have enhanced knowledge and skills following participation in two-day training sessions conducted in Agago, Lamwo, and Nwoya districts. The training utilized a variety of interactive methods, including presentations, brainstorming, group work, role play, experience sharing, and Q&A sessions. As a result, participants acquired practical skills in community mobilization and engagement on women and girls' rights, SGBV prevention and response, mediation and reconciliation, legal counseling, representation, and referral pathways. This has strengthened their ability to support their communities in addressing gender-based violence and advocating for women's rights. The increased number of paralegals reached was due to the publicity of the activity at community level and stakeholder involvement.

Output 1.2: 18 community-based gender equality and women and girl's rights agency and end SGBV advocacy groups established and supported

18 planned Community-Based Gender Equality and Women and Girls' Rights Agencies and Ending SGBV Advocacy Groups have been established and supported. The groups were established across Agago, Lamwo, and Nwoya districts. Each group consists of 25-30 members and plays a key role in community mobilization, advocacy, and promoting gender equality within the community. **Output 1.3: 64 community-based home-based care providers trained to support victims of SGBV and their families through homebased care including mental health support to victims and family members**

68 community-based home-based care providers (33 females and 35 males) were successfully trained to support victims of SGBV and their families, surpassing the target number of 64. These training sessions were conducted over two days in each of the districts of Agago, Lamwo, and Nwoya. As a result, the community-based home-based care providers gained expertise in delivering effective home-based care, including providing mental health support, counseling, and social services to victims of SGBV and their families. **Output 1.4: 322 SGBV victims supported to access health care services, legal, medical health care, and mental health services.** 26 SGBV victims (all females) were supported through various interventions, including legal, medical, health care, and counseling

26 SGBV victims (all females) were supported through various interventions, including legal, medical, health care, and counseling services. The cases include 3 defilement and attempted rape cases currently under legal process, and 24 domestic violence cases



4c. Outputs and Activities Completed

that were supported with necessary services and assistance. With the few cases handled, an acceleration plan and awareness session on the services has been adopted to improve on delivery.

Output 1.5: 8 dialogue meetings targeting 240 women leaders organized to improve their ability and effective engagement in advocacy to promote and protect women and girls' rights and fights to end SGBV in the communities.

Five dialogue meetings were successfully conducted, surpassing the planned target of three meetings for 2024. These engaged 219 women leaders from Agago (105), Lamwo (80), and Nwoya (34) districts, with a focus on enhancing their advocacy skills to promote and protect the rights of women and girls and combat SGBV in their communities.

Output 1.6: 90 dialogues targeting 9000 local women and girls organized to improve their ability on their human rights agency, end GBV, case management/ reporting, access to health care and legal services, and mental health assistance

25 dialogue meetings were conducted, surpassing the planned target of 20 for 2024. These successfully engaged 2,741 local women and girls across Agago, Nwoya, and Lamwo districts. The dialogues aimed to raise awareness and improve knowledge about the dangers of SGBV, empowering participants to take action toward ending SGBV and accessing available services.

Output 1.7: 9 radio talk shows and 4 months of spot messages (Women's Voice) on local FM radio to educate the public on women and girls human rights, the danger of SGBV, SGBV prevention, and response, hold duty bearers accountable, access to essential services, organized.

Three radio talk shows were conducted, as planned, across Agago, Nwoya, and Lamwo districts, contributing to public awareness and engagement on SGBV prevention, response. The talk shows featured expert officials and community leaders who shared vital information, and accompanying radio spot messages are running on local radio stations to further amplify the message.

Output 1.8: Support international women day celebration in district of project to enable 1500 women have an opportunity to advocate for their human rights and policy implementation to end SGBV

This activity to be conducted in the quarter of January-March 2025 as planned.

Output 1.9: 62 community-based village Savings and credit Cooperative Organisation (SACCO) facilitators (ToTs) trained to support SACCO groups

Increased knowledge and skills to effectively support and manage the Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) groups in their respective communities as 65 community-based Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) facilitators (27 females and 37 male were trained on group dynamics, conflict management, VSLA methodology, and entrepreneurship skills, surpassing the target of 62 facilitators.

Output 1.10: 75 Village SACCO groups (60% females and 40% males) formed and train on VSLA methodology, entrepreneurships using Care international VSLA tools

This activity to be conducted in the quarter of January-March 2025 as planned.

Output 1.11: 75 village SACCO groups provided with kits to support their activities

This activity to be conducted in the quarter of January-March 2025 as planned.

Output 1.12: 30 needy SGBV victims supported through 3 months vocational skills training and support (tailoring).

This activity to be conducted in the quarter of January-March 2025 as planned.

Output 2.1: 68 Community-based male engagement specialists trained to champion mobilization, engagement, and advocacy on women's rights agency

Improved knowledge and skills among 99 male engagement specialists from Agago, Lamwo, and Nwoya districts to mobilize, engage, and advocate for women's rights at community level. The men have created awareness on community radios advocating for prevention of SGBV. The numbers were surpassed because of the high publicity of the project in the community.

Output 2.2: 36 male peer clubs formed and supporting male empowerment and engagement including mentorship regarding the protection of women against SGBV

18 male peer clubs (Comprising 25-30 members each) were established across Agago, Lamwo, and Nwoya districts. These clubs are designed to support male empowerment and engagement, particularly in the protection of women and girls against SGBV through mentorship and advocacy. The remaining 18 peer clubs are planned for formation in Q1 2025.

Output 2.3: 90 male dialogue sessions organized targeting 9000 males to improve their abilities regarding women and girls' human rights agency, gender equality promotion, GBV prevention, and response in their families and communities

There is enhanced advocacy for women and girls' human rights, promoting gender equality, and preventing and responding to GBV in communities following an initial 25 male dialogue meetings conducted across Agago, Lamwo, and Nwoya districts, engaging 2,868 men.

Output 2.4: 48 social accountability dialogues targeting 4,800 civil society organized to monitor and engage in addressing gender inequalities, stigma and discrimination, promoting women and girls' rights to end SGBV

There is enhanced awareness and capacity among CSO community members to effectively monitor and address gender inequalities, stigma, and discrimination, while promoting women and girls' rights and contributing to efforts to end sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). This came as a result of 15 dialogues conducted across Agago (9), Lamwo (3), and Nwoya (3) districts, reaching 999 participants (413 male, 586 female), including 14 persons with disabilities (10 male, 4 female). In Agago, 250 people (106 male, 144 female) participated; in Lamwo, 337 people (133 male, 204 female), including 9 PWDs (6 male, 3 female), were engaged; and in Nwoya, 412 people (134 male, 278 female), including 5 PWDs (4 male, 1 female), took part. Additional dialogues will take place in 2025, as planned.

Output 3.1: 3 SASA! Forum formed (60 Members) trained and supporting women rights protection, gender equality and SGBV prevention and response, policy implementation advocacy, mediation and reconciliation

This activity is to be conducted in the quarter of January-March 2025 as planned.



4c. Outputs and Activities Completed

Output 3.2: 12 district level SASA forum advocacy dialogue to influence harmful social-cultural and religious norms and practices that fuel gender inequality and SGBV in their communities organized

This activity is to be conducted in the quarter of January-March 2025 as planned.

Output 3.3: 36 local women organization/CSOs trained on gender equalities integration and implementation, influence women rights agency and work to end gender inequality and SGBV

NUWOSO improved capacity of 17 Female and 19 Male CSO members comprising of Women Led Organizations (WLOs), Women's Rights Organizations (WROs), Youth Led Organizations (YLOs), and Children Rights Organizations (CROs) on gender equality integration and implementation, influencing women rights agency and work to end gender equality and SGBV, as a result of training across the Acholi sub-region. This activity will continue as planned in 2025.

Output 3.4: 3 coordination and case management mechanisms to end SGBV established and strengthened

NUWOSO has contributed to strengthening SGBV referrals, coordination and case management mechanisms through the reconstitution of a committees in all three districts comprising the Police, local leaders, health personnel, and CSOs. In Agago District, 20 key stakeholders (13 women, 7 men) participated, while 20 stakeholders (5 women, 14 men) took part in Lamwo District, and 20 stakeholders (4 women, 16 men) engaged in Nwoya District. These efforts have led to the establishment of strong and functional district-level SGBV referral, coordination, and case management mechanisms to combat SGBV effectively

Output 3.5: Quarterly district level SGBV coordination meetings with 20 stakeholders per meeting per district organized

District level SGBV coordination meetings have helped improve coordination and collective action among decision-makers to effectively promote women and girls' rights and combat SGBV. Three meetings were held with targeted key stakeholders, engaging 98 people across the districts (49 male, and 49 female). Attendees included technical and political representatives from the district local government and leadership structure, Media, CSOs, religious and cultural heads of institutions, and sub-county leaders. The meetings increased awareness of targeted stakeholders on SGBV prevention and response, and triggered their actions for effective engagement in coordination and collaboration in promoting women and girls' rights and addressing VAWG in the communities. **Output 3.6: 24 hours emergency phone line and vehicle to response to emergency cases established**

This activity is to be conducted in the quarter of January-March 2025 as planned.

Output 3.7: Project performance joint field MEAL and review meetings conducted.

Project performance review meetings enabled NUWOSO to improve transparency and accountability, share experience and learnings, and foster local ownership for longer term sustainability. Meetings were held across the three target districts with 30 attendees in Agago (14 Male, 16 Female), 44 in Lamwo (23 Male, 21 Female), and 26 in Nwoya (17 Male, 9 Female). Attendees included representatives from district local government, local leaders, including religious and cultural leaders, and the Police. **Output 3.8: 1-time project inception meeting conducted in 3 targeted districts**

98 key stakeholders (55 male, 43 female) such as the District Leadership and peace actors are aware about the project, its implementation plan, and their roles in monitoring and evaluation following the project inception meetings in each district. This

resulted in the stakeholders' buy-in for the interventions. Output 3.9: 2 days training of implementing partners staff and Board member on finance and project management skills conducted

NUWOSO's staff (12 members; 5M, 7F) and seven board members (3M, 4F) are now equipped with knowledge and skills to promote better institution and project management and organizational compliance. With support from UN Women, the training covered the Anti-Fraud policy, PSEA policy, and reporting, communication and branding.

WPHF Institutional Funding

Association of Refugees with Disability (ARD)12

Output 1: 4 staff members trained on the on accounting and project information system software

ARD conducted capacity-building training for four staff members and one volunteer (two female, three male) on the use and application of financial accounting software as planned in 2024. This training has significantly improved their ability to manage financial processes and project information systems, leading to more efficient operations and better financial oversight within the organization.

Output 2.1: Organisational policies, information Management systems for Project management and financial accounting established

ARD strengthened its operational and financial frameworks by establishing key policies, such as the Procurement Policy and Asset Management & Security Policy, and enhancing financial management with the acquisition and implementation of financial accounting software. These efforts collectively improved organizational efficiency, transparency, and project execution throughout the year. In 2025, ARD will develop four policies and systems as planned and finalize the project.

Great Lakes Union for Inclusive Development (GUIDE)13

Output 1.1: 9 GUIDE staff trained in data collection and analysis, reviews of best-practices, lessons learned, program impact assessment and innovative integrated Information Management Systems 9 GUIDE staff equipped with knowledge to advocate for effective environmental conflict and GBV against refugee women in the contexts of natural resources and climate change.

¹² ARD's result framework has been slightly amended at the output level to better speak to the activities

¹³ GUIDE's result framework has been slightly amended at the output level to better speak to institutional funding



4c. Outputs and Activities Completed

There is improved knowledge among nine GUIDE staff members (seven females and two males) in data collection and analysis, reviewing best practices, lessons learned, program impact assessment, financial planning and management, internal control system and innovative integrated information management systems as a result of targeted capacity building sessions.

Output 1.2: GUIDE is fully equipped with supplies/materials needed to facilitate continuous effective institutional information sharing, analysis and learning.

GUIDE is equipped to support continuous institutional information sharing, analysis, and learning through the procurement of five computers, one projector, and the installation of information management software. The provision of this equipment has significantly facilitated GUIDE's administrative and programmatic work. In addition, IBM SPSS Statistics software was installed into the 5 computers for the Executive Director, Director Monitoring and Evaluation, Director of Programs, Accountant, and Secretary for Procurement. Following training on the use of this software, the staff are able to undertake better data analysis for personnel, program and partnerships monitoring and evaluation.

Output 2.1: 9 GUIDE staff trained in trained in financial management

Staff's capacity (six female, three male) has been strengthened in financial management and institutional control systems following targeted training and the installation of financial management software. This has strengthened internal controls, transparency and effectiveness in financial utilization. GUIDE is equipped to support continuous institutional information sharing, analysis, and learning through the procurement of five computers, one projector, and the installation of information management software. GUIDE's management and finance staff have been able to use the tool to forecast, evaluate and manage financial risks. GUIDE further produced a simplified internal control toolkit for budget preparations and monitoring, payroll processing and adjustment.

Women's Organisation Network for Human Rights Advocacy (WONETHA)

Output 1: Increased resources for the organisation and efficient systems and manuals in place

WONETHA successfully mobilised USD 160,237 as a result of training 19 staff members (one male, 18 females), including two volunteers and two board members, in resource mobilization, data collection, reporting, and financial management. Additionally, the project ensured the timely payment of salaries for five core staff members, including statutory deductions and NSSF contributions as planned in 2024.

Output 2: Office Security and functionality enhanced

Electricity was successfully reconnected at the WONETHA secretariat office following installation of a new meter installed, enhancing power supply. Office operations were strengthened with improved security, preventing any break-ins through procuring and servicing of four security cameras to maintain surveillance and security. Procurement of stationery and office supplies is ongoing and is helping to ensure the smooth running of daily operations.

5. Impact Story (1/2 page maximum)

Include an impact story focused on either an individual beneficiary or CSO partner which demonstrates the change that has occurred during the reporting period as a result of the implementation of a partner grant. The story should: a) capture the change that has occurred

b) illustrate the main objective of the project (WPHF impact area).

c) include a high quality photo with caption close-up photo portraits of individual beneficiaries and CSO partners being profiled, and include quotes if available.

*Please ensure that consent has been obtained from the individual beneficiary or CSO partner to use the story and photo in the WPHF global annual report, website, community of practice and/or social media. Also, consider using a **pseudonym** (not the person's real name) to ensure protection/security. If obtaining a story could cause an individual harm/emotional stress, please consider doing a story on an organization instead.

Empowered to Thrive: Ariye Lilian's¹⁴ Journey from Survival to Success

¹⁴ Consent was received to use the full name





Figure 1: Arie narrating her story at the graduation ceremony

At just 27 years old, Ariye Lilian has endured more hardship than most face in a lifetime. Fleeing the conflict in South Sudan, she sought refuge in Uganda, first settling in Imvepi Refugee Settlement before moving to Arumagi Cell, Mengo Ward, South Division, Koboko Municipality. Losing both parents to war left her without family support, forcing her into an early marriage for survival. But life became even harder when her husband abandoned her and returned to South Sudan, leaving her a single mother of two with no formal education and no means to provide for her children. Struggling to survive, she took on menial jobs—smearing houses, washing clothes, and fetching water—just to afford a single meal for her family. Many days, she went to bed hungry, burdened by the weight of uncertainty.

"When I lost my uncle, the only person who cared for me after my parents died, I had no choice but to marry—just to have a place to stay and someone to look after me." – Ariye Lilian

Ariye's life changed when she was selected by the local leader in her community and enrolled in a vocational skills training program implemented by Community Empowerment Rehabilitation for Development (CERID), funded by the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF). Through this program, she trained in salon and hairdressing, learning how to weave and style hair—an income-generating skill

that offered her a fresh start to life. With additional training in business management, finance, and customer service, she was equipped with the tools to build her own future. Upon completing the program, she received a startup kit and, with determination, launched her own mobile salon business in Koboko Municipality. This newfound independence allowed her to provide for her children, send them to school, and ensure they never went hungry again. More than just financial security, Ariye gained confidence and a sense of purpose, inspiring other young refugee women to believe in their potential. Today, she is a beacon of hope, proving that with the right support, resilience, and opportunity, one can rise above even the darkest of circumstances.

"This training gave me more than just skills—it gave me hope and a future. Now, I can provide for my children, grow my business, and inspire other young women to believe in themselves. I am proud of how far I have come, and this is just the beginning!" – Ariye Lilian

6a. Knowledge Products and Communications/Visibility of Management Entity

a) Report on any new knowledge products and communication materials produced by <u>UN/ME</u> during the reporting period. This can include case studies, major surveys/research, evaluations, or assessments conducted during the reporting period. This section should also include a list and description of any new products (websites, policy briefs, social media, case studies, photos, videos, etc.) developed to increase visibility of the projects and programme, and of WPHF.

* Please attach a copy of the study/evaluation/research/survey/assessment as an Annex and include the weblinks in this section, if available.

The UN Women Uganda Country Office Q4 Newsletter contained a feature on Alice Kirikarama, a beneficiary under MIRAC's WPHF Grant: <u>https://africa.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2025/01/un-women-uganda-country-office-2024-guarter-four-newsletter</u>

6b. Knowledge Products and Communications/Visibility of Implementing Partners

a) List a few examples of high-quality knowledge products and communication materials produced by an implementing partner during the reporting period. This can include case studies, major surveys/research, evaluations, or assessments conducted during the reporting period. This section should also include a list and description of any new products (websites, policy briefs, social media, case studies, etc.) developed to increase visibility of the projects and programme, and of WPHF.

* Please attach a copy or link of the study/evaluation/research/ assessment as an Annex and include the weblinks in this section, if available. For photos, kindly share these (along with a caption) to the WPHF communications team.

1. MIRAC highlighted on their social media (X) about the courtesy visit to the RCC's office in Hoima City with the WPHF team from UN Women Uganda https://x.com/MIRAC2Albertine/status/1830632369373827348?s=09

2. RFPJ

a) Created a promotional video about their ADR training

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nvN9sWDu7P8UhAb3JeWjhLkdDeLMMY0e/view

b) Posted on social media regarding activities with community reporters https://x.com/rfpjuganda/status/1817657219380564335

3. A PSD beneficiary who advocates about GBV in the community was highlighted in a local newspaper article and news report <u>https://www.gatewaynewsug.com/okwong-urges-men-to-report-domestic-violence-cases/</u> News Video: <u>https://youtu.be/RFKxm52yII8?si=RW7bIxd8bCRRCkp</u>



6b. Knowledge Products and Communications/Visibility of Implementing Partners

4. SHED posted on their social media (X) about the monitoring visit of the WPHF team from UN Women https://x.com/UgShed/status/1846822291985879206?s=09

5. AllJ produced a promotional video showcasing highlights from the training for women journalists on peace and conflict reporting during elections https://x.com/AfricanIIJ/status/1836729815262548475?s=09

Knowledge products

AllJ produced new knowledge around conflict analysis, early warning systems, electoral preparedness, advocacy among Women CSO Leaders



Strengthening women participation i

7. Capacity Strengthening Activities by UN Country Office/Management Entity

a) For Countries that have implemented Capacity Strengthening Projects with WPHF funding

i) If your country has received funds for capacity strengthening initiatives, report against your results framework and ProDoc, including the results/changes in capacity, skills, or practices of CSO partners and their organization.

ii) Describe any results from pre and/or post training surveys that may have been completed (e.g. OCATs) or if any capacity strengthening materials were produced using this funding and share these with WPHF.

In 2024, Uganda received capacity strengthening funds of \$103, 126 to support CSO capacity strengthening. All 12 CSOs participated in these initiatives, including the Programmes Officer and Finance Officer of each grantee. In certain cases, such as the onboarding workshop, Executive Directors were also present from each of the Organisations.

Outcome 1: Systems and structures for the implementation and coordination of WPHF strengthened Partner onboarding workshop

The onboarding workshop for new WPHF partners, held on April 23rd and 24th at the UN Women Country Office in Uganda, significantly strengthened systems and structures for the implementation and coordination of WPHF. Through in-depth sessions on finance, monitoring and evaluation, risk management, and Preventing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), partners enhanced their capacity to align with UN Women and WPHF policies, ensuring compliance and effective project execution. By equipping partners with knowledge on reporting compliance, risk mitigation, and audit preparation, the workshop reduced project risk exposure and enhanced accountability. Additionally, guidance on communication, branding, and the use of the UN Partner Portal streamlined coordination mechanisms, fostering improved collaboration and adherence to WPHF standards

Preventing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) training

The WPHF team strengthened capacity of NUWOSO board members and staff by conducting a Preventing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) training on 28th August 2024. 12 technical staff (5M, 7F) and seven board members (3M, 4F) were equipped with knowledge and understanding on PSEA principles, UN partnership standards, and reporting mechanisms, to prevent, report and respond to SEA-related issues effectively.

Results-Based Management (RBM) training

Capacity of the 12 WPHF grantees has been enhanced in results-based management (RBM) skills through targeted training sessions. An online workshop on 26th June 2024 provided grantees with essential guidance on quarterly report writing, with a focus on beneficiary calculations and indicator tracking. Further strengthening this capacity, a refresher training on 25th September 2024 addressed challenges from the Q2 reporting period, ensuring that grantees received tailored support to improve their reporting quality and alignment with WPHF requirements. These enhanced compliance, accountability, and effective project implementation, contributing to stronger WPHF coordination and impact in Uganda

Communication Training (including Peer to Peer Learning)

On 3rd December 2024, WPHF grantees attended a peer-to-peer learning training led by the African Institute for Investigative Journalism (AIIJ) in conjunction with the UN Women Uganda Country Office. This enhanced grantees' capacity in storytelling, new media, and digital documentation, strengthening their ability to document and communicate human interest stories effectively, improving visibility, advocacy, and impact reporting within the WPHF framework.

b) Other countries' capacity strengthening initiatives that have benefited WPHF Partners

If your country (those who have not received funds for capacity strengthening initiatives) has carried out any capacity strengthening sessions (webinars, in-person training sessions, workshops, etc.) that were conducted by the Country Office, Management Entity or other external agencies with CSO partners, please describe. Include i) the topic/subject; ii) who conducted the capacity strengthening; iii) where (virtual/in person); iv) number of CSOs and CSO representatives that participated. Describe any results from pre and/or post training surveys that may have been completed. Finally, if any capacity building materials were produced and would benefit other CSOs, please share these with WPHF.



7. Capacity Strengthening Activities by UN Country Office/Management Entity

N/A

8. L-HUB Grants (Peer Learning, Mentorship or Joint Advocacy Actions)¹⁵

If CSO partners have implemented a L-HUB grants during the year, please <u>summarize</u> the key initiatives and results from these grants. This should include results related to skills, coalition building/networking, etc. as aligned with the CSOs' project document. Also include the number of CSO representatives (disaggregated by sex and age group) that have benefited from these grants. Please share the completed peer learning/mentorship grant reporting template with your annual report submission.

*Partners who received these grants must also be included in the CSO Profile (Section 1) and WPHF Beneficiary Template 2024 as a separate row

In Uganda, two grantees, the Great Lakes Union for Inclusive Development (GUIDE) and the Women's Organization Network for Human Rights Advocacy (WONETHA), were competitively selected to receive funding of USD 8,000 each, equivalent to UGX 29,200,000, as part of the Peer Learning Awards. This funding will support the implementation of peer learning activities and is set to commence in the first quarter of 2025.

9. Risks and Mitigation

Using the table below, identify any risks that occurred during the reporting period and assess their i) risk level; ii) likelihood of it occurring; and iii) the impact this risk would have on the project, programme, or country. What are the mitigation measures to minimize the risk to prevent it or respond to it if it occurs? Consider risks related to new or escalating conflict/tensions, climate change, programmatic or institutional risks monitoring and evaluation and Do No Harm

Risk Area (contextual,	Risk Level	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation
programmatic, institutionally, briefly describe)	4=Very High 3=High 2=Medium 1=Low	5=Very High 4=Likely 3=Possible 2=Unlikely 1=Rare	5=Extreme 4=Major 3=Moderate 2=Minor 1=Insignificant	Mitigating measures undertaken during the reporting period to address the risk
Governance (Weak accountability, transparency, and risk management of Grantees)	2	3	3	 Work with external partners and stakeholders to improve transparency around the feasibility of major programmes/projects; provide stronger oversight through regular monitoring of programmes and spot checks
Programme partner management (Weak ability of beneficiaries to fulfil commitments in a timely and effective manner)	2	3	3	 Enhance the capacities of government and CSO partners in Results-Based Management (RBM), including program management, monitoring, and reporting, as well as operational aspects such as financial management and internal controls. Offer comprehensive training on new partnership procedures, guidelines, and ensuring compliance with program and financial regulations. Oversee the implementation of audit action plans by the respective partners.
Financial market instability and inflation of the economy (Volatile exchange rates, rising costs, and reduced purchasing power can affect budgeting and financial planning)	3	4	4	• Leveraging existing collaboration with consultants, contractors, and vendors to negotiate competitive pricing, while ensuring transparency and accountability throughout the process
Extreme weather conditions that make it difficult to operate or deliver on mandate leading (damaged roads difficult access to beneficiaries)	3	3	4	 Plan and conduct more monitoring activities and field trips during the dry season Coordinating with local networks to gather information while minimizing potential risks.
Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (violations of the principles of the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) by grantee staff or associates)	2	2	4	 Risk-based capacity assessment conducted for all grantees prior to onboarding PSEA training carried out as part of the grantee onboarding workshop and targeted trainings delivered for some grantees Action plans developed to roll out greater awareness raising

¹⁵ For partners that have also been engaged in the Women Have Wings Awards, please use this section to report on the main results and activities completed as aligned with the Project Document.



10. Delays and Adaptations/Revisions

If there were delays at the country level, please explain the delays and reasons/factors for contributing to the delay, actions taken to mitigate future delays, and adaptations made to account for the delays. Indicate any major adjustments in strategies, targets or key outcomes that took place. This section should also include information on contracting and programmatic delays related to escalating crisis or other factors.

Some grantees experienced delays in receiving their advances for quarter three (the second quarter of implementation), which affected the timely execution of project activities in the quarter. The delays were primarily due to the limited capacity of grantees in financial management and documentation during the Q2 reporting period. Challenges such as incomplete or inaccurate Q2 financial records and lack of evidence documents slowed the approval and disbursement processes, creating bottlenecks in project implementation. These gaps highlighted the need for targeted support to strengthen the financial and narrative reporting processes of grantee, ensuring they could meet the required standards and timelines.

Proactive measures to address these delays and build the capacity of grantees were adopted through regular capacity-building sessions organized to equip grantees with essential financial management, reporting skills, communication and branding. Monthly catch-up calls between the UN Women grants managers and the grantees created a platform for grantees to seek guidance and resolve issues in real-time. In addition, during quarterly monitoring missions, UN Women personnel collaborated with grantees to review documentation, identify gaps, and provide tailored guidance to improve their processes. To ensure timely support, clear response deadlines were established for addressing partner inquiries, preventing further delays. These measures not only enhanced the financial management and reporting capacity of grantees but also facilitated more efficient project implementation. Grantee managers have also been working with the affected grantees on acceleration plans to enable them to catch up and achieve their targets within the project period.

11. Lessons Learned¹⁶

What challenges and lessons were learned during the reporting period at both the project and country level? Include those lessons that can benefit other WPHF countries and of the fund overall. For each challenge, identify and describe the challenge, provide details on what are the factors that may have contributed to it occurring, describe how the challenge was addressed in the reporting period, or will be addressed in the future, and summarize the key lesson that can help inform the project, or improve in the factors.

the future. These should include both programmatic and operational challenges. Add rows as required.				
Identify	What are the	How was the challenge	Key Lesson Learned	
Challenge/Describe Challenges can be programmatic or operational affecting the country program and/or of projects.	factors/reasons contributing to this challenge?	addressed? What was done differently, or what will be done to address the challenge?	As a result of the challenge what did you (and partners) learn from the situation that has helped to inform the project, or improve how the project is implemented or for future interventions?	
Delays in financial disbursements due to limited financial management/reporting capacity, hindering project implementation	Some of the CSOs have capacity gaps on financial management and record keeping, meaning that some documentation for liquidations was incomplete or required additional time to compile	The Finance Associate worked closely with the grantees, especially in the first couple of quarters, on targeted capacity strengthening to improve their financial management systems and document management processes	Proactive capacity-building and continuous support are essential to ensure grantees meet financial and reporting standards, facilitating timely project execution. More individualized capacity strengthening should be built in from the start, in addition to broader capacity building sessions for all grantees on reporting requirements.	
Sudden death of Executive Director (ED) of a grantee	The ED of one grantee organization passed away, causing a halt in the organization's operations.	UN Women team visited the organization and communicated with board members to provide support during the transition to a new ED. An acceleration plan was developed to ensure the project stays on track. Weekly virtual meetings were held until the end of 2024 to follow up on activities and challenges.	The sudden death of a leader can expose vulnerabilities in an organization's leadership succession planning and operational continuity. The project team has learned that establishing robust contingency plans and leadership development programs is essential to mitigate such risks.	
Dispute Between the Partner and Sub-Grantees	A dispute between the main grantee CSO and a sub-grantee occurred,	UN Women undertook a fact- finding mission to assess the situation, determine the	Clearly defined roles, responsibilities, and deliverables in partnership agreements/	

¹⁶ A lesson learned is a systematic reflection of challenges (or successes) that have occurred during the reporting period which has resulted in a change, adaption, or improvement as a result of the challenge, or a planned change or adaptation in the future.



11. Lessons Learned ¹⁶			
	leading to delays in some project activities.	impact of the dispute on project implementation, and advise on a way forward. This resulted in the grantee dis- continuing with the sub- grantee and instead pursuing direct implementation.	Memoranda of Understanding are essential to prevent misunderstandings. Regular joint monitoring activities to mitigate risks of conflict, promote trust, and ensure that project activities remain on track to achieve desired outcomes
			Be prepared to adapt the program based on changing circumstances. Flexibility allows for adjustments that can improve program outcomes.

12. Innovations and Best Practices¹⁷

Please include information on any innovative practices (programmatic and operational) that emerged during the reporting period, especially those that can be beneficial for other WPHF countries, expand the body of knowledge on women, peace, and security and humanitarian action. Innovations and best practices can be from projects or country level. Please provide details such as CSO name, location, etc.

a) Innovations:

The development of context-specific training content for journalists, including reference handbooks, enhanced learning by providing tailored guidance within specific contexts. This led to sustainable knowledge creation resources, equipping journalists with practical tools to improve accuracy, ethical reporting, and impactful conflict sensitive reporting storytelling and social media engagements. This innovation was exhibited by SHED and AIIJ.

UN Women Uganda and the WPHF Secretariat also piloted a **virtual monitoring mission** with grantee RFPJ. This provided an opportunity for the WPHF Secretariat to interact more directly with the grantee and women who are involved and/or benefit from the project without having to travel to the country. The experience was broadly a success, also due to the grantee's ability to avail a good quality video link for the session.

b) Best Practices:

"Local Led Solutions Approach": Placing communities at the center of solutions ensures that interventions are sustainable and tailored to their unique contexts and engaging local champions of change ensures that anti-SGBV messages resonate with local populations. This was one of the adopted practices by CERID.

Collaborative planning with actors within the region minimizes overlaps and addresses service gaps, ensuring comprehensive support for beneficiaries and sustainable joint Advocacy efforts as practiced by NUWOSO

13. Auditing and Financial Management

Mention if any projects were audited during the reporting period and provide a brief summary of results. Do not include detailed findings of the audit as reports are public. Alternatively, you can share an audit report with your programme lead, if relevant. N/A

14. Next Steps and Priority Actions

In bullet form, please list the priority actions for the coming year including onboarding of new partners, monitoring missions or other planned initiatives related to WPHF.

- Supporting onboarding of L-Hub Peer Learning Award 2024 grantees (GUIDE and WONETHA) to ensure that their interventions can start on time in 2025.
- Working closely with grantees to address implementation delays, as required, including developing and adopting acceleration workplans to ensure that interventions can catch up. Regular check-ins with all grantees by the grantee managers will be maintained to ensure support and close follow-up.

¹⁷ A best practice is strategy, approach, technique, or process that has proven to work well and deemed to be effective or appropriate for addressing a problem based on experience, evaluation or in comparison to other practices, and is therefore recommended as a model. It is also a practice that has been tested and validated and has potential to be replicated and there is value in sharing with others working in similar contexts, sectors, or with similar target groups.



14. Next Steps and Priority Actions

In bullet form, please list the priority actions for the coming year including onboarding of new partners, monitoring missions or other planned initiatives related to WPHF.

- Several partners are still facing challenges in implementing and reporting effectively on results. UN Women will continue to provide targeted support as well as capacity strengthening efforts to grantees requiring additional assistance.
- For the Institutional Funding grantees whose agreements are ending in 2025, UN Women will provide continuous support and monitoring to ensure successful close-out with a focus on facilitating the achievement of desired outcomes and outputs and sustainability strategies to help ensure sustained impact beyond the project period.
- Planned quarterly monitoring visits will cover all areas of project implementation, with a focus on visiting project sites that have not yet been visited and dedicated time with grantees who require closer follow-up or greater support. Monitoring missions will gather feedback from beneficiaries on the projects' impact and enable UN Women Uganda to offer technical support to implementing partners, drawing on UN Women's expertise in project management, financial oversight, and collaboration.



ANNEX A: Summary of WPHF Results (by Indicator)

For each WPHF Outcome which is relevant to CSOs supported during the reporting year, report against the Impact Level (WPHF Outcome) Indicator.

Note for how many CSOs this is relevant (Column 2) and provide a very brief summary the results (Column 3), presenting both the numeric value and summary. If an outcome is not relevant to your country, enter N/A in both CSO and summary columns.

WPHF Indicator	Relevant for How Many CSOs (number)	Summary Result (1 short paragraph)
Institutional Funding		<u>i</u>
1.1 Average number of months organization can be sustained as a result of institutional funding	3 (ARD, GUIDE & WONETHA)	An average of 14 months will be sustained by the organizations following successful resource mobilization as a result of strengthening their knowledge and supporting the development of resource mobilization strategies through institutional funding.
1.2 Number/Percentage of staff retained as a result of institutional funding	3 (ARD, GUIDE & WONETHA)	18 staff members (13 women and 5 men) maintained their positions by securing their salaries through institutional funding from the WPHF.
1.3 Development of risk management and contingency plans or strategies for organization	3 (ARD, WONETHA, GUIDE)	ARD developed a procurement and asset, and security Management policy; WONETHA is developing a Human Resource policy/procedures and Resource mobilization strategy; GUIDE developed a simplified internal control kit-a set of guidelines for detecting, monitoring and mitigating financial risks associated with budget preparation and monitoring, payroll processing and adjustments and procurement of goods and services.
1.4 Number/Types of adaptive strategies, tools or systems adopted by organization for continuity of operations	3 (ARD, GUIDE, WONETHA)	GUIDE developed a financial accounting software and installed Information Management Systems on institutional computers, WONETHA developed Financial Manuals, while ARD has improved capacity of two staff on the use of the financial accounting software to support institutional operations.
Outcome 2: Conflict Prevention		
2.1 Number/Percentage of women participating in decision- making in conflict prevention processes and response	6 (PSD, AIIJ, SHED, MIRAC, RFPJ, AFHI)	399 women and girls (all age 30+) are engaged in conflict prevention and peacebuilding processes in the target areas.
2.2 Number/Types of conflict prevention mechanisms are gender responsive	7 (PSD, AIIJ, SHED, MIRAC, KOWDO, AFHI, RFPJ)	5 conflict prevention mechanisms adopted to respond and prevent conflicts such as: Early Warning and Early Response Systems (PSD, RFPJ) ensuring timely interventions; Community-Based Peace Committees (KOWDO), engaging women and men equally in local peacebuilding and conflict resolution efforts (KOWDO); Legal and Policy Frameworks (MIRAC), strengthening laws and policies that protect women's rights (MIRAC, RFPJ); and Social Norms Transformation (SHED,AIIJ), addressing harmful gender norms that fuel conflict and discrimination through education and advocacy.
2.2b Number of conflicts resolved, averted or referred	6 (PSD, AIIJ, SHED,	225 conflict cases have been mediated and resolved,
Outcome 5: Protection of Women and Girls	MIRAC, AFHI, RFPJ)	while 5 referred to police for further management.
5.1 Number/Percentage of CSOs, that report having greater	3 (NUWOSO, AFHI,	137 CSO leaders have enhanced capacity and skills to
influence and agency to work on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV)	CERID)	prevent and respond to SGBV. In Isingiro, AFHI identified CSOs to influence relevant GBV programming processes and decision making at district. In Agago, NUWOSO improved knowledge among CSOs on gender integration and implementation, influencing women rights agency and ending gender inequality and SGBV. In Arua, CERID engaged CSOs on gender-responsive approaches and disability inclusion.
5.2 Degree to which social accountability mechanisms are used by civil society in order to monitor and engage in efforts to end SGBV	2 (NUWOSO, CERID)	Two grantees have increased Advocacy efforts to end SGBV through use of Multimedia messaging, empowering women and women leaders to mediate,



		refer SGBV case as well as skilling women in different
		trades, availing them opportunities to improve their
		wellbeing, reducing their vulnerability.
5.3 Number of local women's organizations, CSOs or	2 (NUWOSO, CERID),	64 participants (40F, 24M) engaged in mediations and
autonomous social movements coordinating efforts to advocate		reconciliation of conflicts at community level under
and implement interventions to protect women and girls'		Outcome 5.
human rights and ending SGBV		