



Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF)

Annual Project Narrative Progress Report

**Rapid Response Window on Women's Participation in Peace Processes and
the Implementation of Peace Agreements (RRW)**

Rapid Response Window Unit

Reporting Period:
1 January – 31 December 2022

<p>Project Title: Rapid Response Window on Women’s Participation in Peace Processes and the Implementation of Peace Agreements (RRW)</p> <p>Project Number: 00122550</p>	<p>PUNO(s): UN Women Rapid Response Window Unit, WPHF Secretariat</p>
<p>Reporting Period: 1 January – 31 December 2022</p> <p>Report Submitted by: UN Women as the Secretariat of the Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund Name: Ghita El Khyari Entity: UN Women Title: Head of the Secretariat, Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund Email: Ghita.khyari@unwomen.org</p>	<p>Implementing Partners: N/A</p> <p>Project Locations: Global</p>
<p>Project Description: The Rapid Response Window on women’s participation in peace processes and the implementation of peace agreements is a funding mechanism that addresses a gap in urgent, practical support to increase women’s participation in formal peace processes. It was established on the recommendation of the UNSG’s October 2019 annual report on WPS (S/2019/800, p.37).</p>	<p>Total Approved Budget: \$ 6,966,560</p> <p>Total budget transferred to RRW at the end of the reporting period: \$ 6,966,560 (2020: \$ 2.6 million; 2021: \$ 2.81 million; 2022: \$1,556, 650)</p> <p>Project Start Date: May 15, 2020 Project End Date: December 31, 2023 Total Duration (in months): 31 months</p>
<p>WPHF Outcome the Project is contributing to: Outcome 4: Conflict Resolution</p>	
<p>WPHF Secretariat/RRW Unit indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number/type of demand-driven requests supported by RRW (direct-support) 2. Number/type of short-term grants supported by RRW <p>WPHF programme level indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1. Number of women that participate in formal peace processes or negotiations 4.2. Existence of gender responsive elements/provisions in peace agreements, dialogues, and/or decision-making processes 4.3 Types of strategies used/implemented to participate in and contribute to the peace process and/or implementation of a peace agreement 	

Summary

This report covers the results and progress achieved of the Rapid Response Window for Women's Participation in peace processes and the implementation of peace agreements (RRW) of Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) between 1 January and 31 December 2022. The report highlights the key impact and results of women's rights civil society organizations (CSOs) and women peacebuilders working on peace processes and partaking in peace agreements in crisis and conflict countries, as well as the progress achieved by the RRW Unit in facilitating this critical work along with its partners.

2022 was a year of growth and expansion for the RRW. It supported the direct representation of civil society organizations and women peacebuilders in Track 1 and Track 2 peace processes and facilitated expert advisory/technical support to strengthen women's participation and influence in peace agreement implementation.

Overall, 20 initiatives by 45 CSOs and their co-implementing partners were supported during the year. Specifically, this was done through the provision of urgent logistical costs for 6 CSO recipients in the DRC, Yemen, Mali, Cameroon and Ethiopia through the Direct Support stream, and 12 Short-Term grants to 42 CSOs (including co-implementing partners) in 12 countries.¹ The majority of interventions focused on Track 2 peace processes (47%) and the implementation of peace agreements (41%).

In 2022, the Direct Support stream of the RRW, which aims to provide direct logistical and technical support on behalf of civil society, continued to demonstrate itself as a rapid mechanism to support women activists seize opportunities for their participation in high-level peace negotiations, as well as to develop more inclusive peace agreements accountability mechanisms. Women peacebuilders and women's rights organization have requested this type of support to increase their direct participation notably for Track 1 peace processes in the DRC and Yemen; to improve their influence on the implementation of peace agreements in Cameroon and Ethiopia by building coalitions and engaging key political actors and stakeholders; and to increase knowledge and awareness on women's participation in the peace process in Mali.

Through Short-Term grants, which aim to address urgent gaps to women's meaningful participation to influence a lasting inclusive peace process, women's rights organizations have been able to develop concrete recommendations and key actions to influence peace processes and include women's voices. This has resulted in innovative strategies to raise awareness and inform stakeholders; and include or strengthen gender provisions of peace agreements and their implementation. Key actors have been able to mobilize concrete and efficient solutions to improve women's influence in a sustainable way, especially through the monitoring mechanisms in place in different parts of the world.

Incremental progress and results have been achieved as a result of women's participation and inclusion in peace process which have been showing trends related to women's influence in peace processes. In Sub-Saharan-Africa region, while it is still difficult to engage high-level actors involved in formal processes, the platforms created by national dialogues or peace talks such as in Cameroon, DRC and Eswatini opened opportunities for women's organisations to develop their advocacy, based on evidence, to convince political actors and achieve significant progress. For countries with signed peace agreements, such as South-Sudan and Mozambique, the active monitoring by women's organisations has highlighted persistent gaps and proposed actions to reverse the dynamics.

¹ Cameroon, Colombia, DRC, Eswatini, Guatemala, Liberia, Libya, Mozambique, Palestine, South Sudan, Syria and Venezuela.

In the MENA region, facing many obstacles to their direct participation at the negotiation tables as well as in formal peacebuilding spaces, women's civil society organizations have proposed recommendations based on feminist analyses of the ongoing peace processes in Syria and Palestine. Women's coalition building and visibility of genderblind spots in peace processes were reinforced. However, in Libya women peacebuilders/organizations have chosen to work within informal dialogue spaces as a more efficient strategy to influence formal processes..

In South America, several peace agreements have been signed and are being implemented with very little space given to women's voices in all their diversity. Thus, the RRW has been able to increase women's leadership, including women victims of guerrilla and indigenous groups, and has seen new commitments made by political actors at different levels with immediate and positive consequences for women's inclusion. Increased women's leadership as well as intersectionality and the localisation of peace processes are common grounds for the work of women's organisations in Colombia, Guatemala, and Venezuela.

In 2022, the RRW has supported the participation of at least 290 women and young women, including 5 women with disabilities, to formal Track 1 & 2 peace negotiations. A total of 26,308 people (72% women) directly benefited from interventions and direct support from the CSOs and 271,934 people benefited indirectly through various outreach and social media interventions to influence peace agreements in their countries. The RRW has enhanced the coordination and connection between local women's rights grassroots organizations, establishing four CSOs coalitions and women peacebuilders networks in *Yemen, Ethiopia, Cameroon and Syria*. In addition, 13 evidence-based advocacy agenda, policy papers, strategic engagement action plans and studies channeling the needs of women peacebuilders and their recommendations on effective mechanisms to increase their influence on formal and informal peace processes, were developed and disseminated amongst international community representatives and key decision makers, from Yemen, Cameroon, Mali, Cameroon, DRC, Eswatini, Mozambique, Syria (2), Palestine, Libya, Colombia and Guatemala.

Building on these achievements, RRW is embarking on a promising year ahead with key activities planned to strengthen outreach and visibility particularly in emerging priority countries. The onboarding of new INGO partners will also fill some of the identified gaps in Sub-Saharan Africa, Central Europe and South Asia. In addition, agreements with existing RRW INGOs partners will be extended to meet the expectations. The dynamism of the RRW has posed operational challenges and the RRW is working on improving its internal processes to build a more coordinated, coherent, and contributive approach to address these.

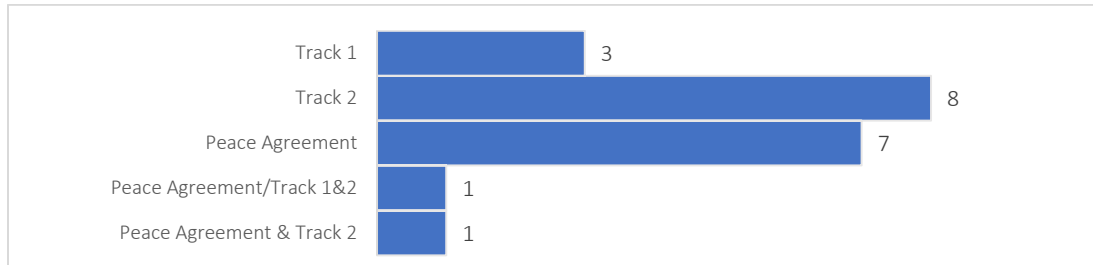
2. Results and Progress Achieved

Outcome 1: The Rapid Response Window on Women's Participation in Peace processes and the implementation of peace agreements is established and delivery of interventions from the window is ensured.

2022 was a year of growth and expansion for the RRW. It supported the direct participation of women rights organizations and women peacebuilders in Track 1 and Track 2 peace processes and facilitated expert advisory/technical support to strengthen women's influence in peace agreement implementation in countries.

Overall, 20 initiatives by 45 CSOs and their co-implementing partners were supported during the year. Specifically, this was done through the provision of urgent logistical costs for 6 CSO recipients in DRC, Yemen, Mali, Cameroon and Ethiopia through the Direct Support stream, and 12 Short-Term grants to 42 CSOs and their co-implementing partners in 12 countries.² The majority of interventions focused on Track 2 peace processes and peace agreements (Figure 1).

Figure 1 : Tracks and Peace Agreements supported³



Overall, a total of 26,308 people (72% women) directly benefited from interventions and direct support from CSOs. A total of 271,934 people indirectly benefited through various outreach and social media interventions from CSOs and INGO partners.

An additional five short-term grants were approved in late 2022 and will begin implementation in 2023.

Key Impacts⁴

Through the Short-Term grants and Direct supports streams, the RRW has supported the direct participation of 290 women and young women at the table of negotiations of formal peace processes. This includes 23 women including 5 women with disabilities for Track 1 peace processes in Cameroon, DRC, Libya and Yemen ; 267 women and young women for track 2 peace processes in Cameroon, Ethiopia, Eswatini and Syria. CSOs used a variety of participatory and inclusive strategies to contribute to and influence peace processes or peace agreements including targeted advocacy meetings, Research studies and SWOT analysis, recommendations reports, workshops, political statements, media and community outreach, platform for dialogues and coalition building, and strategic documents. Moreover, a total of 13 evidence-based advocacy agenda, policy papers, strategic engagement action plans and studies channeling the needs of women peacebuilders and their recommendations on effective mechanisms to increase their influence on formal and informal peace processes, were developed and disseminated amongst international community representatives and key decision makers, from Yemen, Cameroon, Mali, Cameroon, DRC, Eswatini, Mozambique, Syria (2), Palestine, Libya, Colombia, and Guatemala (See Appendix 3).

The use of RRW streams suggest some key trends that can be confirmed in the future and further analysed to feed into the overall advocacy for women in peace processes.

² Cameroon, Colombia, DRC, Eswatini, Guatemala, Liberia, Libya, Mozambique, Palestine, South Sudan, Syria and Venezuela.

³ Please refer to Appendix 3 for a list of CSOs supported

⁴ Please refer to Appendix 1 for a summary of results by indicator

Direct Support: Increasing direct participation in peace talks, coalition building and knowledge generation on women influence to peace processes

In 2022, women's rights organizations and activists who were recipients of direct logistical and technical support, demonstrated that the rapid support enabled them to seize opportunities for their participation in high-level peace negotiation; but also, to develop more inclusive peace agreements accountability mechanisms. Women peacebuilders and women's rights organization have requested this support to increase their direct participation notably for Track 1 processes in DRC and Yemen; for improving their influence on the implementation of peace agreements in Cameroon and Ethiopia by building coalition and engaging key political actors and stakeholders; or increasing knowledge and awareness on women participation to a peace process in Mali.

In the **DRC**, two women peacebuilders participated in the third round of consultations on the recommendations for effective measures in the Disarmament, Demobilisation and Community Rehabilitation Program in November 2022 as part of the Nairobi Peace Talks Process led by a special envoy nominated by the African Union. These leaders from the African Women Leaders' Network (AWLN) provided technical guidance to community members and other women activists, resulting in a policy paper to voice the needs of women and influence the recommendations of the Demobilization program.

In **Yemen**, AMENA foundation a women organization, was involved in third peace tracks process and the humanitarian truce, supported by the Office of the United Nations Special Envoy (OSESGY) and UN Women, and ensured their involvement in the Group Nine mechanism, the PACT and the Yemeni women's Technical Advisory Group (TAG) components⁵. The organization developed a strategic engagement and advocacy plan to promote the meaningful participation and effective contribution of youth and women with disabilities in the process.



Photo 1 : AMENA Initiative, Yemen, 2022.

Overall, five women living with disabilities were engaged in workshops in Jordan to strategize on how to engage with decision makers and effective approaches to influence the peace process in Yemen. The workshop gave birth to the 'Women living with Disabilities Group for Peace', which will continue to lead efforts and build alliances with women's rights CSOs in Yemen. Moreover, as a result of this involvement, one workshop participant was invited to participate in the G9+1 women peace activities meeting in Amman in November 2022, where the advocacy plan gained momentum and acknowledgment of the international community.

In **Cameroon**, Reach Out Cameroon (Roc), a woman grassroots organization with the indigenes of the Ndian Division called for all Ndian Peace Conference in April 2022 to seek lasting solutions not only to the crisis plaguing the Ndian Division but to contribute towards the end of the Anglophone crisis in line with resolutions of the Major National Dialogue of 2019. RoC sought the support of the RRW- Direct Support to enable 5 indigenous women of Ndian to take part in the conference led by the Prime Minister and amplify the voices of grassroots women. The women jointly drafted a Paper on behalf of all women in the conference to state their position with regards to peacebuilding with key recommendations including the equal participation of women and men in all peace processes and development activities in the Ndian

⁵ [مبادرة دمج -اليمن DAMJ Disability Initiative Yemen \(@DamjInitiative\) / Twitter](#)

division. The conference provided a fundamental opportunity for 5 grassroots women to engage fully in providing solutions to deescalate tensions and violence, ensuring they are visible as key actors and continue to gain recognition and legitimacy to merit their inclusion in the wider track 1 and 2 processes geared towards resolving the Anglophone Crisis and in their communities.

In **Ethiopia**, TIMRAN and Ethiopian Women's Coalition (EWC) strengthened their meaningful inclusion and influence as activists, networks and coalitions from diverse constituencies in the National Dialogue process in Ethiopia. In a two-day workshop led by TIMRAN, women's networks, coalitions, and activists were able to identify and leverage opportunities for women's inclusion in National Dialogue processes, influencing strategies used by women civil society actors, as well as hindering and supporting factors relating to women civil society engagement in National Dialogues. Building on TIMRAN's approach, the Ethiopian Women's Coalition (EWC) focused on a targeted regional scope for knowledge exchange and coalition building, bringing together 70 women activists, establishing a network and community of women peacebuilders. Moving forward, EWC will be hosting a forum to share cross-country contexts, insights and experiences in order to translate into tangible actions on how to increase the influence these coalitions into the National Dialogue.

In **Mali**, Alliance pour la Recherche et le Développement Intégré-ARDI improved the gender dimension of the implementation of the Alger agreement by analysing the opinions of women, men and young people on the best approaches to women's participation to help increase the influence of women in the peace and reconciliation process in the country. ARDI has worked with the most marginalised groups, especially rural women who do not have the chance to participate in peace processes and whose voices are too often unheard. After a representative sampling process led by an international consultant, 900 rural, refugee and displaced women were interviewed and shared their views. The report has not only contributed to reducing the lack of data on women's participation in peace processes but has also been used in awareness raising and advocacy to engage key stakeholders.

Short Term Grants: Increasing gender provision of peace agreements, inclusive monitoring mechanisms and commitments of key actors⁶

In 2022, the RRW supported 14 Short-Term grant initiatives to address the gaps to women's meaningful participation to influence a lasting inclusive peace process in several parts of the world. Most of these initiatives have been devoted to track 2 processes and the implementation of peace agreements. As a result, women's rights organizations have developed concrete recommendations and key actions to influence peace processes and include women voices. This has resulted in innovative strategies to raise awareness and inform stakeholders; and enhance gender provisions of peace agreements and their implementation. Key actors have been able to mobilize concrete and efficient solutions to improve women's influence in a sustainable way, especially through the monitoring mechanisms in place in different parts of the world.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Eight short-term grants have been implemented in Sub-Saharan Africa. While it is difficult to engage high-level actors involved in formal processes, the platforms created by national dialogues or peace talks such as in Cameroon, DRC and Eswatini created opportunities for women's organisations to develop their advocacy, based on evidence, to convince these actors and achieve significant progress. For countries with

⁶ Linked to Indicator 4.2 of the WPHF's Theory of Change and Outcome 4 on Conflict Resolution

signed peace agreements, such as South-Sudan and Mozambique, the active monitoring by women's organisations has highlighted persistent gaps and proposed actions to reverse the dynamics.

In **Cameroon**, Reach Out Cameroon (RoC) who benefited from both Direct Support and a Short-Term Grant, and supported by the RRW's partner, ICAN, contributed to the restoration of peace and social cohesion in the Ndian Division in line with the objectives of the Cameroon Major National Dialogue of 2019. Through the establishment of a women's network of 40 women peacebuilders, communities were engaged and gender-sensitive monitoring of the implementation of the Dialogue was carried out to evaluate the work and roles that women play within the National Dialogue mechanisms. In addition, five women peacebuilders jointly drafted a Policy Paper on key entry points and recommendations for women's equal participation in the peace process, as the only path to achieve sustainable peace. As a result, the Prime Minister and cabinet requested the National Advance School of Local Administration (NASLA) to organize a training for women in Buea and Bamenda on effective leadership and preparation for elections.



Photo 2 : Reach Out Cameroon Initiative, Cameroon, 2022

In the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, Focus Droits Accès, with support from CORDAID, worked with women community members and women's organizations to develop an advocacy action plan on the participation and inclusion of women in negotiations and peace agreements from Nairobi. Women activists have been able to participate to several discussions in Nairobi in the drafting of a set of recommendations to end the crisis in the region. In 2023, the organization will be organizing a series of advocacy meetings with government officials in Goma and Kinshasa to engage them in the inclusion of women in the Nairobi peace negotiations and agreement.

In **Eswatini**, together with INGO partner, CORDAID, Women Unlimited Eswatini (WUE) worked with 33 women peacebuilders to carry out a SWOT analysis to facilitate their ability to influence the national dialogue, and the current decision-making within their various institutions. The analysis has informed an action plan towards increasing women's impact and engagement in formal peace negotiations spaces, presented at the Regional Women Peace and Security workshop (led by the Southern African Development Countries-SADC) and feeding into the Multi-sectoral Response Platform, ensuring women's experiences are shared and resolved at decision making tables. The support from the WPHF-RRW has opened new windows for potential stronger collaboration and transformation and national level as well as some degree of commitment from government towards dialogue and peaceful engagement

In **Liberia**, with the support of Conciliation Resources. Liberia Future Trust (LiFT) and Women's NGO Secretariat of Liberia (WONGOSOL), increased the awareness on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) recommendation, particularly those relating to women survivors, and identified the critical barriers that have impeded the participation of women and young women in the implementation and monitoring of the TRC's recommendations through dialogues between CSOs, County Gender Coordinators, County Superintendents, City Mayors, the Ministry of Justice and traditional leaders. As a result, a CSO-led advocacy movement was established calling for the creation of judicial body to monitor implementation of TRC recommendations and has supported seven women grassroots organizations for community outreach. Advocacy messages were published through media outreach to targeted actors to

engage policymakers and international actors with political influence to garner support for implementation of TRC report.

In **Mozambique**, the Institute for Multiparty Democracy (IMD), with technical support of Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD), influenced the Maputo Accord for Peace and National Reconciliation between the government of Mozambique and Renamo signed on August 2019 and the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) process. Based on a baseline study carried out by the CSO on challenges and opportunities for women's inclusion in the implementation of the Peace Agreement and DDR Process, a national conference was carried out in September 2022, offering a safe platform for more than 114 women peacebuilders and representatives from women's rights organizations to reflect on the findings and discuss concrete strategies and priorities to advocate for their effective participation in peace and security processes in the country. As a result, an advocacy strategy was developed, focused on approaches with engaging with government officials and relevant stakeholders and ensuring that women from diverse backgrounds are part of the implementation of the Maputo Accord and DDR process, including those from civil society, women of political parties and women in affected by the arm conflict⁷.

In **South Sudan**, Young Women Christian Association (YWCA), also benefiting from a Short-Term grant, built avenues for meaningful engagement and dialogue of 34 women and youth with key duty bearers in relation to peace implementation process and on issues related to the 35% affirmative action on women's representation as part of the Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS). Women activists and women's rights organizations strengthened their capacities to advocate, lobby and influence the involvement of women in R-ARCSS implementation and to enhance women's full participation in decision-making in the national government of South Sudan.

MENA Region

In 2022, the RRW supported 5 Short-term grants initiatives in Mena region. Facing many obstacles to their direct participation at the negotiation tables as well as in formal spaces for reflection on peacebuilding modalities, women's civil society organisations have dedicated their interventions to proposing recommendations based on feminist analyses of the ongoing peace processes in Syria and Palestine. These recommendations have been shared to major actors involved in these processes. Women coalition building and visibility of genderblind spots in peace processes were reinforced. However, the case of Libya demonstrates that women peacebuilders/organizations could be more influential in informal dialogue spaces even to influence formal processes. Working away from the spotlights, as a mitigation strategy against risks of insecurity, but also as a strategy to engage political actors could be impactful. Male stakeholders find it easier to accept informal invitations from women's organizations.

In **Syria**, two grassroots women organizations – Zenobia and Badael with technical support from WILPF, enhanced women's participation in Syria's formal peace process and inform the development of the new Constitution.

⁷ A video about the participation of women in the DDR process in Mozambique can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e2g49ilcpDs>

Zenobia strengthened the effective engagement of 179 Syrian women in the peace process, and particularly in the design of constitution making process. Following an inclusive and representative approach, 141 women and 47 men contributed to an advocacy brief, “Syrian Women Drafting Syria's Future Constitution”, offering recommendations to the UN Special Envoy and members of the Constitutional Committee and the National Coalition related to women’s participation in constitution making, political process as well as women’s rights legislations making.

Recommendations on the constitutional track (continuing the work of the constitutional committee, demanding the international envoy is neutral, and a clear time plan is set to make progress on the constitutional political process, etc.), were put forth in the brief and officially presented to members and co-chairs of the Constitutional Committee for the Syrian Negotiation Board and The Syrian National Coalition for Revolutionary and Opposition Forces, who committed to adopting those recommendations, once the peace process is presumed and with the Constitution moving forward.



Photo 4 : Zenobia Initiative, Syria, 2022.

Further, Badael engaged 16 stakeholders including key national actors, civil society leaders, international stakeholders and media representatives, in four meetings to establish linkages and allow coalition building and knowledge exchange between peace process advisors, (academics, NGOs, and civil society representatives) and grassroots leadership (local women peacebuilders, WHRDs, and women-led CSOs) to identify mechanisms, institutions and opportunities available for women inside Syria to participate in the peace process. This equally took into consideration the specific needs of marginalized groups such as former detainees, young women, mothers of martyrs, and those from rural regions. A total of 27 representatives (2 from Track 1, 15 from track 2 and 10 from track 3) attended the 2-day forum held in October in Berlin. Increased visibility of the initiative was also disseminated through the paper, [Weaving Feminist Political Action](#) and through a national [social media campaign](#), with the goal of centralizing Syrian women's perspectives on the need for a radical shift in current approaches to women's representation and leadership in Syrian peace and political affairs. In turn, these activities have resulted in increased collaboration and feminist thinking among peace process advisors, grassroots women peacebuilders, and WHRDs, as well as increased awareness among the regional and international communities about the critical need to recognize and meaningfully include Syrian women in political and peace processes.

In **Palestine**, in partnership with GPPAC, the Palestinian Centre for Peace and Democracy (PCPD), were instrumental in engaging young women in the Israeli-Palestinian peace process and the internal Palestinian Reconciliation process between Fatah and Hamas. 24 youth (15 young women) who have participated in training sessions gained new skills and strengthened their capacities to collect survey data, to conduct stakeholder analysis, and to develop detailed strategies for conducting research on Palestinian women’s participation in peace processes. As a result of this opportunity, young women have noted increased confidence levels and new perspectives of their role in peace processes,

“I grew more confident and capable of conducting dialogue sessions and communicating with decision-makers. In the beginning, I was intimidated by the people the youth groups wanted to meet; however, after I got to know them during the sessions, I learned that they were just like us at some point. Moreover, we learned that Palestinian women

are as capable as men on all levels, and how we must work towards integrating them in political participation and decision-making processes.”

“I want to be more involved with the concept of political development in Palestine. As a future journalist, I also want to employ Palestinian women’s political participation dilemma in my career, as I want to meet more unknown, dismissed female decision-makers and shed light on them through my camera. Moreover, I want to spread awareness on this topic and use my newly adopted skills and knowledge to further tangible change in Palestinian society”.

The initiative also resulted in a seminal research piece on the ‘Future of Palestinian Women’s Active Political Participation’, focused on highlighting the existing hindrances in women’s participation in the peace process and identifying strategies to improve effective influence of women in the Palestinian-Israeli and Palestinian-Palestinian negotiations between Fatah and Hamas. The findings of this research hope to inform the legal, policy and institutional framework of the peace process to enhance women’s leadership and participation in formal and informal peace and decision-making bodies and processes. The initiative from PCPD has been extended given the restricted movement in the West Bank with additional mitigation measures in place to ensure the safety and security of women peacebuilders.

In **Libya**, despite the stalled peace process, Together We Build It (TWBI) facilitated a series of meetings between Libyan women peacebuilders, women’s CSOs, national and international actors from various political groups to discuss critical aspects of the peace agreements, including the road to elections mandated by the political agreement, and the ceasefire monitoring processes mandated by the Agreement for a Complete and Permanent Ceasefire (between the Libyan Army of the Government of National Accord and the Libyan National Army of the General Command of the Armed Forces in January 2020) and emphasise on the methodologies for effective and continuous women’s leadership to these processes. An informal dialogue and forum was held in Norway in August 2022 which brought together 5 women leaders from civil society and key national and international actors. As a result, a summary recommendation paper was developed and used as a pressure mechanism amongst key international players to commit to women’s engagement in the peace process, including the Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs, the State Secretary of the Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs, UN Secretary-Youth General’s Envoy, the former UN Secretary-special General’s advisor on Libya, who led the political and peace processes in Libya since 2019. TWBI has already recognized an impact of their initial dialogue forum which helped to deepen the relationship with a number of national actors and organizations, who are now seeking support and guidance from TWBI in their initiatives on supporting women’s engagement in the Libyan peace process.

South America Region

In South America, several peace agreements have been signed and are being implemented with very little space given to women’s voices in all their diversity. Thus, the RRW has been able to support 3 Short-Term Grant initiatives that have increased the leadership of women, including women victims of guerrilla and indigenous groups, and the commitments of political actors at different levels with immediate consequences. Increased women’s leadership as well as intersectionality and the localisation of peace processes are common grounds for the work of women’s organisations in Colombia, Guatemala and Venezuela.

In **Colombia**, Movilizadorio, with the support of NIMD, built upon the agenda of regional dialogues led by the President, and channelled the voices of survivors of the conflict and ex-FARC organizations through advocacy efforts targeting newly elected members of Congress to inform decision-making and increase women’s effective participation in the implementation of the Final Agreement for the Termination of the Conflict and the Construction of a Stable and Lasting Peace. A series of workshops with survivors and

women signatories of the peace agreement in the prioritized regions of Bogota, Medellin, Montes de Maria and Serrania del Perija, were conducted to facilitate a citizen-owned advocacy agenda and provide a safe space for 56 women to discuss their realities, current threats and identify where there are gaps in implementation of the peace agreement. A digital campaign to hear women victims silenced voices reached 500 signatures. The visibility of the voices and petitions being reflected in the agenda points have been critical in increasing women's representation and participation in this critical process. 23 decisions makers have received an agenda and one congressman included proposals from Movilizadorio in his action plan.

In **Guatemala**, Asociación Mujer Tejedora del Desarrollo (AMUTED), enhanced the inclusion of indigenous women in the implementation of the Guatemala Peace Accords of 1996, culminating in the Agreement on a Firm and Lasting Peace between the State and guerrillas. An analysis of the progress of the peace agreement was disseminated with the presence of 53 indigenous women from the departments of Sololá, Quiché and Totonicapán, who engaged with government entities and women leaders to identify actions for inclusion of indigenous women in the implementation of the peace agreement. The analysis has also provided an overview of the situation of the Ombudsman for Indigenous Women, specifically in the departments of Quiché and Huehuetenango, shedding light on key challenges and main entry points to inform the work of officials in the framework of the peace agreements, ensuring the full and effective participation of indigenous women in the peace process.

As a result of the project, 135 women through 3 regional events, also elaborated a joint political statement shared in a press conference with local and national reach. A monitoring report on the participation of indigenous women in decision making spaces was also produced, highlighting that women may be engaged in operations or technical posts, but are still not part of decision-making processes, as well as the need of institutions to defend women and women's indigenous rights that resulted from the agreement, which have now become heavily politicized, and affecting the implementation of actions aimed to benefit women and indigenous women in the peace agreement. Subsequent campaigns in four languages (Kiche, Kaqchikel, Mam and Spanish) were launched with messages related to the peace agreement, rights for political participation, specific rights of indigenous women, and violence against women.

Asociación CAUCE, also with support from NIMD, strengthened women's leadership in negotiation processes in **Venezuela**, which have been stalled between the Government of the Bolivarian Republic in Venezuela and the Unitary Platform. Increased intra-group relations and coordination between women's groups of the two major political obedience, to promote a common advocacy agenda to ensure a gender lens is included in the official negotiations. As highlighted by one pro-government representative, this is about, "engaging in a sincere and constructive dialogue between Venezuelan women, towards a new stage of social justice and equality in the context of peace construction". In 2023, these women will participate in face-to-face workshops to continue their collective advocacy efforts.

Opportunities to improve women's influence in peace processes do not only exist in Sub-Saharan Africa, MENA or South America; and not only in the countries supported.

Finally, in 2022, the RRW Unit produced a comprehensive mapping analysis of its interventions in order to identify gaps, potential opportunities and priority areas and advocacy entry points based on INGO partner geographical presence. Despite the improved coverage in 2022, some geographical gaps remain, particularly in Central Europe, South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. A list of countries was identified in order to prioritize outreach activities in 2023. This is the case of Myanmar, Philippines, Papua New Guinea,

Sri Lanka in South-East Asia; Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Somalia in Africa; Iraq in Middle East and Ukraine in Europe.

2. Management of the RRW

Output 1.1: Quality technical and advisory support to the RRW and its decision-making structures is provided

In 2022, the RRW Unit supported the Technical Committee and the Board by providing all the documents required for their recommendations and final decisions on CSO applications and partnership with INGOs. Regular follow up was carried out to ensure that recommendations and decisions were properly informed and implemented in a timely manner.

Bilateral meetings were held with UN Women country offices in Libya, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Yemen and DRC for their technical input, engagement in evaluation processes, and the promotion of the RRW opportunities.

The technical and advisory support to the RRW decision-making structure have been dynamic due to the increase in the number of proposals supported, the interest from new countries, but also to some adjustments required to improve the relevance and efficiency of the funding mechanism, including the revision of the approval and application processes.

In 2022, the Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the Technical Committee were updated based on the mid-term review recommendations and decisions made by the Funding Board. Specifically, on October 18th, the High-Level Funding Board Meeting approved a revised process of approval to improve efficiency and timeliness of proposal review and selection of CSOs. This included the removal of Funding Board review of applications, giving final approval and/or recommendations by the Technical Committee alone. A second change was the voluntary participation of the largest donor from the previous fiscal year of WPHF within the Committee. In 2022, Germany held this seat.

Also based on mid-term review recommendations, the call for application process was updated to improve its accessibility and flexibility through the following changes and adaptations:

- Integration of a concept stage and process for the Short-Term Grants stream prior to submission of full applications to minimize the burden for CSOs. The short concept note process involves a simplified set of questions to determine eligibility and alignment with the objectives of the RRW before inviting applicants to submit a full-length proposal. A checklist to determine eligibility has been developed to ease and standardize concept note assessments.
- In parallel, the RRW Unit has reviewed the full application templates for both Direct Support and short-term grants to streamline and simplify questions, clarify the objectives and eligibility criteria and collect only the most important information needed to identify relevant proposals.
- Applicants can apply to both RRW streams concurrently using the updated application forms. Applications continue to be accepted in six languages (English, French, Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese, and Russian), however relevant proposals can be accepted in another language and translated, if necessary.
- Submission of applications can now also be submitted on behalf of CSOs and women peacebuilders by UN Women Country offices and INGO partners. This effective measure has stimulated interest in

the RRW and reinforced local partnerships. As a result of this change, five initiatives were submitted by INGO partners and UN Women Country Offices in 2022.

Output 1.2: Efficient, effective, and timely management of the Rapid Response Window and direct implementation of support is ensured

Under this output, the RRW Unit coordinated and managed all day-to-day activities necessary for the smooth running of the Window. The Unit evaluated all concept notes and proposals received and forwarded shortlisted proposals to the Technical Committee for approval, in line with the WPHF Operations Manual and the Terms of Reference for the RRW decision-making bodies.

The RRW Unit monitored the WPHF-RRW@unwomen.org inbox daily, filing and evaluating CSO concept notes and proposals on a rolling basis, responding to a range of queries on the RRW, and where possible redirecting requests that were not specifically related to the RRW. This year, in parallel to reviewing applications submitted, the RRW has improved its support to CSOs in the process of proposal drafting to strengthen the design and implementation of their projects. This work led to improved project designs and closer alignment with the objectives of the RRW.

Review of proposals

In 2022, the RRW received a total of 256 proposals for Direct Support or Short-Term Grants from national and local civil society organizations, with 59 proposals longlisted and 31 proposals shortlisted. In addition, as part of the updated application process, a total of 46 concept notes were also received with 13 CSOs invited to submit full proposals. Overall, 76% of proposals were received from Africa, followed by 9% from the LAC region, 6% from Arab States and Asia & Pacific, and 2% from Europe and Central Asia. In 2022, an increasing interest was observed from new countries for the first time such as Haiti, North Macedonia, Iraq, Burundi, Somalia, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, Kyrgyzstan, and Zambia.

2022	Received	Longlisted	Shortlisted ⁸
Direct Support	46	13	6
Short-Term Grant Concept Notes	46	13	5
Short-Term Grants	210	46	25
Total	302	72	37

Cumulatively (since 2020), the RRW has received 826 proposals, including concept notes and proposals for INGO partnership. Overall, 74% of proposals were received from Africa, followed by 9% from Arab States, 8% from Asia & Pacific, 6% from the LAC region, 1% from Europe and Central Asia, and 2% from North America or other non-eligible countries.

2020-2023	CfPs launched	Received	Longlisted	Shortlisted ⁹
Direct Support	1	284	53	22
Short-Term Grant Concept Notes	n/a	46	13	5
Short-Term Grants	1	481	105	44
INGOs	2	15	12	8
	4	826	183	79

⁸ Shortlisted for concept notes refers to those CSOs that were invited to submit a full proposal

⁹ Ibid.

Support to CSOs in proposal development

In addition to the technical support provided to CSOs in the strengthening of shortlisted proposals, the RRW Unit conducted virtual calls with CSO applicants providing comments to strengthen the relevance to their proposals. As many proposals were for initiatives taking place in contexts with stalled peace processes, the RRW has noted the challenge facing women's rights/led CSOs to articulate interventions that would equally impact a Track 1 or Track 2 formal peace process. Therefore the team provided guidance to reinforce CSOs' results framework to demonstrate linkages between community level peacebuilding efforts peace process tracks or the implementation of a formal peace agreement. Many proposals were resubmitted based on these recommendations, reflecting stronger advocacy components and lobbying efforts involving decision makers and international community, including UN representatives, national constitutional committees and national local authorities.

Monitoring and Evaluation

A monitoring and evaluation strategy exists for the RRW Unit and for RRW-supported CSO initiatives. The RRW has dedicated WPHF Indicator Tip Sheets to emphasise the specific nature of the RRW within WPHF Impact Area 4 on conflict resolution and against which CSOs under the Short-Term Grant stream use, with support from INGO partners.

In 2022, The RRW introduced some new features in the monitoring of projects. Under the Direct Support Stream, post-intervention debrief calls were conducted with CSOs or women peacebuilders to collect their feedback on their interventions. This provided an alternative to the provision of formal reports, reducing the burden of CSOs and women peacebuilders and allowing the RRW Unit to identify trends, key results, lessons and future opportunities for RRW's further intervention to increase women's participation in the peace process in the country by building on the initial impact. A total of five post-interventions calls were held with AMENA Foundation for Development and Civic Culture in Yemen, Alliance pour la recherche et le développement intégré (ARDI) in Mali, Action for Humanitarian Initiative in Uganda, Reach Out Cameroon in Cameroon and Young Women Christian Association (YMCA) in South Sudan.

RRW Management Response

Following the 2021 mid-term review to improve the RRW funding mechanism's efficiency, 27 priority recommendations were identified around seven thematic areas. In 2022, a management response was developed and approved by the Board. To date, 90% of recommendations have been implemented, including:

- **Communications and outreach:** updated language on all public-facing communications including RRW webpage, information session power points, and webinars. Call for Proposals (CfP) documents, application forms shortened and reviewed to clarify eligibility, and introduction of self-eliminating criteria. In addition, outreach to INGO partner organizations, feminist organizations, UN Women COs in order to share RRW opportunities and information sessions. These targeted outreach sessions contributed to increase the numbers of relevant applications.
- **CSO application and review process:** simplified application processes, clarified criteria for eligibility and development of concept note introduced to pre-select short-term grant applicants for submission of a full proposal. In addition, the Board approved the process of the Technical Committee making the final decision on accepted proposals to accelerate the process.
- **Monitoring, evaluation, learning and reporting:** dissemination of Indicator Tip Sheet for INGOs and CSOs, and partners have been encouraged in the use of qualitative approaches in describing how their participation has contributed to/influenced or reflected in peace agreement dialogues,

decision making processes and implementation of peace agreements. Quarterly and annual reporting templates for I/NGO partners have been streamlined to results-based management principles, including more qualitative descriptions. An annual INGOs partner workshop was conducted in December 2022 and covered sessions on reporting, communication, outreach, advocacy and operations.

- **Scope of RRW:** the RRW made more explicit its support to initiatives related to political transitions such as national dialogues, constitutional reviews, initiatives in stalled peace processes, and outreach and communication activities, but also could continue to implement exceptional responses on a case-by-case basis. INGOs partners and COs can now apply on behalf of CSOs or women peacebuilders for Direct Support. Also, in exceptional cases, the RRW Unit or CO can support a grant if an INGO partner is unable to do so.
- **RRW Streams:** CSOs can now apply to both streams of the RRW concurrently.
- **INGO partnership:** The RRW has maintained its partnerships with its 7 INGO partners. Three INGOs partners have received a Cost extension (WILPF, NIMD, CORDAID); 3 received a no cost extension (ICAN, GPPA, Inclusive Peace); and one renewed its partnership (Conciliation Resources). As recommended, a 3-day annual in-person retreat was organized in December 2022.
- **Bottlenecks and challenges in system:** a Programme Coordinator and a Programme Assistant were recruited to monitor operations of the RRW Unit. This has facilitated clarity in operations processes. Following UN Women’s Program Support Management Unit policy directive, which was released 22 March 2022, the WPHF has obtained an exception on on-granting procedures as the main purpose of the RRW is to provide funds to local CSOs.

Risk Management

The RRW Unit continued to update, manage and apply its risk matrix. The risk matrix is elaborated in Appendix 2.

Output 1.3: Efficient, effective and timely management of INGO partnerships is ensured

First INGO Annual Retreat

In December 2022, the RRW Unit hosted its first in-person retreat with its 7 INGO partners with 2 representatives for each (one from programme and one from operations) in Geneva. The key objectives of the two-day retreat were to ensure a common understanding of the RRW’ strategic positioning and to identify areas for improvement and address urgent gaps and possible opportunities to maximize the impact of projects, reinforce the partnership and improve the workflow of the RRW funding mechanism. Sessions focused on communication guidelines and advocacy commitments, financial and narrative reporting, operational management, monitoring and evaluation, strategic entry points for the RRW to develop a roadmap of the next phase of the Window. The partners had the opportunity to build connections, strengthen peer learning and meaningful collaboration.

The retreat offered a space for INGOs partners, the RRW Unit and WPHF, to reflect on strategies to maximize impacts, to become more reachable and relevant to the needs of women peacebuilders and women led CSOs in countries witnessing formal peace processes or implementation of a peace agreement. As a result of the workshop, several recommendations were identified to inform the next phase of the RRW, including:

- Establishing channels of communication between the RRW Unit and local women's rights CSOs supported under the two streams, including sharing of knowledge and communications products

- Building partnerships with regional and national women mediators' networks for their participation in monthly meetings and engagement in the Technical Committee of the RRW
- With the coordination of Inclusive Peace, INGOs partners will work together on revising the definitions of formal peace processes, track I and track II, to be then adopted under the RRW's scope of work
- Leading on outreach activities with women's rights CSOs in contexts of interest identified based on RRW's study, including in countries like Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar and Philippines

Feedback from the retreat showed high level of satisfaction by INGO partners, highlighting that their expectations were met and allowed for a better understanding of communications and operational requirements and vision of the next steps and priorities for the upcoming phase.

Reinforcement of the INGO partnership

The RRW held monthly meetings with INGO partners in 2022. The meetings served as a platform for continuous coordination, to avoid duplication of efforts, and to capitalize on previous results for initiatives in similar contexts. The partners also had the chance to address challenges, mitigate risks and identify priorities for country-specific outreach. On a quarterly basis, a different INGO partner led on a substantive topic related to women's participation in peace processes, including topics such as elements of peace process tracks and definitions. Moving forward an advocacy plan will be jointly developed in 2023. INGO partners have also provided technical input to new proposals moving forward to the Technical Committee.

The RRW has also conducted quarterly operations-focused meetings with the operations and finance team of WPHF and INGO staff to discuss financial reporting requirements, assets management, audit preparations, partners' capacity assessments and other operation-related questions, while ensuring flexibility of grant making to CSOs in the country of intervention.

Strengthening collaboration with UN Women Country Offices

In 2022, the RRW has strengthened its presence in priority countries, through outreach activities and regular calls with COs and WPS focal points. These activities have also facilitated clarifying RRW objectives and stimulating CSO's interest, particularly in countries with lower numbers of applications, as well as those witnessing formal peace processes or implementation of a peace agreement.

In line with the increasing role of COs, several meetings were held to share information, drive collaboration and seize opportunities. For instance, in DRC and Ethiopia, the projects supported by the RRW are integrated by the CO in a more global response to promote women participation in peace talks.

Output 1.4: Communications, Capacity-Building, and Knowledge Management is provided to the Rapid Response Window

The RRW Unit, with support from the WPHF Communications team and the Global Learning Hub (L-Hub), led the development of a wide range of knowledge products, communications campaigns and capacity building initiatives to enhance the visibility of the RRW among its various stakeholders, support resource mobilization, ensure the continuity and sustainability of activities, and support strategic advocacy to accelerate women's participation in peace processes.

Optimizing RRW Communications Materials

The [WPHF RRW webpages](#), including pages for the two funding streams, were updated and optimized in 2022, making the language more accessible, pages easier to navigate and better guidance to prospective CSO applicants to determine their own eligibility. All application materials were updated in accordance

with the new application process, and Portuguese was introduced as an additional language for applications to complement web resources in English, French, Spanish, Arabic and Russian.

A series of information webinars for prospective applicants of both RRW streams and INGO partners were also conducted in 2022. In total, 9 information sessions were held in English, French, Arabic and Spanish with approximately 143 CSO representatives, including targeted information sessions to maximize strategic outreach, particularly in the DRC, South Sudan, Ukraine, Eastern Europe.

Social Media

In 2022, WPHF continued to develop and disseminate social media messages and assets highlighting the unique added value of the RRW, promoting its new application process, illustrating the direct impact of RRW-supported initiatives around the world, and promoting regular information sessions. The execution of a specialized visual identity for the RRW helped to distinguish and drive visibility of this mechanism across all WPHF social media channels, strengthening its online brand recognition among INGO and CSO partners, donors, and prospective applicants.

To foster collaboration with INGO partners and encourage them to actively promote the RRW on their own channels, new communications guidelines were developed as a resource for capturing content from CSO partners demonstrating impact (e.g., photos, videos, publications, quotes, testimonies), reviewing knowledge products and promotional materials, appropriate logo usage, relevant social media hashtags, and reinforcing effective outreach strategies among key RRW stakeholders. A selection of high-quality multimedia assets and social media language was made available to all INGO partners through a [public Trello board](#).

International Day of Peace Campaign

In September 2022, the RRW Unit, together with the WPHF Communications team, carried out a targeted visibility campaign on social media highlighting how the RRW is addressing critical funding gaps in women’s participation in peace processes and the implementation of peace agreements around the world. The campaign featured 12 CSO partners across 11 countries, showcasing the results and impact of their projects and highlighting the technical support provided by INGO partners. The RRW Unit strategically partnered with the communications team of the United Nations Deputy-Secretary General resulting in the amplification of the campaign [from her official account](#).



Learning Opportunities and Knowledge/Advocacy Products

As part of the WPHF Global Learning Hub (L-HUB), aimed at connecting and building the capacities of WPHF CSO partners, RRW CSO partners accessed a wide range of training and knowledge exchange

webinars on topics such as prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, anti-corruption, fundraising, research skills for impactful activism, and digital security. The RRW CSO partners were also invited to join the L-HUB Facebook group and added to the WPHF email list and a digital platform providing relevant information and resources for peacebuilding and humanitarian professionals.

In 2022, a total of 24 representatives¹⁰ from 11 CSOs from 10 countries and 24 representatives¹¹ from INGOs attended at least one capacity building or knowledge exchange webinar, showing interest and appetite for dialogue and learning with their peers. In addition, one peer exchange session was held in November 2022, in collaboration with WILPF, featuring ZENOBIA (Syria) and Together We Build It (Libya) as speakers on the theme “Feminist Peace Processes in Action: Insights from Libya and Syria”. A total of 59 participants, including 38 CSO representatives from 31 unique CSOs attended the peer exchange and shared insights and perspectives on the definition of a feminist peace process, and approaches to political and peace track processes in holistic and inclusive ways. A policy brief¹² summarizing the main take aways of this discussion was published and widely disseminated among all WPHF CSO partners. Additional joint actions between the RRW Unit and the L-HUB are planned in 2023 to continue fostering exchanges and collaboration between CSOs from the RRW and other WPHF funding windows working on conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

CSO partners also produced several studies, policies, advocacy documents and knowledge products in Palestine, Yemen, Cameroon. The RRW Unit, in collaboration with Inclusive Peace, developed a series of policy briefs on to provide practical ideas to inform strategies and engagement in countries whose peace processes remain elusive, including Yemen, Ethiopia, South Sudan and the Sahel Region. These policy briefs provide an instrumental analysis of the peace processes and help to assess key entry points to improve women's roles and influence.

Finally, as a result of the RRW communications initiatives, the growing interest in the RRW has resulted in the unit being invited to several advocacy meetings on peace and security issues. In October 2022, The RRW participated in the Global Convening of Civil Society in the MENA Region organized by UN Women in collaboration with BMZ. The RRW was also invited to a session of the Sustainable Development Goals Lab in Geneva hosted by Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF) on the theme of “Peace, Justice, and Gender Equality” in which the RRW was presented a session on *gender-sensitive data collection*.

3. Delays and Adaptations

In 2022, no major delays were encountered, and relevant projects were approved and launched during this period. With the Programme Coordinator and the Programme Associate in place by mid-July, the RRW has accelerated the finalization of the mid-term review recommendations and operations processes.

In the second part of the year, the dynamism of the window led to several requests for costs extensions which caused some delays due to human resource limitations and delayed validation of narrative and financial reports. Despite this, costed extensions were completed for three INGO partners (CORDAID, WILPF, and NIMD). Contract renewal was also granted to Conciliation Resources, and two other partners were granted no-cost extensions until 2023 (GPPAC and ICAN). Moving forward, several measures have been put in place to ensure that reporting is done in a timely manner:

¹⁰ Represents multiple participation as one same person can attend several webinars.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² <https://wphfund.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/WPHF-Peer-Exchange-Brief-Feminist-Peace-Processes-in-Action.pdf>

- The RRW Unit will hold quarterly calls with all the INGO Partners intended to address all issues related to operations, and more specifically financial reporting
- Implementation of a monitoring and reporting system which has been shared with programme colleagues
- A shared calendar of reporting deadlines with alerts has been put in place with realistic processing times

The aforementioned challenges have been an opportunity for the RRW to clarify its reporting, extension and partnership renewal processes, as well as learning opportunity for both RRW Unit and INGOs partners. Some internal challenges still remain in regard to the grant making policy, which limits the rapidity of funds transfer to partners, as well as asset management. Discussions with UN Women HQ will continue in order to limit these constraints.

4. Planned Priorities for 2023

In 2023, the RRW Unit will prioritize the following:

- Targeted CfP for the recruitment of two INGOs partners in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia to address geographical gaps
- Targeted awareness-raising activities, in collaboration with partner INGOs and UN country offices.
- An in-person retreat with RRW CSO grantees following the recommendations of the Mid-Term Review.
- An in-person retreat with INGO partners to consolidate the partnership and facilitate the integration of partners
- Field joint missions with INGOs partners in countries with several ongoing projects (e.g., Ethiopia, South Sudan, DRC, Colombia)
- Produce policy briefs, in partnership with Inclusive Peace for South Sudan, Ethiopia and the Sahel Region. In parallel, the policy briefs will also be accompanied by support to local CSOs in order to encourage initiatives that can be supported by the RRW.
- Strengthen the partnership with COs to increase applications for Direct Support on behalf of CSOs, and possibly monitoring of short-term grants.
- Validation of a RRW Standard Operation Procedures
- Organization of two global advocacy events in collaboration with African Union (November) and during the WPS Open Debate in October.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Summary of Impact by RRW Indicator

Appendix 2: RRW Risk Matrix

Appendix 3: Table of Approved RRW projects (2022)

Indicator Based Performance Assessment

Results	Indicators	Progress Achieved against Targets	Reason for Variance	Source of Verification
Project Outcome The Rapid Response Window on Women's Participation in Peace processes and the implementation of peace agreements is established and delivery of interventions from the window (under WPHF outcome 4) is ensured.	1. Number/type of demand-driven requests supported by RRW (direct-support) Baseline: 11 (as of December 2021) Target: Dependent on funding available; at least 50 supported directly by RRW Unit by December 2023	In 2021, 6 civil society initiatives supported in four countries for Direct Support funding. Cumulatively, 14 Direct Support initiatives have been supported since 2020. 14 short-term grants were supported in 12 countries focused on strengthening women's engagement in peace process implementation. Cumulatively, 19 Short-Term grants have been supported since 2020.	On track to meeting targets for 2023. The RRW Unit has carried out a detailed mapping in 2022 focused on prioritizing gap areas.	Review of project documents/Management Information System Internal review WPHF external evaluation
	2. Number/type of short-term grants supported by RRW Baseline: 2 (as of December 2021) Target: Dependent on funding available; at least 24 supported by RRW Unit by December 2023			
Output 1.1. Quality technical and advisory support to the Rapid Response Window and its decision-making structures is provided	1. Existence of RRW decision-making documents and packages for selection and review of requests Baseline: 0 Target: December 2020	All documents for decision making have been developed and in use, including monitoring templates, proposal templates, and documents used for the Technical Committee	N/A	Emails Project documents Annual reports
	2. Percentage of decisions implemented within the timeframe Baseline: N/A Target: December 2023: 100%	All proposals forwarded to the Technical Committee have been reviewed and final decisions taken within timely manner. The RRW Unit provides a synthesis of proposals forwarded for decision making.	N/A	Emails Project documents Annual reports
Output 1.2. Efficient, effective, and timely management of the Rapid Response Window and direct implementation of support is ensured	1. Existence of a M&E Strategy and bank of indicators for the RRW Baseline: 0 Target: December 2020	Completed in 2021	N/A	M&E Strategy/Documents
	2. CfP and proposal templates available online. Baseline: 0 Target: December 2023	Proposal templates were updated based on mid-term review recommendations, including new concept note phase. These have been translated into five languages and available on the WPHF website.	N/A	Risk management matrix
	3. Availability of an Internal review of the RRW and set of recommendations Baseline: 0 Target: December 2021	Completed in 2021. The majority of recommendations have been implemented in 2022.	N/A	Internal RRW Review Document
	4. Availability of RRW annual report Baseline: 0 Target: 3 annual reports before December 2023	Completed. Annual reports were completed in 2021 and 2022.	N/A	RRW annual report

Results	Indicators	Progress Achieved against Targets	Reason for Variance	Source of Verification
Output 1.3. Efficient, effective and timely management of INGO partnerships is ensured	1. Pool of INGO implementing partners selected Baseline: 0 Target: December 2020	Completed in 2020. 7 partners were selected and supported CSOs in 2022.	N/A	Emails from FB with selected INGOs
	2. INGO partners have funds on retainer Baseline: 0 Target: At least 6 by end June 2021	Seven INGO partners were transferred funds in order to support CSOs through the Direct Support and Short-Term Grant streams.	N/A	Emails from FB with selected INGOs
	3. Number of CSO initiatives supported by INGOs across both RRW streams Baseline: 0 Target: At least 24 in total by December 2023	INGOs supported a total of 14 initiatives (2 Direct Support and 12 short-term grants). The RRW Unit supported an additional 3 Direct Support recipients.	N/A	Financial reports INGO reports
Output 1.4. Communications, capacity building and Knowledge Management is provided for the Rapid Response Window	1.Types of communications tools and knowledge products developed and disseminated on the RRW in at least 4 languages Baseline: 0 Target: December 2023 : at least 4	A total of five tools and knowledge products produced in 2022, including i) updated RRW webpages for the two funding streams in five languages (English, French, Spanish, Arabic and Russian); ii) a policy brief was developed on feminist peace processes in action and shared at the Global L-HUB peer exchange sessions; iii) brief on current peace processes and peace agreements; iv) mapping analysis; and v) RRW advocacy brief	Exceeded target by 1	Community of Practice Knowledge products
	2.Number/types of information, and/or exchange of best practices sessions organized for RRW partners Baseline: 0 Target: 40 by December 2023	9 information sessions were organized with participation from 143 CSO representatives. The RRW advocacy brochure was also updated in 2022. Cumulatively, a total of 43 sessions have been conducted since 2020 including advocacy events, capacity building and information sessions.	Exceeded overall target by 3 as the RRW has been strategically increasing visibility and awareness on the window.	Mid-term review/evaluations

Appendix 1 : Impact Measurement

Indicator	Result
<p>4.1. Number of women that participate in formal peace processes or negotiations</p>	<p>At least 290 women participated in formal peace negotiations.</p> <p>For Track 1 peace processes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 women from the DRC (2 from Africa Women Leadership Network and 5 from Focus Droit et Accès participated in the third round of consultations on the recommendations for effective measures on the Disarmament, Demobilization and Community Rehabilitation Program (November 2022) as part of the Nairobi Peace Talks process. • 5 women leaders were at the table of negotiations during the dialogue between Libyan armed groups in Norway (August 2022) with the participation of the European Union. • 6 women including 5 women living with disabilities from AMENA Foundation were engaged in workshop with the office of the UN Special envoy (November 2022) on how to engage with decision makers and effective approaches to influence the peace process in Yemen. • 5 indigenous women prepared by Reach Out Cameroon participated to the Ndian Peace Conference in Cameroon led by the Prime Minister and Traditional leaders (April 2022). <p>For Track 2 processes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 women peacebuilders from Reach out Cameroon were engaged within the National Dialogue mechanisms for a gender-sensitive monitoring of the implementation of the Dialogue .179 women peacebuilders presented recommendations to members and co-chairs of the Constitutional Committee for the Syrian Negotiation Board and The Syrian National Coalition for Revolutionary and Opposition Forces. • Badael engaged 16 women activists including key national actors, civil society leaders, international stakeholders and media representatives, in four meetings to establish linkages and allow coalition building and knowledge exchange between peace process advisors to identify mechanisms, institutions and opportunities available for women inside Syria to participate in the peace process.70 women activists engaged by the Ethiopian Women's Coalition (EWC) established a network and community of women peacebuilders. for women's inclusion in National Dialogue processes. • 2 women representatives from Women Unlimited Eswatini participated to Regional Women Peace and Security workshop (led by the Southern African Development Countries-SADC) ensuring Eswatini women’s experiences are shared and resolved at decision making tables.
<p>4.2. Existence of gender-responsive elements/provisions in peace agreements, dialogues, and/or decision-making processes</p>	<p>13 evidence-based advocacy agenda, policy papers, strategic engagement action plans and studies channeling the needs of women peacebuilders and their recommendations on effective mechanisms to increase their influence on formal and informal peace processes, were developed and disseminated amongst international community representatives and key decision makers, from Yemen, Cameroon, Mali, Cameroon, DRC, Eswatini, Mozambique, Syria (2), Palestine, Libya, Colombia and Guatemala.</p> <p>For example, the Peace Accord of 1996 in Guatemala included gender provisions, mainly key institutions to benefit women and indigenous people, such as the ‘defensoría de la mujer’, commissions of women, etc. Conversely, these institutions are not representative of women and highly politicized</p>

Indicator	Result
<p>4.3. Types of strategies used/implemented to participate in and contribute to the peace process and/or implementation of a peace agreement</p>	<p>CSOs used a variety of participatory and inclusive strategies to contribute to and influence peace processes. In 2022, ten core and targeted strategies were employed, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted advocacy and meetings with local stakeholders to start or re-start national dialogues or peace agreements (Eswatini, DRC, and South Sudan, Mozambique, Libya) • Research efforts on women’s participation in peace processes and perceptions about the demand for future participation in Palestine • Dialogue platform for women’s participation as well as civil society and academia and government stakeholders in DDR and peace process in Mozambique where, priority to influence and engage in the new NAP process. • Drafting of recommendations to government stakeholders and political groups in Palestine calling for national unity and internal Palestinian reconciliation, and five key recommendations of: i) participation of women in negotiation processes; ii) holding of legislative and presidential elections in 2023; iii) proportional electoral system; iv) a minimum quota of 30% women’s participation; and iv) reducing the age of candidacy for the Legislative Council to 23 years. • Participatory workshops in Guatemala with women from various institutions in order to build key alliances with the Commission of Women, Municipal Directorate of Women and various women’s associates to support and advocate for women’s participation. • Joint political statements in Guatemala with national and regional reach on indigenous women’s priorities to participate in the peace and security agenda. • Monitoring of the current status of women’s participation in peace and security efforts in Guatemala, resulting from the peace agreement, which provides evidence for advocacy for indigenous women to participate in peace and security and decision making. • Use of public spaces to carry out community consultations and dialogue to feed into and contribute to constitutional committee dialogue in Syria and opening up new channels between Track 1 actors, including those with diverse groups to ensure representation. • Strategic Documents on resourcing feminist movements and agenda, recentering local intersectional narratives, claiming spaces in decision-making, governance structures, and peace processes in order to strengthen local civil society’s participation in peace processes. • SWOT analysis in Eswatini in order to inform their influence towards inclusive dialogue and subsequent action planning towards increasing women’s impact and engagement in formal peace negotiations spaces

Appendix 2 : RRW Risk Matrix

Risk Area (contextual, programmatic, institutionally, briefly describe)	Risk Level 4=Very High 3=High 2=Medium 1=Low	Likelihood 5=Very High 4=Likely 3=Possible 2=Unlikely 1=Rare	Impact 5=Extreme 4=Major 3=Moderate 2=Minor 1=Insignificant	Mitigation Mitigating measures undertaken during the reporting period to address the risk
Women engaged in the initiatives may face additional security risks if exposed	3	3	5	The RRW Unit managed communications regarding selected CSO initiatives to ensure that any external communications were cleared by the CSO/women. The RRW Unit maintained regular contact with CSO partners to ensure it was aware of security issues and was taking appropriate steps to ensure protection. The RRW Unit communicated regularly with UN country presence and CSO partners to ensure it was informed of political changes that might affect security risks. In one specific context, the RRW implemented a targeted initiative to address security risks faced by WHRDs in a particularly volatile context (an emergency cash support initiative for evacuated Afghan WHRDs to strengthen their protection).
Request is not representative of diversity of women or groups	2	3	2	The template for applications includes a section on inclusive and participatory approach to intersectionality in initiatives. The RRW Technical Committee provided informed and adequate oversight at the CSO application stage and made targeted, practical recommendations to some prospective CSOs to strengthen commitments to the representation of diverse women in their planned initiatives.
Simplified application process and short turnover limits level of quality control and assessment	2	2	3	The mid-term independent review of the RRW included a review of the application package and approval process to benchmark it against good practice and suggest recommendations to improve the processes. The RRW Unit reviewed and revised the application template to help CSOs to self-select their/the initiative's eligibility for support. The RRW's decision-making bodies (Technical Committee and Task Force) were well informed and engaged in a timely manner for decisions, ensuring that they had time to provide detailed feedback and make necessary informational demands of applicant CSOs. This supported CSO initiatives to be strong in quality. The RRW Unit provided capacity-strengthening support to CSOs where necessary to help ensure that revisions to applications were based on clear feedback with rationale and recommendations.
Requests submitted to the Technical Committee and Task Force for approval do not meet the required quorum of 50% of responses	1	1	2	The RRW Unit prepared Terms of Reference for its decision-making bodies (the Technical Committee and WPHF Funding Board Task Force) to ensure they were clear on their responsibilities and timelines for decision making. The RRW Unit provided clear deadlines for responses in its communications with decision-making bodies. Where necessary, the approval time was extended for 1 day until the quorum was met.
WPHF Secretariat does not have adequate programming oversight for RRW grants managed by INGO partners	1	1	3	The RRW Unit uses UN Women processes to implement partnerships with INGO partners, including a capacity assessment. All RRW INGO partners were scored as "low risk" as responsible parties with the ability to sub-grant to CSOs. The RRW Unit held inception calls with all INGO partners, provided a detailed induction package to guide the technical elements of the partnership, and introduced monthly calls with all partners to strengthen communications and oversight of the grants made by INGO partners to CSOs.
Cash transferred to an INGO partner is not used as intended or reported in accordance with agreements and approved plans	1	1	4	The RRW Unit uses UN Women reporting processes (financial and narrative) on a quarterly basis to ensure that INGO partners are using funds transferred as intended and as reported. The RRW Unit also holds regular bilateral check-ins with INGO partners to agree project activities and identify opportunities to support CSOs through the RRW, as well as monthly coordination calls with all INGO partners. WPHF Secretariat finance and operations staff joined partnership inception calls with INGO partners to provide guidance on financial reporting requirements.
Efforts are isolated and therefore impact is limited	2	2	3	The RRW Unit communicated regularly with UN country presence, INGO partners, Women Mediators Networks, DPPA and other stakeholders as relevant, to share information, ensure no duplication and the integration of efforts where possible.

Appendix 3 : List of Supported Projects

Track	CSO Name	Country	Name of Peace Process
Direct Support (N=6)			
Track 1 & Peace Agreement	African Women Leaders Network (AWLN)	DRC	Nairobi Peace Talks and the recommendations of the Disarmament, Demobilisation and Community Rehabilitation Program
Track 1	AMENA CSO and DAMJ Initiative	Yemen	Peace process and the Humanitarian Truce in Yemen
Track 2	TIMRAN	Ethiopia	Ethiopian National Dialogue
Track 2	Ethiopia Women Coalition	Ethiopia	Ethiopian National Dialogue
Track 2	Reach Out Cameroon	Cameroon	ALL Ndiian Peace Conference and the "Major National Dialogue" in Cameroon
Peace Agreement	Alliance pour la Recherche et le Développement Intégré (ARDI)	Mali	Alger Accord for Peace and National Reconciliation (2015)
Short Term Grants (N=14)			
Peace Agreement	Women's NGO Secretariat of Liberia (WONGOSOL)	Liberia	Truth and Reconciliation Commission- 2005
Peace Agreement	Liberia Future Trust (LiFT)	Liberia	Truth and Reconciliation Commission-2005
Peace Agreement	Institute for Multiparty Democracy (IMD)	Mozambique	Maputo Accord for Peace and National Reconciliation and the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration program
Peace Agreement	AMUTED	Guatemala	Guatemala Peace Accords of 1996, culminating in the Agreement on a Firm and Lasting Peace between the State and guerrillas.
Peace Agreement	Movilizatorio	Colombia	Final Agreement for the Termination of the Conflict and the Construction of a Stable and Lasting Peace.
Peace Agreement	YWCA	South Sudan	Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS)
Track 1, 2 & Peace Agreement	Focus Droits Accès	DRC	Nairobi Peace Talks and the recommendations of the Disarmament, Demobilisation and Community Rehabilitation Program
Track 1	Together We Build It	Libya	Political agreement of 2021: Roadmap "For the Preparatory Phase of a Comprehensive Solution" adopted by the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum (track I) convened by the UN. AND the Ceasefire Agreement of 2020: adopted by security track convened by the UN.
Track 1	The Palestinian Centre for Peace and Democracy (PCPD)	Palestine	Israeli-Palestinian peace process and the internal Palestinian Reconciliation process between Fatah and Hamas
Track 2	Zenobia	Syria	Syria Peacebuilding process and Constitutional making process
Track 2	Badael	Syria	Syria Peacebuilding process and Constitutional making process
Track 2	CAUCE	Venezuela	Negotiation process between the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the Unitary Platform
Track 2	Reach Out Cameroon	Cameroon	ALL Ndiian Peace Conference and the "Major National Dialogue" in Cameroon
Track 2	Women Unlimited Eswatini	Eswatini	National Crisis Multi-Stakeholder Negotiations