



## UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women 2023 Call for Proposals

**Call Opens: 10 December 2023**

**Deadline for Submissions: 1 February 2024**

Online Application System: <https://grants.untf.unwomen.org>

The purpose of this call for proposals is to provide long-term grants to civil society organizations – particularly women’s rights, women-led, constituent-led and small organizations – to address violence against marginalized women and girls, in line with the principle of leaving no one behind.

Applications in line with one or more of the three UN Trust Fund Outcomes areas are invited:

1. **Improving access** for women and girls to essential, specialist, safe and adequate multisectoral services
2. **Improving prevention** of violence against women and girls (VAW/G) through changes in behaviours, practices and attitudes
3. **Increasing effectiveness of legislation**, policies, national action plans and accountability systems to prevent and end VAW/G

Within these three outcomes, we welcome applications under the following two funding windows:

- (a) **General Window:** Addressing violence against marginalized women and girls and those experiencing intersecting forms of discrimination; and
- (b) **Special Window:** Addressing violence against women and girls affected by crisis.

Funding is for **four-years** for a grant amount between **US \$150,000 and US \$1,000,000**.

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## 1. About the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women

Since 1996, the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund) has been a pioneer in resourcing and amplifying civil society efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls (VAW/G) worldwide. It is the only global multilateral grant-making mechanism dedicated exclusively to addressing this issue. Administered by UN Women on behalf of the United Nations system, the UN Trust Fund has awarded USD \$225 million to 670 initiatives in 140 countries and territories to date.<sup>1</sup>

As outlined in its *Strategic Plan for 2021-2025*<sup>2</sup>, the UN Trust Fund's vision is a world where all women and girls<sup>3</sup> live free from violence and exercise their human rights. Its mission is to support and strengthen civil society initiatives that prioritize inclusive, sustainable, and locally driven approaches to ending VAW/G.

The UN Trust Fund provides more than just grants. It offers technical expertise, capacity development, access to global platforms and participation in a global community of activists and practitioners committed to learning and sharing solutions to end violence against women and girls.

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## 2. The Context

Violence against women and girls remains the most widespread human rights violation worldwide, with 1 in 3 women experiencing physical or sexual violence in their lifetime.<sup>4</sup> Harmful social norms, inequality, and intersecting forms of discrimination make progress on ending VAW/G incredibly challenging. Evidence shows that marginalized women and girls, including women living with disabilities, refugees, and indigenous women, amongst others, are at disproportionate risk from violence and face greater barriers in accessing services and justice.

Violence against women and girls increases significantly in crisis, conflict, and displacement settings, where over 70% of women<sup>5</sup> may face violence and as many as one in five refugees or displaced women experience sexual violence.<sup>6</sup> Women who live in crisis settings are not only at heightened risk of experiencing various forms of violence but also face additional barriers in accessing essential services such as justice, healthcare, education, and access to safe spaces, requiring a multifaceted response to ensure their safety and well-being. These risks and barriers are further compounded for forcibly displaced women and girls, including refugees and those internally displaced.

Additionally, the shrinking of civic space and the concerning rise in pushback against women's rights and feminist movements globally pose significant risks of rolling back hard-earned rights – rights acquired thanks to the trailblazing efforts of civil society organizations (CSOs) and, in particular, women's rights organizations (WROs). Lessons learned from the UN Trust Fund reaffirm that it is essential to support and resource women's rights, women-led and feminist organizations who provide lifesaving services to survivors, lead efforts to prevent

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<sup>1</sup> <https://untf.unwomen.org/en>

<sup>2</sup> UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women. Strategic Plan 2021-2025. <https://untf.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2021/06/strategic-plan-2021-2025>

<sup>3</sup> The UN Trust Fund recognizes and provides support to women and girls in all their diversity as well as to gender diverse persons and their organizations.

<sup>4</sup> World Health Organization, on behalf of the United Nations Inter-Agency Working Group on Violence Against Women Estimation and Data (2021). *Violence against women prevalence estimates, 2018. Global, regional and national prevalence estimates for intimate partner violence against women and global and regional prevalence estimates for non-partner sexual violence against women.*

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.unhcr.org/us/news/news-releases/unhcr-urges-support-address-worsening-gender-based-violence-impact-displaced>

<sup>6</sup> <https://2021.gho.unocha.org/global-trends/gender-and-gender-based-violence-humanitarian-action/>

violence, and advocate for women's rights.<sup>7</sup> Resilient, empowered and properly funded women's rights organizations are key to ensuring that all women and girls live a life free from violence.

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### 3. The Call for Proposals

Guided by the UN Trust Fund's Strategic Plan 2021-25, the UN Trust Fund will support initiatives that address violence against marginalized women and girls and those experiencing multiple forms of discrimination, in line with the principle of leaving no one behind. All applications will have to demonstrate adherence to the ten UN Women's Programming Principles on ending VAW/G.<sup>8</sup>

The UN Trust Fund welcomes proposals that contribute to one or more of its three strategic outcome areas:

- (1) **Improving access** for women and girls to essential, specialist, safe and adequate multisectoral services;
- (2) **Improving prevention** of VAW/G through changes in behaviours, practices and attitudes; and
- (3) **Increasing effectiveness of legislation**, policies, national action plans and accountability systems to prevent and end VAW/G.

Within this framework, the UN Trust Fund is establishing two windows of funding:

- (a) **A General Window**: Addressing violence against marginalized women and girls and those experiencing intersecting forms of discrimination; and
- (b) **A Special Window**: Addressing violence against women and girls affected by crisis.

**Partnerships with smaller, local and grassroots women's and girls' rights organizations are encouraged.**

- ✓ The organization applying as *the lead applicant* may work with co-implementing partners to complement its expertise and outreach capacity and build the capacities of women's rights grassroots organizations.
- ✓ The lead applicant can partner with up to **four co-implementing partners** who can receive a portion of the funding.
- ✓ Partnership should be equitable and beneficial to these organizations.

**Multi-country proposals will also be considered under this Call for Proposals (up to ten eligible countries).**

**Organizations must demonstrate the added value of such initiatives beyond impact at the national-level.**

- ✓ Multi-country proposals may include **activities to strengthen feminist movements** at the regional level and/or to support **the development of knowledge, tools or resources** that can be used in different countries, for sub-regional, regional and international level impact.
- ✓ Proposals may focus on feminist movement building through **strengthening the capacities of women's right groups and civil society organizations, mobilizing allies and stakeholders, knowledge sharing, and joint advocacy**. The objective should be ending violence against women and girls.
- ✓ While implementation of the project can cover up to ten eligible countries<sup>9</sup>, an application should include **no more than four co-implementing partners** that will receive a portion of the requested funding.

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<sup>7</sup> G. Wood and S. Majumdar, 2020, [COVID-19 and the impact on civil society organizations working to end violence against women and girls: through the lens of CSOs](#) funded by the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women, New York: UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women, September 2020.

Perez del Pulgar, Marta (2023), ["Supporting civil society and women's rights organizations working to end violence against women and girls in protracted, complex and overlapping crises: A Scoping Study Commissioned by the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women"](#)

<sup>8</sup> UN Women EAW Programming Principles: <https://www.endvawnow.org/en/modules/view/14-programming-essentials-monitoring-evaluation.html>. More information on the ten Programming Principles on ending VAW/G can be found in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and tips for application writing..

<sup>9</sup> Please refer to the list of eligible countries below. The applicant must implement a project in the countries and/or territories listed in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development Assistance Committee's (OECD DAC) list of official development assistance (ODA) recipients.

### 3.1 General window: Addressing violence against marginalized women and girls and those experiencing intersecting forms of discrimination

This UN Trust Fund's **General Window** focuses on addressing violence against marginalized women and girls and those experiencing intersecting forms of discrimination, in their specific context or community. This is in recognition of the fact that not all women and girls are at the same risk of experiencing VAW/G, nor for the same reasons. Women and girls not only face gender-related discrimination but also additional discrimination due to factors like their race, ethnicity, religion, sexual identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, disability, or other aspects of their identity.

Interventions need to respond to the lived realities of women and girls in order to prevent the violence they experience and/or address its consequences. Intersectional approaches help identify the connections between social categories and/or circumstances that put certain women and girls at increased risk and ensure that programming can identify and respond to these realities. For example: indigenous women and girls living with disabilities, or women and girl internally displaced and refugees living with HIV/AIDs, or women and girl survivors of violence belonging to ethnic minority groups.

In your Project Concept, it is crucial to clearly describe:

- which groups of marginalized women and girls you are working with and why;
- the specific forms of violence you plan to address and the rationale behind this selection;
- the geographical areas where your work will take place;
- how your chosen strategies will bring about positive change in the lives of the women and girls you seek to reach;
- how the strategies you plan to use will bring change in the lives of the women and girls you seek to reach
- how your organization is uniquely equipped to work with these groups and address their needs based on your organization's history and experience.

### 3.2 Special window addressing violence against women and girls affected by crisis

This UN Trust Fund's **Special Window** focuses on addressing, mitigating, and responding to the specific challenges and risks faced by women and girls who are impacted by crisis and on supporting civil society organizations working to end violence against women and girls in crisis settings.

In the context of this Special Window, these crisis settings can encompass a broad spectrum of combined and/or compounding events or phenomena, including natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods and droughts, conflict (and post-conflict settings), climate-change-induced challenges, humanitarian, economic and political crises, and public health emergencies. **Given the unprecedented level of global displacement, applications from refugee-led organizations and local women's rights organizations addressing violence against refugee and/or forcibly displaced women and girls are especially encouraged.**

Interventions need to **intentionally engage crisis-affected women and girls** in all their diversities and as decision makers, co-designers and agents of change. This requires working in close partnership with women and girls affected by crisis to co-create and implement context-specific solutions that consider the specific risk factors and their specific needs.

Organizations are encouraged to **invest in their own preparedness** to adapt and respond to crises. Initiatives to build preparedness may include investing in adaptive and flexible programming methodologies, integrating measures to prevent backlash and resistance, partnering with others to maintain community reach through crises, enhancing organizational capacity, and dedicated trauma-informed efforts to support staff well-being.

In your Project Concept, it is crucial to clearly describe:

- the ongoing crisis in your context;

- how it impacts marginalized women and girls in particular and how it drives violence against them;
- the specific groups of women and girls you intend to work with and your reasons for this choice;
- the specific forms of violence you plan to address and the rationale behind this selection;
- the geographical areas where your work will take place;
- how your chosen strategies will bring about positive change in the lives of the crisis-affected women and girls you seek to reach; and
- how you have experience and are equipped to work with and respond to these groups and their needs.

Specific types of intervention have not been listed to allow proposals to be truly CSO-driven. However, you may refer to useful resources in Section 8 as well as in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and tips for application writing.

#### *Investing in organizational capacity and resilience, including self-care & staff well-being*

The UN Trust Fund defines organizational resilience as the ***ability of an organization to anticipate, prepare for, resist, adapt, respond to and recover from risks and changes as well as sudden disruptions in their internal and external environments***. This entails building the organization's capacity to adapt and respond to crises while also considering the needs of staff and volunteers. This might involve assessing their own capacity, training their team, developing risk-management structures and systems, and being flexible in the implementation of projects.

Organizational capacity and resilience also include **self-care and staff well-being**, with the aim to address issues such as burnout and vicarious trauma often faced by people working to end VAW/G. The UN Trust Fund supports up to US\$ 7,500 for self and collective care costs (see Annex 3 (Budget Guidelines) for more information).

**All applicants – irrespective of the window they are applying under - are encouraged to assess and invest in their organizational capacity and resilience and to include this when designing their programmatic and management activities and budget.** More information can be found in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and tips for application writing.

## 4. Funding Parameters

**We will fund all selected organizations for a duration of four years.** The goal is to facilitate significant and lasting positive changes in the lives of survivors and women and girls who are at risk of violence, effective institutional changes and a shift in dominant social norms that can be sustained over time.

**Civil society organizations can apply for a grant size of between US \$150,000 and US \$1,000,000.**

**Small civil society organizations can also apply for a 'small grant' between US \$150,000 and US \$250,000**, which provides access to additional core and flexible funds.

While small organizations can apply for larger grants (within their absorption capacity), large organizations cannot apply for a small grant.

Organizations should consider their own operational and absorptive capacity when submitting a funding request. In general, **an organization cannot request a grant amount more than 3 times its annual organization budget** (using your average organizational budget for the past 3 years as reference). For example, if your annual budget is US \$100,000 on average over the last 3 years, you should not request more than US \$300,000 for the 4-year grant. We will assess absorptive capacity against financial reports as well as information pertaining to your annual organizational budget submitted as part of the application.

### *Increased support for small organizations*

The UN Trust Fund acknowledges that small organizations play a vital role in addressing and preventing violence against women and girls, as they can reach the most marginalized women and girls with context-specific initiatives. However, despite their successes, they remain underfunded and lack the support they need to become more resilient and sustainable and if desired, to grow. **The UN Trust Fund actively supports small organizations through prioritizing their applications** and encouraging specific resource allocations to support them in meeting their unique needs.

Small organizations can apply for a ‘small grant’ of between US \$150,000 and US \$250,000 that includes up to additional **10% of the total direct project activity cost for core support to the organization.**

Core support is **separate from and in addition to the standard 8%** that all organizations can currently request under Indirect costs. Core funding can be used to invest in organizational resilience and/or for costs not specifically attributable to project activities, for example, costs associated with personnel, governance and board meetings, innovation and project development, fundraising, partnership and stakeholder management, internal and external coordination, quality assurance, development of organizational policies, procedures and systems, and other similar expenses.

***Small organizations can also apply for larger grants (within their absorption capacity). To be considered a “small organization”, the organization’s annual operational budget must be lower than US\$ 200,000 (on average) over the last three years.***

## **5. Eligibility Criteria**

**Please refer to Annex 1: Eligibility Checklist to determine if your organization is eligible for a grant.**

### **5.1 Expertise in implementing projects in the field of ending violence against women and girls**

The UN Trust Fund will only accept applications from Civil Society Organizations with specialized knowledge, expertise, and a track record of working on defending and advocating for women’s and/or girls’ rights and eliminating violence against women and girls. Organizations are expected to have at least five years of relevant programming experience in the field of ending violence against women and/or girls. The organization must provide information on its technical expertise and experience in this field as part of its application, including an explanation of its history and experience working on this issue and the number and CVs of staff with the requisite ending VAW/G skillset. You are encouraged to submit organigrams, CVs, list of ending VAW/G projects implemented and reference letters to attest to your ending VAW/G experience.

### **5.2 Prioritized organizations**

We will prioritize applications from the following organizations:

- **Women’s rights organizations (WRO).** To be considered a “**women’s rights organization**”, the applicant must demonstrate its core work is in the field of women’s rights, gender equality, the elimination of violence against women and/or girls, or sexual and gender-based violence. The organization’s official mission and vision statements must reflect its commitment to pursuing gender equality and empowering women and girls.
- **Women-led organizations.** To be considered a “**women-led organization**”, the applicant must demonstrate it is governed and led by women. This requires evidence that a minimum of 61 per cent of **leadership positions** across various decision-making levels, including in management, senior management and board levels are held by women.

- **Organizations led by and for marginalized women and girls (constituent-led)**<sup>10</sup> who represent marginalized groups of women and girls. Organizations of people with disabilities<sup>11</sup>, organizations of indigenous women, associations for lesbian, bisexual and trans women (LBT), survivors-led organizations, refugee-led and refugee/IDP-focused organizations, and girl-led and girl-centered organizations are particularly encouraged to apply.
- **Small organizations:** To be considered a “small organization”, the organization’s annual operational budget must have been lower than US\$ 200,000 (on average) over the last three years.

We require supporting documents (constitutions, by-laws, official missions, vision statements, organigrammes, certified financial statements) as part of the application to help determine whether an organization is a women’s rights, a women-led, a constituent-led organization and/or a small organization.

Note for **International non-government organizations (INGOs)**: INGOs may apply on the condition that they clearly demonstrate their added value and intention to engage with and strengthen the capacities of local WRO/CSO partners on programming and/or coordination in a mutually enabling manner.

### 5.3 Eligible Countries and Territories

The applicant must implement a project in the countries and/or territories listed in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development Assistance Committee’s (OECD DAC) list of official development assistance (ODA) recipients.<sup>12</sup> Multi-country proposals (covering up to ten eligible countries) are also eligible.

| Africa                   |              |             |               |                                  |                       |                             |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Angola                   | Benin        | Botswana    | Burkina Faso  | Burundi                          | Cabo Verde            | Cameroon                    | Central African Republic |
| Chad                     | Comoros      | Congo       | Cote d'Ivoire | Democratic Republic of the Congo | Djibouti              | Equatorial Guinea           | Eswatini                 |
| Eritrea                  | Ethiopia     | Gabon       | Gambia        | Ghana                            | Guinea                | Guinea-Bissau               | Kenya                    |
| Lesotho                  | Liberia      | Madagascar  | Malawi        | Mali                             | Mauritania            | Mauritius                   | Mozambique               |
| Namibia                  | Niger        | Nigeria     | Rwanda        | Saint Helena                     | Sao Tome and Principe | Senegal                     | Sierra Leone             |
| Somalia                  | South Africa | South Sudan | Sudan         | Togo                             | Uganda                | United Republic of Tanzania | Zambia                   |
| Zimbabwe                 |              |             |               |                                  |                       |                             |                          |
| Americas & the Caribbean |              |             |               |                                  |                       |                             |                          |
| Argentina                | Belize       | Bolivia     | Brazil        | Colombia                         | Costa Rica            | Cuba                        | Dominica                 |
| Dominican Republic       | Ecuador      | El Salvador | Grenada       | Guatemala                        | Guyana                | Haiti                       | Honduras                 |
| Jamaica                  | Mexico       | Montserrat  | Nicaragua     | Panama                           | Paraguay              | Peru                        | Saint Lucia              |

<sup>10</sup> To be considered a “constituent-led organization” the organization must demonstrate that it is led by members of the group it represents and/or sets priorities driven by its constituents’ lived experiences and based on a strong understanding of their needs. For example, women and girls survivors of violence, organizations of people with disabilities, organizations of indigenous women, associations for lesbian, bisexual and transwomen, etc.

<sup>11</sup> As an example, an Organizations of people with disabilities (OPD) can be defined as “an organization of persons with disabilities, that is a representative organization where persons with disabilities constitute a majority of the overall staff, board, and volunteers in all levels of the organization. It includes organizations of relatives of persons with disabilities (only those representing groups without legal capacity to form organizations, such as children with disabilities and persons with intellectual disabilities) where a primary aim of these organizations is empowerment and the growth of self-advocacy of persons with disabilities” (Disability Rights Fund, <https://disabilityrightsfund.org/faq/what-is-a-dpo/>)

<sup>12</sup> The UN Trust Fund follows the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development/DCD-DAC list of countries available at <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/daclist.htm>

|                                       |                            |                 |                                  |                        |                                       |                                  |   |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines      | Suriname                   | Venezuela       |                                  |                        |                                       |                                  |   |
| <b>Arab States &amp; North Africa</b> |                            |                 |                                  |                        |                                       |                                  |   |
| Algeria                               | Egypt                      | Iraq            | Jordan                           | Lebanon                | Libya                                 | Morocco                          | State of Palestine                                  |
| Syrian Arab Republic                  | Tunisia                    | Yemen           |                                  |                        |                                       |                                  |   |
| <b>Asia &amp; the Pacific</b>         |                            |                 |                                  |                        |                                       |                                  |   |
| Afghanistan                           | Bangladesh                 | Bhutan          | Cambodia                         | China                  | Democratic People's Republic of Korea | Fiji                             | India   |
| Indonesia                             | Iran (Islamic Republic of) | Kiribati        | Lao People's Democratic Republic | Malaysia               | Maldives                              | Republic of the Marshall Islands | Federated States of Micronesia                      |
| Mongolia                              | Myanmar                    | Nauru           | Nepal                            | Niue                   | Pakistan                              | Palau                            | Papua New Guinea                                    |
| Philippines                           | Samoa                      | Solomon Islands | Sri Lanka                        | Thailand               | Timor-Leste                           | Tokelau                          | Tonga   |
| Tuvalu                                | Vanuatu                    | Viet Nam        | Wallis and Futuna                |                        |                                       |                                  |   |
| <b>Europe &amp; Central Asia</b>      |                            |                 |                                  |                        |                                       |                                  |   |
| Albania                               | Armenia                    | Azerbaijan      | Belarus                          | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Georgia                               | Kazakhstan                       | Kosovo (UN Administered Territory Under UNSCR 1244) |
| Kyrgyzstan                            | Republic of Moldova        | Montenegro      | North Macedonia                  | Serbia                 | Tajikistan                            | Türkiye                          | Turkmenistan  |
| Ukraine                               | Uzbekistan                 |                 |                                  |                        |                                       |                                  |   |

## 5.4 Legal status and registration (5 years)

The lead applicant must be **officially registered or have a legal basis/mandate** as an organization.

If the lead applicant is not legally registered in the country of implementation, it must submit a legal registration document of at least one of its co-implementing partner(s) that is registered in the country of implementation (in addition to its own legal status/registration document).

Applications without clear proof of legal registration (or legal status) will be considered incomplete and removed from the review process.

The lead applicant needs to have been **legally registered for at least 5 years**. In exceptional circumstances, three years of registration history may be accepted with justification.

## 5.5 Demonstrated capacity for operational, financial and human resource management

**Operational and human resources:** The applicant must have the necessary operational and human resources to manage the proposed project. A clear project internal control framework should be defined once implementation starts.

**Certified Financial Statements of the Organization:** The applicant must submit certified financial statements for three fiscal years (including 2020, 2021 and 2022).

- A **certified financial statement** is one that has been reviewed, approved and signed by the person authorized to sign financial documents for the organization. This can be someone from within the organization or an outside firm, as delegated to sign as the designated official of the organization.

**Partnership and accountability arrangements:** Organizations can only apply once under this Call for Proposals, either as the lead applicant organization or as a co-implementing partner.

- An application should include no more than four co-implementing partners that will receive a portion of the requested funding.
- In all cases, the lead applicant organization will be accountable for managing the grant award in its entirety.
- The lead applicant organization will also be responsible for ensuring that its co-implementing partners fully understand and comply with all the requirements and obligations of the grant process.
- If awarded a grant, the lead applicant organization will also be responsible and liable for its co-implementing partner's performance and results delivery.
- We highly encourage the use of Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) among all partners to define roles, responsibilities, deliverables and lines of accountability.

In line with UN Trust Fund operational and absorptive capacity guidelines and minimum grant amount of US\$ 150,000, organizations should have a minimum average operating budget of US\$ 50,000 (using last 3-years average organizational budget) to apply under this call for proposals.

### 5.6 Previous and existing UN Trust Fund grant recipients<sup>13</sup>

Current UN Trust Fund grantees are not eligible to apply. Co-implementing partner (those who receive a portion of funds as part of a UN Trust Fund grant through a lead applicant) are not eligible to apply for the duration of the Partnership Agreement between the lead applicant and the UN Trust Fund.

### 5.7 Prevention from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment

UN Women has a zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA). Applicants must take all appropriate measures to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment of anyone by it or any of its employees, personnel, sub-contractors and others engaged, as well as compliance with protocols, provisions and standards in the country/territory where the project will be implemented. The UN Trust Fund does not partner with entities that fail to address SEA through appropriate preventive measures, investigation and corrective action.

### 5.8 Ineligible Applicants

The following are **NOT eligible** to apply for a grant:

- Organizations proposing interventions in a country not listed in the OECD DAC list of ODA recipients
- Organizations whose work and mission/vision statement do not focus on nor explicitly mention gender equality and the elimination of violence against women and/or girls
- Organizations that do not have a legal status in the country or territory of implementation, and neither do any of its co-implementing partners
- Government agencies or institutions
- UN agencies or UN Country Teams
- Private individuals
- Private sector entities
- Current UN Trust Fund grantees

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<sup>13</sup> The UN Trust Fund strives for a balance between funding new partnerships and supporting former strong and successful partners. Previous grantees are welcome to apply with the understanding that the grant-giving process remains competitive and only a subset of former grantees may be successful for a grant award in any given year.

- Current UN Trust Fund grantee co-implementing partners (those who are receiving a portion of funds as part of a UN Trust Fund grant) until the partnership agreement between the lead applicant and the UN Trust Fund ends

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## 6. Application Process

Applicants are expected to submit proposals online in the form of a **Project Concept**. The online **Project Concept application will be available from 10 December 2023 – 1 February 2024** at: <https://grants.untf.unwomen.org/>.

The **deadline for submission of the Project Concept is 1 February 2024, 2:00 pm (14h00) New York Time (EDT)**. We cannot consider Project Concepts received after the deadline.

Applications can be submitted in the following languages only: **English, French and Spanish**. Applications predominantly written using Artificial Intelligence technology will be penalized. **Only one application per organization will be accepted.**<sup>14</sup> Multiple applications from the same organization (including independent chapters and national offices and affiliates of the same INGO) or for the same proposal will be automatically disqualified.

Your online application must include all the following **required documents** to be considered complete.

1. Legal Registration Documents
2. Certified Financial Statements
3. Supporting evidence the organization is a women's rights and/or women-led and/or constituent-led
4. Supporting evidence the organization has specialized knowledge, expertise, and a track record<sup>15</sup> of working on defending and advocating for women's and/or girls' rights and elimination of violence against women and/or girls
5. At least two references demonstrating a track record of working on ending violence against women and/or girls (VAW/G)

All required documents should be uploaded through **the online application system only** (we cannot accept email or paper documents). **Please note that incomplete applications will be automatically disqualified.**

You must **plan for and set aside enough time to upload documents in the online application system**. Please note that the system may experience significant delays close to the submission deadline.

**We will acknowledge receipt of a submitted online application through a confirmation e-mail. Please contact us immediately if you do not receive the confirmation email.** In the event of technical problems with the online application, please contact the UN Trust Fund Secretariat (New York, United States of America) by email at [untfgms@unwomen.org](mailto:untfgms@unwomen.org).

You will be informed of updates on the application process by email.

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<sup>14</sup> An organization may not submit more than one application either in the capacity of the applicant organization or of a co-implementing partner, across all countries under this Call.

<sup>15</sup> Organizations are expected to have at least five years of relevant programming experience in the field of ending violence against women (except in the case of recently established, younger organizations). The organization must provide information on its technical expertise and experience in the field of ending violence against women and girls as part of its application, including an explanation of its history and experience working on this issue and the number and CVs of staff with the requisite EAW/G skillset.

*In line with UN Trust Fund operating procedures, and to safeguard the transparency of the Call for Proposals processes, all queries must be addressed to [untfgms@unwomen.org](mailto:untfgms@unwomen.org). The UN Trust Fund Secretariat cannot accept or respond to any inquiry addressed directly or indirectly to our staff.*

*Please note that due to the high volume of applications, we unfortunately cannot respond individually to those not selected for further consideration.*

## 7. Selection Process

We award grants through an open, independent and competitive process. All proposals are assessed based on the overall quality and results-oriented nature of the proposed project. Scoring is based on standardized criteria. The appraisal process involves independent experts and regional and global committees, with the participation of CSOs, experts, academics and UN agencies. Our Global inter-agency Programme Advisory Committee will make the final funding decisions.

The first round involves the submission of a Project Concept and **only those successful in the first round are invited to submit a Project Proposal**. A subset of final applicants will be considered for grants.

Grant approvals will take place by mid-2024. All successful grantees are expected to work closely with our Team to **incorporate full technical feedback** and **ensure high-quality standards of programme design** and **rigorous monitoring, reporting and evaluation** plans in the project proposal.

## 8. Useful Resources

The following resources may be especially useful to consult when developing your proposal:

- **RESPECT women: preventing violence against women.** UN Women, WHO. 2019. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2019/05/respect-women-preventing-violence-against-women>
- **Essential services package for women and girls subject to violence.** UN Women, UNFPA, WHO, UNDP and UNODC. 2015. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2015/12/essential-services-package-for-women-and-girls-subject-to-violence>
- **Learning from Practice: Lessons on preventing violence from civil society organizations funded by the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women.** UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women. 2021. <https://untf.unwomen.org/en/learning-hub/prevention-series>
- **The Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls.** UN Women. Step-by-step programming guidance. <http://endvawnow.org/> (searchable by language)
- **A rigorous global evidence review of interventions to prevent violence against women and girls** commissioned by the UK-funded, What Works to Prevent Violence Global Programme to End Violence against Women. 2020. <https://www.whatworks.co.za/documents/publications/374-evidence-reviewfweb/file>
- **Effective design and implementation elements in interventions to prevent violence against women and girls.** commissioned by the UK-funded, What Works to Prevent Violence Global Programme to End Violence against Women. 2020. <https://www.whatworks.co.za/documents/publications/373-intervention-report19-02-20/file>
- **Resource & Support Hub.** Publications, documents and guidance notes related to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (SEAH) and safeguarding. <https://safeguardingsupporthub.org/> (searchable by language)
- **Learning from Practice: Exploring Intersectional Approaches to Preventing Violence Against Women and Girls** Palm, S. and Le Roux, E. 2021. <https://untf.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2022-01/synthesis%20review%20-%20intersectional%20approaches.pdf>
- **‘A window of hope’: A synthesis review of the UN Trust Fund’s special window on ending violence against women and girls who are refugees and/or forcibly displaced,** Stern E. 2022. <https://untf.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2023/07/a-window-of-hope-a-synthesis-review-of-the-un-trust-funds-special-window-on-ending-violence-against-women-and-girls-who-are-refugees-and-or-forcibly-displaced>
- **“They call me by my name”: A Synthesis Review of the UN Trust Fund’s special funding window on ending violence against women and girls with disabilities** Palm, S. and Le Roux, E. 2023. <https://untf.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2023/03/a-synthesis-review-of-the-un-trust-funds-special-funding-window-on-ending-violence-against-women-and-girls-with-disabilities>