



### Humanitarian Financing for National/Local Women's Organizations and Groups

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## Background

**Purpose of this document:** Women around the world have lived experiences that are different from men, informed by norms that perpetuate gender inequality. This gender inequality in turn underpins multiple forms of violence that women and girls are exposed to across their lives. In humanitarian settings, certain types of violence against women and girls, (VAWG, also referred to as gender-based violence, or GBV) can increase. Women's organizations with expertise in addressing GBV are often best-placed to identify and meet the needs of women and girls affected by GBV in their communities, as well as to undertake contextually relevant strategies to prevent GBV. This document was developed to identify potential sources of funding for local women's organizations. This list of donors is not exhaustive but serves as a starting point.

**Methodology:** This list of donors was identified using an on-line word search with a combination of the following words:

1. Humanitarian, emergencies, disaster, conflict, war,
2. Women, girls, women with disabilities, older women, women's rights, gender equality, gender-based violence,
3. Funders, funding, grants

Additionally, relevant websites with list of donors were scanned to see if any supported the combination of word concepts below. Where websites had limited information, donors were contacted directly for additional requirements.

- [AWID funders list](#) filtering the word 'violence'
- [Bond funders list: https://www.bond.org.uk/hubs/funding-opportunities](https://www.bond.org.uk/hubs/funding-opportunities)

Women's organizations are encouraged to contact donors from this list directly in order to gather additional information about funding parameters.<sup>1</sup>

**The information is organized according to the following categories, starting with donors that have the highest likelihood to fund women's organizations in emergency situations<sup>2</sup>:**

1. Financing focused on women in humanitarian settings: This funding is available directly to local women's organizations. These donors are known to invest in programmes related to women/GBV and humanitarian needs.
2. Financing from multi-donor pooled humanitarian donors: These are typically larger grants that require national organizations with a dedicated grant writer and financial reporting systems. It may be that smaller women's organizations can identify bigger organizations in their own country that receive funding from this pool to apply to be a sub-grantee.
3. Financing focused on prevention or mitigation of violence: These funding sources do not explicitly mention funding local groups in humanitarian settings. However, donors listed here could be approached by women's organizations to explore the potential for funding - as these organizations are strong supporters of prevention of and response to GBV.
4. Financing focused on women and human rights: Again, these funding sources do not explicitly mention funding local groups in humanitarian settings but can still be approached by women's organizations to open a dialogue on opportunities for support.
5. Crowd Funding: A short overview of Crowd Funding as an alternative option to formal fundraising.

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<sup>1</sup> A handbook on fundraising for women's organizations can be found [here](#): content/uploads/2015/09/2015-Fundraising-Handbook.pdf This document is more tailored to development settings but nevertheless has useful tips for humanitarian women's organizations.

<sup>2</sup> This information was accessed in May 2019. Eligibility and grant cycles may change annually.

## 1. Financing focused on women in humanitarian settings

### 1.1. ELRHA - Humanitarian Innovation Fund (HIF)

**Type of project funded:** ELRHA's Humanitarian Innovation Fund (HIF) provides funding support to innovative solutions addressing complex humanitarian issues. Funding calls, known as Innovation Challenges, are most commonly focused within thematic areas (i.e. GBV, Water & Sanitation, etc.), with each Challenge seeking solutions to specific priorities within the thematic area. There is usually at least one funding opportunity per thematic area per year, but this is dependent on needs/prioritized opportunities for innovation. Eligibility for any individual Challenge is dependent on the applicants' fit/ability to respond to the Challenge, though all solutions must be for humanitarian contexts. ELRHA's next Innovation Challenge/funding opportunity will be in May 2019, where calls for solutions in the thematic areas of GBV, WASH and Disability and Older Age Inclusion will feature. Innovation challenges, as well as examples of previously funded innovations, can be found on ELRHA's website.

**Location:** Global

**Eligibility:** n/a

**Grant size:** n/a

**Application Procedures:** n/a Check website in May 2019 for new request for proposals.

**Grant management:** n/a

**Closing date:** One new grant call will be launched in May 2019

**Weblink:** <https://www.elrha.org/funding-opportunities/> and <https://www.elrha.org/program/humanitarian-innovation-fund/>

### 1.2. Global Fund for Women- Crisis Grants

**Type of project funded:** Global Fund for Women's primary goal is to get resources to organizations led by women, girls, and trans people. They support organizations led by historically marginalized groups who are working to build strong, connected movements for gender equality and human rights. They trust women, girls, and trans people to know how best to solve the problems in their communities. As funders, their goal is to provide resources that strengthen the agency, participation, and power of local organizations working directly in their communities. They provide flexible, core-support grants for operating and program expenses, give multi-year grants as often as possible, and offer travel and event organizing grants to support knowledge-exchanges and convening. **Global Fund for Women also provides immediate support to organizations who are first responders in times of natural and human-made crises.**

**Location:** Global

**Eligibility:** Grantees must be based in a country outside the United States. Global Fund does not fund US-based organizations. They have a primary focus on advancing women's equality and human rights, with these goals clearly reflected in its activities. Please note that groups whose sole purpose is to generate income or to provide charity to individuals are not eligible. Applicants need to be a group of women, girls, or trans people working together. They do not accept requests from individuals and do not fund projects proposed by or for the benefit of individuals (including scholarships). Applicants need to be governed, directed, and led by women, girls, or trans people, that is they must fill all or most of the leadership roles throughout the various decision-making levels of the group (including but not limited to the most senior

decision-making levels). Groups do not need to be registered non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to qualify for funding. Women-focused projects within mixed-gender organizations may occasionally receive support from Global Fund for Women if they work with particularly marginalized groups: for example, women within groups of people with disabilities or women within LGBTQI organizations.

**Grant size:** Average grant size is 15,000 USD.

**Application Procedures:** Global Fund for Women invites women's rights groups to apply for crisis grants to respond to the following crisis situations: Climate and natural disasters, Public health crises, and Sudden and drastic increases in political violence. In the past, Global Fund for Women has given grants to organizations providing crisis response to infectious disease outbreaks, large-scale floods, and sudden, massive displacement of people due to political violence. **Please note that groups must be invited by Global Fund for Women to submit a crisis grant application. Due to limited funding and staff capacity, only groups that have previously received a grant from Global Fund for Women will be invited to submit a crisis grant proposal.**

**Step 1:** Register your organization by submitting an Organizational Profile.

**Step 2:** Submit a proposal for a General Support or Crisis Grant when your organization is invited. Both steps must be completed through the [online application site](#).

**Grant management:** At least three months for a decision on a general support grant proposal and at least three weeks on a travel or event proposal.

**Closing date:** Rolling basis- can email questions to: [grantsinfo@globalfundforwomen.org](mailto:grantsinfo@globalfundforwomen.org)

**Weblink:** <https://www.globalfundforwomen.org/grantmaking/>

### 1.3. Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation

**Type of project funded:** [Kvinna till Kvinna](#) is a Swedish foundation that promotes women's rights in more than 20 war- and conflict-affected countries in the Middle East, Africa, Europe and the South Caucasus. Supporting over 110 partner organizations – because they believe women's rights activists know best what women and girls in their country need. Kvinna till Kvinna focuses on four key issues: gender-based violence, women's equal participation, economic empowerment and women, peace and security.

**Location:** 14 country offices in conflict-affected areas. Country offices are located in Amman, Beirut, Belgrade, Bukavu, Erbil, Jerusalem, Kiev, Kigali, Monrovia, Pristina, Sarajevo, Skopje, Tbilisi and Tunis.

**Eligibility:** email or call number below.

**Grant size:** n/a

**Application Procedures:** Different regions and countries have different kinds of funding, and funding also changes from one program period to another. Applicants will have to approach country-level offices to learn about existing funding opportunities. On their webpage, there is a [messaging centre](#), where women's groups can choose which office to send enquiries to.

**Grant management:** n/a

**Closing date:** n/a

**Weblink:** <https://kvinнатillkvinna.org/about-us/who-we-are/> Telephone: +46 8 588 891 00 , E-mail: [info@kvinнатillkvinna.se](mailto:info@kvinнатillkvinna.se)

### 1.4. MADRE

**Type of project funded:** MADRE funds community-based women's organizations to meet urgent needs and achieve their long-term goals. Their grants enable life-sustaining and community-changing interventions and are sometimes the sole source of financial support in the places where they work. These are communities that war or disaster have rendered difficult

to fund and challenging to reach. Their three areas of focus are gender-based violence, climate justice, and peace-building.

**Location:** Global

**Eligibility:** Madre funds local organizations, networks and groups that are "under the radar" of other international funders and large aid organizations. They focus their partnerships on women-led organizations that prioritize the leadership of young women and girls, Indigenous women, Afro-descendant women, LGBTQI people, and people with disabilities.

They provide grants that meet urgent needs, such as shelters for survivors of violence, health clinics, seed banks and water conservation projects.

**Grant size:** n/a

**Application Procedures:** n/a

**Grant management:** n/a

**Closing date:** Rolling basis

**Weblink:** <https://www.madre.org/> If women's groups are interested to partner with MADRE or believe their organization could benefit from a MADRE grant, they are open to hearing from these groups. Please contact [grants@madre.org](mailto:grants@madre.org) with information about your work.

### 1.5. Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights

**Type of project funded:** Rapid Response Grants offer quick, flexible funding to respond to security threats or unexpected advocacy opportunities experienced by women, transgender, or gender non-conforming, activists and human rights defenders.

**Location:** Middle East, Central Asia, Eastern Europe, Western Europe, the South Caucasus, and the following countries: Canada, Turkey, United States, and Russia. There are separate Urgent Action Funds for Africa and Latin America: To apply for support in Africa, write to: [proposals@uaf-africa.org](mailto:proposals@uaf-africa.org). To apply for support in Latin America & the Caribbean, write to: [apoyos@fondoaccionurgente.org.co](mailto:apoyos@fondoaccionurgente.org.co). To apply for support in Asia or the Pacific, please visit: <https://www.uafanp.org/apply-now>.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be Women/Trans-led. Women/Trans people must be the primary decision-makers in the organization, group, or action.

**Grant size:** Applicants for Security Grants can request up to \$8,000 USD for immediate needs (for use within 3 months). Applicants for Opportunity Grants can request up to \$8,000 USD for activities that will be carried out within the next 6 months

**Grant management:** They accept grant applications in any language, 365 days per year. They will respond to requests within 24 hours; however, proposals in languages other than Arabic, English, Spanish, Russian, or French may require additional time for translation. The maximum grant request can be up to \$8,000 USD. Once a grant has been approved, funds are usually delivered within 1 to 10 days.

**Application Procedures:** ONLINE APPLICATION: **Fill out the application online** DOWNLOADABLE APPLICATION: Download the application **here** and send to office via email or SMS/text.

**Email:** [proposals@urgentactionfund.org](mailto:proposals@urgentactionfund.org). If women's groups require additional security in sending grant applications, they are advised to consider submitting their email application via an encrypted route such as [hushmail.com](https://hushmail.com) or [protonmail.com](https://protonmail.com). To do so, women's groups must first create a free account and submit their application to [urgentactionfund@hush.com](mailto:urgentactionfund@hush.com) or [urgentact@protonmail.com](mailto:urgentact@protonmail.com). If groups have difficulty writing, typing, or accessing a computer, they may submit a request by voicemail or SMS text message. +1- 415-4WOMEN5 (+1- 415-496-6365)

**Closing date:** Rolling basis.

**Weblink:** <https://urgentactionfund.org/apply-for-a-grant/>

## 2. Financing from multi-donor pooled humanitarian donors

### 2.1. Country Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs)

**Type of project funded:** This is a multi-donor pooled humanitarian financing instrument intended to make funding directly available to humanitarian partners operating in countries affected by emergencies. The funds support the highest-priority projects of the best-placed responders (including international and national NGOs and UN agencies) through an inclusive and transparent process that supports priorities set out in [Humanitarian Response Plans](#) (HRPs).

**Location:** Global. In 2018, CBPF allocated more than \$792 million to 661 partners in 17 countries to support 1,365 critical humanitarian projects.

**Eligibility:** National and local women's organizations and groups can access CBPF directly, provided they are registered as an NGO and participate in the cluster system, paying particular attention to the Protection Cluster, the GBV Sub Cluster and Child Sub Cluster, membership of which is a pre-requisite in order to apply for CBPFs. Women's organizations and groups may also access CBPFs indirectly through an intermediary such as another UN agency or INGO if they are selected as a sub-contractor or sub-grantee.

**Grant size:** Past grantees have received from 500,000 USD to 1.2 million USD ([see p.34 of the CERF Handbook](#)).

**Application Procedures:** Applications must be submitted through the CBPF Grant Management System (GMS).

**Grant management:** CBPFs are established by the UN ERC when a new emergency occurs or when an existing humanitarian situation deteriorates. CBPFs are managed locally by the Resident Humanitarian Coordinator, with the support of OCHA and an Advisory Board.

**Closing date:** Start date for projects vary [country to country](#).

**Weblink:** <https://www.unocha.org/our-work/humanitarian-financing/country-based-pooled-funds-cbpf>

### 2.2. Global Innovation Fund (GIF)

**Type of project funded:** A pooled financing mechanism which invests in the development, testing, and scaling of innovations intended to improve the lives of poor and marginalized groups.

**Location:** Global

**Eligibility:** The GIF welcomes applications from a broad range of actors, including governments, companies, social enterprises, academic institutions, and charities. National and local women's organizations and groups can apply directly. The GIF is open to considering applications that "target vulnerable groups, such as the extreme poor, women and girls, the disabled, minority or indigenous groups, refugees or displaced communities" and therefore is a potential source of pooled funds for innovative humanitarian responses.

**Grant size:** Disburses between \$50,000 to \$15 million in various forms of capital (equity, debt, grants and others).

**Application Procedures:** The GIF welcomes applications for funds on a continual basis. There are three stages to the application process: (i) Initial Application, (ii) Full Application, and (iii) Funding Agreement. This is a light-touch process for stages 1 and 2, with more information required should the GIF seek to enter into a funding agreement with the selected organization.

**Grant management:** This is a non-profit innovation fund, with its headquarters in London and an office in Washington D.C. It is supported by the UK Department for International Development, the United States Agency for International Development, the Omidyar Network, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade in Australia and the Department for Science and Technology in South Africa.

**Closing date:** Rolling applications accepted

**Weblink:** <https://globalinnovation.fund>

### 2.3. Start Fund

**Type of project funded:** Provides funding to respond to underfunded small to medium crises, when there are spikes in chronic humanitarian crises, and to act in anticipation of impending crises.

**Location:** Member's network

**Eligibility:** Only Start network members can access the fund. Applications for membership of the Start Network are currently closed. However, the Start Network is developing a new form of membership to enable a wider range of organizations to join. They are in the process of developing a decentralized network of regional and national hubs. The first national Start Fund was launched in Bangladesh in April 2017, to allow national and local NGOs to access funding collectively managed by members. Plans are underway to launch more national Start Funds in DRC, Pakistan, India, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar and the Philippines.

**Grant size:** Up to £300,000 per member agency for any emergency. A total of £9 million is disbursed on an annual basis.

**Application Procedures:** Any member of the Start Network can raise an alert. An Allocation Committee then meets to decide whether or not to activate the fund. If the fund is activated, Project Selection Committees are convened. Funds are dispersed within 24 hours of the Project Selection Committee's decision. Project implementation should begin within seven days and completed within 45 days of a funding decision. Reports need to be submitted within 60 days of funds being transferred.

**Grant management:** The Start Fund is owned and managed by Start Network's members, which comprise both international and national NGOs. The Start Fund is supported by the British, Irish, Dutch and Belgian governments and the European Commission.

**Closing date:** At any point that a member raises an alert. No firm closing date.

**Weblink:** <https://startnetwork.org/start-fund>

### 2.4. Women's Peace & Humanitarian Fund (WPHF)

**Type of project funded:** Aims to increase funding for women's participation, leadership and empowerment in humanitarian response and peacebuilding. Since its creation, the WPHF has allocated \$10 million to 41 projects and 55 organizations in Burundi, Colombia, Jordan, Iraq and the Pacific Islands (Fiji, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu). Moving forward, the WPHF has launched a new campaign: *40 by 20 for Women: Investing in Women Working to Build Peace & respond to Crises*. This campaign aims to mobilize \$40 million by the end of 2020 to support women-led local, grassroots and community-based organizations in the 24 countries listed below.

**Location:** Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burundi, CAR, Colombia, the DRC, Haiti, Iraq, Jordan, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Myanmar, Nigeria, Palestine, Pacific, Papua New Guinea, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine and Yemen.

**Eligibility:** A women's organization and group must be based in one of the 24 eligible countries

listed.

**Application Procedures:** WPHF National Steering Committees will issue calls for proposals through electronic and print and media and women's rights networks, to which national women's organizations and groups have 20 working days to submit their proposal. The proposal should include a context and situation analysis, a rationale for WPHF support, a results and resources framework, reference to partnership arrangements, and a risk analysis.

**Grant management:** *Global Funding Board* - The Funding Board is composed of four UN entities, four civil society organizations and the four largest donors. Current Funding Board members include: United Nations Development Program (UNDP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UN Women, the UN Peacebuilding Support Office, the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders, Cordaid, West Africa Network for Peacebuilding, Asia Pacific Women's Alliance for Peace and Security, Canada, Spain, Ireland, and the United Kingdom. The Funding Board decides on a global list of eligible countries and prioritizes countries for fund allocation.

*Global Technical Secretariat* – The Global Technical Secretariat reviews proposals to ensure projects meet eligibility criteria and if approved monitors progress through projects reports and field visits. *National Steering Committee* – Prepares and issues a call for proposals.

**Closing date:** Rolling basis and based on calls. Organizations have 20 working days to submit proposals after a call for proposals.

**Weblink:** <http://wphfund.org>

### 3. Financing focused on prevention or mitigation of violence

#### 3.1. A.J. Muste Institute

**Type of project:** Promoting non-violent action for social justice. Focus areas include: **ending border violence** and the criminalization of immigrants; abolishing the death penalty; redefining criminal justice; confronting institutionalized repression against racial, ethnic, gender-based, and LGBTQ communities; supporting progressive workers movements and the eradication of poverty; conflict resolution, ending state-sponsored terrorism

**Location:** Worldwide

**Eligibility:** Applications from grassroots activist organizations with annual income of less than \$500,000 and little access to more mainstream funding sources are prioritized

**Grant size:** Total project budgets should be under \$50,000

**Application Procedures:** Submit completed application via email to [info@ajmuste.org](mailto:info@ajmuste.org). Use the subject header: **SJF APP [deadline-month/year] [your organization's name]**.

**Grant management:** If the applicant's proposal is selected, the applicant should expect a call or email from one of their grant researchers with any questions they might have.

**Closing date:** July 8, 2019 (for Sept 12 decisions), Oct. 14, 2019 (for Dec 7 decisions)

**Weblink:** <https://ajmuste.org/programs#sjf>

#### 3.2. Amplify change

**Type of project funded:** The five areas of focus for Amplify Change are:

- Addressing gender-based violence, including sexual violence and female genital mutilation
- Addressing the causes of unsafe abortion including decriminalization of abortion
- Challenging stigma, discrimination, attitudes and laws that undermine human rights, including on grounds of gender or sexual orientation of LGBTI individuals
- Improving sexual health of young people and girls, including comprehensive sexuality education and addressing child and early marriage

- Increasing access to comprehensive reproductive health services for socially and economically marginalized and vulnerable groups

They offer three grants for national organizations:

- Opportunity grants to support small and new organizations based in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, and also in some countries in Latin America, the Middle East and East Asia where SRHR needs are high to achieve meaningful change for women and girls.
- Strengthening grants to support and strengthen the work of small to medium civil society organizations, partnerships and coalitions registered in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.
- Network grants for organizations registered in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia capable of convening and supporting multiple small-to-medium sized civil society organizations to build stronger, more inclusive and resilient movements. In 2018, they introduced eligibility for Network grant funding to the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) that are listed as a recipient country by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC).

**Location:** Almost all of their grantees are based in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. They focus their grant funding on where the needs are greatest.

**Eligibility:** AmplifyChange will consider applications from civil society actors - community groups, non-governmental organizations, indigenous groups, charitable organizations, faith-based organizations, research institutes, social enterprise groups, public-private partnerships, communications and media groups and professional associations. They welcome applications from civil society groups that work in collaboration with UN agencies, but AmplifyChange does not provide financial support to UN agencies or government agencies. Lead organizations must be registered in an AmplifyChange eligible country.

**Grant size:** Depends on the grant. Opportunity grant is up to 40,000 euros for 1 year. Strengthening grant, 40-100,000 Euros for 1 year.

**Application Procedures:** In French or English. Organizations should apply online via the grants portal. The way to apply for a grant depends on the type of grant applied for:

Opportunity grant or Strengthening grant.

**Grant management:** Successful applicants must undertake due diligence and financial assessments. This can take some time, despite best efforts.

**Closing date:** Depends on grant.

**Weblink:** <https://amplifychange.org/grant-model/opportunity/rules-and-eligibility/>

### 3.3. Feminist Review Trust

**Type of project funded:** This trust focuses on funding for lesbian and transgender rights; violence against women and girls; disabled women and girls; refugee women and girls. The Trust typically funds academic research, but their website also shows evidence of funding women's needs (in a refugee camp in Greece in 2018) and including support for migrant women and GBV.

**Location:** Worldwide

**Eligibility:** UK and international civil society groups supporting women (e.g. local/national)

**Grant size:** up to £15,000

**Application Procedures:** Application form can be found on their website.

**Grant management:** Decisions about Awards are made by the Trustees who meet three times each year. They may occasionally decide about applications outside this time frame but only in exceptional circumstances. Applications are read and typically about one third will be shortlisted. These shortlisted applications are read in detail by all the Trustees and are also sent

to a panel of external referees. Applicant references may be contacted at this stage. Following the Trustees meeting the applicant, the applicant will be notified of the Trustees' decision.

**Closing date:** Rolling.

**Weblink:** <http://www.feminist-review-trust.com/guidelines/>

### 3.4. Foundation Pro Victims

**Type of project funded:** This foundation helps victims of natural or man-made disasters and contributes to the safeguarding of human dignity and the protection of vulnerable people. GBV, disability and human rights violations are the three priority areas. However, the Foundation does not fund 'emergency relief operations in the aftermath of a natural or man-made disaster' (food distributions etc.).

**Location:** These locations, though funding is not only restricted to these countries: Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Iraq, Lebanon, Kyrgystan, Tajikistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Laos, Libya, Morocco, Burkina Faso, Liberia, Sierra Leone, CAR, Burundi

**Eligibility:** National or international NGOs with recognized expertise, proven skills, and direct responsibility for the project; also with prior experience in international financing. Applicants needs to be co-financed and to have an annual organizational budget of less than 1 million USD.

**Grant size:** n/a

**Application Procedures:** The form can be downloaded from their website.

**Grant management:** Created in Geneva in 1988, Pro Victims is a private foundation under Swiss public law. It consists of a Board of Trustees which sets the lines of intervention and decides on the allocation of funds, as well as a Secretariat which studies and analyzes the projects with a view to submitting them to the Board for approval and monitors funded projects.

**Closing date:** Rolling.

**Weblink:** <https://provictimis.org/projects-2/?lang=en>

### 3.5. Fonds pour les Femmes Congolese (FFC)

**Type of project funded:** FFC's vision is to build a Democratic Republic of Congo where women have their rights to bodily integrity, economic justice and to participate at all levels in decisions that affect their lives and that of their communities. Programs include grant-making, capacity building, and women's movement building. Main areas of work include sexual violence against women and gender-based violence, women's and girl's empowerment, HIV/AIDS and reproductive health, women's leadership and participation in decision making, gender and development.

**Location:** Democratic Republic of Congo

**Eligibility:** Grassroots women's organizations who aim to work on the following: women's empowerment, women's political participation, sexual violence, gender-based violence, conflict transformation and sexual and reproductive health, climate justice and environmental protection.

**Grant size:** Range between \$5000-\$7000

**Application Procedures:** Calls for proposals are posted on their website. To submit an application, the organization can send it through email: [projects@ffcrdc.org](mailto:projects@ffcrdc.org) and [contact@ffcrdc.org](mailto:contact@ffcrdc.org) or the organization can submit hard copies at offices in Kinshasa or Goma.

**Grant management:** An independent selection project committee reviews and select projects to be funded, and the program department conducts diagnosis on organizations which have not been funded by FFC before. The purpose of the diagnosis is to collect information about the

viability, reliability and governance of organizations selected for a grant.  
**Closing date:** Varies from year to year. Can email for more info on anticipated funding cycles: [contact@ffcrdc.org](mailto:contact@ffcrdc.org).

**Weblink:** <http://www.ffcrdc.org>

### 3.6. The International HIV/Aids Alliance Emergency Response Grant

**Type of project funded:** This alliance funds urgent situations where lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people (LGBT) and men who have sex with men (MSM) are facing stigma, discrimination and threats of violence that impact their access to HIV services

**Location:** Various countries in Africa, Latin American and the Caribbean.

**Eligibility:** Civil society organizations that are led by, or work with, LGBT people or MSM. Organizations can apply to support individuals whose situation meets the criteria stated above

**Grant size:** Up to \$20,000

**Application Procedures:** Online Process.

**Grant management:** Not detailed.

**Closing date:** Not detailed

**Weblink:** <https://frontlineaids.org/our-work-includes/rapid-response-fund/>

### 3.7. Mama Cash

**Type of project funded:** Mama Cash supports women, girls, trans people and intersex people to fight for their rights. The main 3 areas of funding are categorized as body (sexual rights and ending violence), money (economic justice), and voice (decision-making and representation by women). They do NOT fund groups whose primary purpose is development work, humanitarian assistance, poverty alleviation, or services.

**Location:** Global (except organizations based in USA or Canada cannot apply)

**Eligibility:** Mama Cash have very specific [eligibility criteria](#) that should be carefully perused prior to making an application. Proposals must have the promotion of women's, girls', trans people and/or intersex people's human rights as their primary mission, and not just as the focus of part of their programs. Priority is given to groups and initiatives that have an annual budget below 200,000 euros.

**Grant size** Mama Cash's grant size ranges from €5.000 to €50.000 per year. Their average grant size is between €20.000 and €30.000 per year. Mama cash also accompany and support grantees.

**Application Procedures:** Mama Cash is currently not accepting Letters of Interest (LOIs) from first-time applicants. However, applications submitted between 1 February -31 March 2019 will receive an answer by May 20, 2019. In early 2020, Mama Cash will share the dates for the next application window.

**Grant management:** After submitting an application, applicants may be asked more questions by Mama Cash advisors and then feedback is given on approval. Mama Cash keeps in close contact during grant period to provide support.

**Closing date:** See above.

**Weblink:** <https://www.mamacash.org/en/apply-for-a-grant-1>

### 3.8. The Stanley Thomas Johnson Foundation

**Type of project funded:** This foundation supports projects which deal primarily with the causes, circumstances and consequences of violence, and include: protection for civilians, especially displaced persons and refugees; psychosocial assistance and rehabilitation of the victims of war

and conflict; projects to prevent and resolve conflicts for people affected by war  
**Location:** Switzerland, the UK, Ethiopia, Mali, Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia, South Sudan, Afghanistan, Angola, Central African Republic, Chad, Myanmar, Yemen and Syria

**Eligibility:** UK and Swiss registered civilian non-profit organizations working in the above stated countries.

**Grant size:** Website lists funds around 110,000 USD have been disbursed. Future funding cycle may vary but likely to be in this general range.

**Application Procedures:** There is an online registration system on their website that can be completed in German or English.

**Grant management:** Applicants will be notified within a week after the Foundation board has met to select successful proposals.

**Closing date:** July 12, 2019 (for Conflict and Violence stream)

**Weblink:** <https://www.johnsonstiftung.ch/en/applications/submitting-an-application/>

### 3.9. The Oak Foundation

**Type of project funded:** This foundation has a funding window specifically for issues affecting women – including organizations that enable women who have experienced violence to access their rights and rebuild their lives. Foundation partners provide a range of services that empower women to recover from the trauma of violence. Foundation partners also seek to reform laws and policies and change norms to prevent violence from taking place. To this end, the foundation supports organizations that address physical, psychological and sexual violence against women:

- in the home – (domestic violence);
- at work and in migration – (trafficking and exploitation); and
- in situations of crisis.

**Location:** Balkans, Brazil, Central America, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Mexico, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. The foundation also funds in Moldova, Bulgaria, the North Caucasus and (Jharkhand and West Bengal) India. They also have other funding streams not focused on women but that women's organization could apply for that cover a wider geographic area.

**Eligibility:** They support women's organizations and groups that:

- adopt a rights-based approach to services and advocacy;
- empower women to fully and equally participate in society;
- adopt a holistic approach, taking into consideration various contexts and cultures, and addressing root causes;
- promote systemic change by strengthening legal frameworks and holding governments and institutions to account;
- contribute to the broader women's movement by complementing individual and community action with networking and joint advocacy initiatives;
- build evidence that contributes to best practices and catalyzes innovation; and
- work to change behavior and attitudes to prevent violence.

**Grant size:** Past grantees listed on their website received a range from 200,000 to 1 million USD. In 2018 the Issues Affecting Women Program made 23 grants totaling USD 17.95 million. Other than unique circumstances or in the case of Zimbabwe, they do not provide grants under 25,000 USD.

**Application Procedures:** Organizations must first submit a letter of enquiry or concept note; promising applications are then invited to complete an application for funding. This process

does not have a set time frame, but it can take from two months to more than a year from the submission of a concept note to final approval.

**Grant management:** Funding decisions are made by the Board of Trustees, either individually or as a group. While the Board of Trustees meets twice annually, grants are considered on a rolling basis throughout the calendar year.

**Closing date:** Rolling basis

**Weblink:** <http://www.oakfnd.org/issues-affecting-women.html>

### 3.10. UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women

**Type of project funded:** The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women awards grants to governments, NGOs, and, in 2008-2013, to UN Country Teams. The recipients then engage diverse individuals, groups and sectors to take action to stop violence against women and girls. Those engaged to take action include women's, adolescents' and youth groups; indigenous communities; religious and traditional leaders; human rights organizations; and the media.

**Location:** Global

**Eligibility:** Women-led and women's rights organizations, humanitarian organizations, organizations of women with disabilities, as well as organizations of persons with disabilities (DPOs) and civil society organizations working with women and girls with disabilities, Regional/international civil society organizations and networks (women-led, women's rights and humanitarian organizations as well as organizations of persons with disabilities only). Full explanation [here](#). Applicant organizations must be legally registered.

**Grant size:** Up to 1 million USD.

**Application Procedures:** The UN Trust Fund's annual [Call for Proposals](#), available in six languages, accepts multi-year grant applications for up to 1 million USD. [Applications must be submitted in English, French or Spanish.](#)

**Grant management:** The UN Trust Fund awards grants annually through an open and competitive process. The application process consists of two rounds: (1) **Submission and assessment of a concept note** and (2) **Appraisal of full proposals**. A selection of proposals is shortlisted, and the grants are then disbursed accordingly. Successful applicants are expected to work closely with the UN Trust Fund team to ensure high standards of program design, and rigorous monitoring and evaluation plans.

**Closing date:** The entire review and selection process spans eight months (February to September each year). The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women was accepting applications for its 22nd grant cycle (2018). The deadline for the submission of concept notes was 18 January 2019. Please visit the UN Trust Fund website in late 2019 for information on the next Call for Proposals.

**Weblink:** <http://unwomens.org/en/grant-giving/call-for-proposals>

\*The UN also has a fund for Gender Equality but it is more tailored to development or protracted crisis context, more info can be found here:

<https://grants.unwomens.org/Home/FGApplicationGuidelines>

### 3.11. USAID West Africa Atrocities Prevention

**Type of project funded:** WAAP funds projects focused on improving civilian security and strengthening community resilience with the goal of preventing atrocities in countries vulnerable to extremist and communal violence. Possible program activities may include: supporting the creation and local management of communication and/or early warning

systems; training for community leaders to engage effectively with local security actors and increase community-government collaboration to promote civilian security; and promoting reconciliation and inter-communal dialogues in areas affected by ethnic conflict.

**Location:** Mali, Cameroon or Ivory Coast

**Eligibility:** Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education. Preference will be given to applicants that include partnerships with and/or sub-grants to local organizations.

**Grant size:** One grant of \$880,000 over 18 – 24 months

**Application Procedures:** Very detailed procedures with extensive documentation is required. See weblink below.

**Grant management:** By Department of state, Bureau of Democracy and Human Rights Labor.

**Closing date:** The last deadline was April 26, 2019. The next deadline has not been announced.

**Weblink:** <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=313468>

### 3.12. Viiv Positive Action for Girls and Women: Small Grants Program

**Type of project funded:** These small grants fund community-led interventions that address sexual violence; harmful practices such as female genital mutilation (FGM); early and forced marriage; sexual and reproductive health and rights for underserved and vulnerable girls.

**Location:** Resource-limited settings. *Please be aware that they receive a large number of applications from Uganda and Kenya, therefore these are extremely competitive countries for funding.*

**Eligibility:** Organizations must be non-governmental and either not-for-profit or have a social purpose.

**Grant size:** £5,000 - £25,000 per year for 2 years.

**Application Procedures:** All applications must be submitted via the Positive Action online community: <https://positiveaction.force.com/pacf/login>. Applicants need to attach the following to the application: list of trustee details, proof of organization's registration, copy of latest accounts and comprehensive project budget. More details are available at weblink below.

**Grant management:** Applications are open all year round and will continuously be reviewed internally, with the PAGW Board reviewing shortlisted periodically throughout the year. Board meeting dates will be published on the Positive Action online community.

**Closing date:** Rolling.

**Weblink:** [http://gskvideo.edgesuite.net/Viiv/viivhealthcare/pdf\\_files/master/main/pagw-call-for-proposals-guidance-notes-final-en.pdf](http://gskvideo.edgesuite.net/Viiv/viivhealthcare/pdf_files/master/main/pagw-call-for-proposals-guidance-notes-final-en.pdf)

## 4. Financing focused on women and human rights

### 4.1. Open Society Foundation

**Type of project funded:** The Open Society Foundation works to build vibrant and tolerant democracies whose governments are accountable to their citizens. In pursuit of this mission, they work on a wide variety of issues both geographically and thematically. National and regional foundations affiliated with Open Society also focus on the open society issues and concerns most relevant in their countries or regions. Two on-going grant programs now are:

Building Open Society in West Africa (April 30, 2019 deadline), Latin America Program (ongoing); Open Society Initiative for Eastern Africa (ongoing). The OSF [website](#) explicitly mentions supporting women's rights, economic justice for women and sexual/reproductive

rights

funding.

**Location:**

Global

**Eligibility:** They can provide funding directly to formally established organizations around the world as well as to informal organizations or networks through intermediaries (fiscal sponsors, fiscal agents). Each program within the Open Society Foundation has its own strategy and process for selecting grantees. Organizations or individuals whose values, goals, and work align with said strategies should inquire with the relevant program to see whether or not there is a fit.

**Grant**

**size:**

n/a

**Application Procedures:** The process for applying for grants varies by program. Some use requests for proposals (RFPs), others invite letters of inquiry (LOIs) or concept papers, and certain others accept proposals by invitation only. Given that each program has specific grant-making processes, it is best to inquire with that particular program to explore fit and process.

**Grant management:** Open Society is able to provide both project and general support. When appropriate, the Open Society Foundation seeks to provide grantees with flexibility on how to use the funds where appropriate, including but not limited to general support.

**Closing date:** Variable according to program window.

**Weblink:** <https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/grants#faq>

#### 4.2. Fund for Global Human Rights

**Type of project funded:** The Fund makes grants to local, national, and regional non-profit, human rights organizations based in the countries where they have grant programs- see below. The Fund defines human rights activities as those that seek to challenge the structures of power so that they defend, protect, and promote human rights. The Fund does not have thematic restrictions and supports organizations working to address a wide range of human rights problems. For example, some of their current grantees defend indigenous land rights in Guatemala, promote women's rights in Morocco, and struggle for accountability for war crimes in West Africa. Emergency funds are available to protect the security of activists under threat.

**Location:** Their programs are currently in Morocco, Tunisia, India, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Burundi, Thailand, the Philippines, and Burma.

**Eligibility:** They do not support stand-alone conferences, individuals, businesses, scholarships, fundraising events, university-based research, government agencies, micro-credit programs, construction of roads, bridges, buildings, wells or medical facilities, or activities directly or indirectly intended to support candidates for political office. They also do not provide grants for service delivery development projects unless they are part of a broader human rights program.

**Grant size:** For regular grants, 5,000-30,000 USD; the size of emergency grants is not detailed on the website.

**Application Procedures:** When it first starts funding in a country, the Fund disseminates an open call for proposals for rights-groups based in that country. As the grants program for a country matures, the Fund renews support to the majority of current grantees and relies on the expert knowledge of their staff and a network of informal advisors, including current grantees, to find and fund additional organizations with the greatest need and most potential. To that end, the Fund does not accept unsolicited grant proposals for *regular* funding. However, through an Emergency Fund, they have greater flexibility to make grants outside of the regular funding cycle.

**Grant**

**management:**

**n/a**

**Closing date:** based on call in the specific country of interest.

**Weblink:** <https://globalhumanrights.org/grants/>

## 5. Crowd Funding Opportunities

Another fundraising option for women's organizations to consider is Crowd Funding. Websites such as (1) globalgiving.com or (2) GoFundMe.com have been set up and have been able to raise funds of various amounts from the general public, including members of the diaspora living abroad. This method can rapidly activate cash as long as payment transfers between countries are viable. This grassroots option requires a compelling narrative, disseminated via the crowd funding website. Local or national women's organizations who have allies or offices in other countries (e.g. Global North), featuring members with vibrant social networks, can start a campaign. The amount successfully fundraised depends on those who can be reached through the social networks of those disseminating the Crowd Funding website. Amounts fundraised typically range within 5USD-10,000 USD, which can be useful for some groups. Higher amounts have also been fundraised as seen below in the examples.

1. <https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/send-emergency-aid-to-syrian-women-war-refugee/>
2. <https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/gender-based-violence-in-the-anglophone-silent-war/> (2,000 of 50,000 USD goal achieved)
3. <https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/end-impunity-justice-for-yezidi-women-and-girls/> (21,000 of 770,000 USD goal achieved)
4. <https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/self-defense-refugee-women-lesvos/> (12,000 of 24,000 goal achieved).

### Expert Contributors

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### GBV AoR Help Desk

The GBV AoR Helpdesk is a technical research, analysis, and advice service for humanitarian practitioners working on GBV prevention and response in emergencies at the global, regional and country level. Managed by Social Development Direct on behalf of the GBV Area of Responsibility, the Helpdesk is staffed by a global roster of GBV experts. Any view or opinions expressed in reports do not necessarily reflect those of the GBV AoR Helpdesk or any of the contributing experts.

### Contact the Helpdesk

You can contact the GBViE Helpdesk by emailing us: [enquiries@gbviehelpdesk.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@gbviehelpdesk.org.uk), and we will respond to you within 24 hours during weekdays.

The GBViE Helpdesk is available 09.30- 17.30 GMT, Monday to Friday.