



UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women 2013 Call for Proposals

November 25, 2013



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women

Table of Contents

1. About the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women	1
2. The 2013 Call for Proposals	2
2.1. Guiding Principles of the UN Trust Fund.....	2
2.2. Invitation for Proposals.....	2
2.3 Budget and duration of proposals	4
3. Application and Selection Process	4
3.1. Who can Apply?	4
3.2. Where and When to Apply?.....	6
3.3 Appraisal and Selection Process.....	6
4. Contributors to the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women	7

Annexes

Annex 1 : Concept Note Form

Annex 2: Budget Summary

1. About the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women

The United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women (“The UN Trust Fund”) is a global multi-lateral mechanism supporting national efforts to end one of the most widespread human rights violations in the world. Established in 1996 by UN General Assembly Resolution 50/166,¹ the UN Trust Fund is administered by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) on behalf of the United Nations System.

The UN Trust Fund operates based on the voluntary contributions of UN Member States, non-profit organizations, foundations, the private sector and concerned individuals. Its governance and grant-making is guided by consultative committees at global and sub-regional levels comprised of UN agencies, leading experts from civil society and other key stakeholders.² Information on the UN Trust Fund, including its history, past grantees and donors, can be found on UN Women’s website.³

Since its establishment, the UN Trust Fund has been an important source of support to women’s, grassroots and other civil society organizations, nurturing innovation, catalyzing change and mobilizing key actors and constituencies – from community to national and international levels. Through provision of grants, it contributes to raising awareness about the issue, advocates for development and implementation of laws grounded in human rights standards, promotes access to services and develops capacity of its grantees for continued progress. Grantees – comprising governments, non-governmental organizations, and since 2008, UN Country Teams – engage diverse actors, such as women’s, men’s, adolescents and youth groups, indigenous communities, religious and traditional leaders, human rights organizations and the media in action to stop violence against women and girls. To date, the UN Trust Fund has supported 368 initiatives in 132 countries and territories with almost US\$ 95 million.

The UN Trust Fund is also a vehicle for responding to the UN Secretary-General’s call to prevent and end violence against women and girls in the context of his *UNiTE to End Violence against Women Campaign*,⁴ (2008-2015). Through its grants, the UN Trust Fund contributes to the UNiTE Campaign by placing emphasis on its five key outcomes as relevant to national laws, multi-sectoral action plans, data collection systems, social mobilization and addressing sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations.

¹ General Assembly Resolution 50/166: The Role of the United Nations Development Fund for Women in Eliminating Violence against Women, 22 December 1995.

² In 2013, Programme Advisory Committee (PAC) members at global and sub-regional levels included: the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC); the International Labor Organization (ILO); the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR); the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS); the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-WOMEN); the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF); the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); the World Bank; and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict. PACs also comprised of leading NGO representatives, intergovernmental organizations, and other experts at the global and field levels, including representatives from the Centre for Women’s Global Leadership, Equality Now, Open Society Institute, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), among others.

³ <http://www.unwomen.org/how-we-work/un-trust-fund/>

⁴ See <http://endviolence.un.org/>.

2. The 2013 Call for Proposals

2.1. Guiding Principles of the UN Trust Fund

The UN Trust Fund promotes initiatives based on the following principles:

- *Human rights-based and gender-responsive approaches* that place paramount priority on promoting, protecting and fulfilling the human rights of women and girls, as well as strengthening institutional capacities at local and national levels to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls. This includes addressing inequitable gender norms and power disparities as the root cause of violence against women and girls, and as a violation of human rights and an impediment to development.
- *Holistic and multi-sectoral responses* that address women's inter-related rights and needs in terms of prevention and response to violence against women and girls, including safety and protection, access to health, legal, property and inheritance rights, and economic security and rights.
- *Focus on priority groups* living in poverty and otherwise especially excluded or disadvantaged, ensuring *responsiveness to diversity* by tailoring interventions to particular population groups.
- *Coordination and partnership-building*, including among government entities, civil society organizations, especially women's groups, and networks.
- *Commitment to sharing knowledge*, by documenting, evaluating and disseminating results.
- *Evidence-based programming*, building on lessons learned and recommended practices, to ensure optimal results and use of resources.

2.2. Invitation for Proposals

Despite the adoption of a multitude of policies, laws, and action plans to address violence against women and girls, millions remain at risk without protection, access to critical services, or opportunities to seek justice. In many countries, strategies to advance prevention and interrupt the cycle of violence remain non-existent. In order to address serious gaps in the realization of national and international commitments to end violence against women and girls,⁵ the UN Trust Fund focuses on *supporting the implementation of national and local laws, policies and action plans* by expanding the quality and quantity of support available for on-the-ground implementation of effective programmes.

Through the monitoring and evaluation of its grants, the UN Trust Fund aims to expand the global knowledge base on 'what works' while supporting the piloting, testing, up-scaling, evaluation, documentation and dissemination of catalytic, innovative and promising approaches that carry a promise of broader application. The ideal proposal will ensure rigorous documentation of effective approaches addressing violence against women and girls, with a view to sharing lessons learned and providing practical guidance for other programmers and human rights advocates.

⁵ In particular, the Millennium Declaration and Millennium Development Goals; the recommendations of the Millennium Project Task Force on Education and Gender Equality Report (www.unmillenniumproject.org/reports/ef_gender.htm); In-depth study on all forms of violence against women: Report of the Secretary-General, A/61/122/Add.1, 26 June 2006; General Assembly Resolutions on the Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women: 61/143 of 19 December 2006, 62/133 of 18 December 2007, 63/155 of 18 December 2008, 64/137 of 18 December 2009, 65/187 of 21 December 2010, 67/144 of 20 December 2012; Security Council Resolution 1820: Women and Peace and Security, 19 June 2008; Security Council Resolution 1888: Women and Peace and Security, 30 September 2009; CEDAW Committee conclusions and recommendations, including General Recommendations 12 and 19 on Violence against Women (<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/recommendations/index.html>); the Agreed Conclusions of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women on the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls, 15 March 2013; and the reports of the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, its causes and consequences.

By way of illustration only, proposals might consider:

- *Developing specific strategies for primary prevention* of violence against women and girls, that is, strategies that will lead towards stopping violence from occurring altogether in the first place. Examples of this include: community-based approaches, early childhood interventions, working with men and boys on changing gender norms and the acceptability of violence, school-based interventions, among various others.
- *Ensuring survivors' access to justice*, by strengthening implementation of existing national legislation, and alignment with international and regional human rights' standards; and to *quality health and other services and supports*. This may include establishing or expanding access to services such as hotlines, safe spaces, legal assistance and crisis counseling, among others.
- *Empowering women to understand and claim their rights and mobilizing communities on 'zero tolerance'* through legal literacy about international, national and local laws, policies and action plans, as well as through socio-economic (including employment) opportunities for women and girls to break out of the cycle of violence.
- *Strengthening efforts to address the full range of violence against women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations, including efforts to prevent and address rape as a systematic method of warfare* by State and non-state actors.⁶
- *Responding to the needs and rights of especially excluded and neglected groups*, such as women and girls living in poverty and extreme poverty, adolescents and youth, migrant women workers, domestic workers, indigenous communities, women living with HIV, women and girls who have been trafficked, among others; or on *especially neglected forms of violence or issues*, such as sexual violence against girls and young women, abuse during pregnancy, political or economic violence, links with HIV and AIDS, and sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations.
- *Securing strategic policy commitments and budgets for implementation*, by working to ensure that ending violence against women and girls is incorporated into leading national development and funding frameworks, such as Poverty Reduction Strategies, National Development Plans, National HIV and AIDS Plans, Sector-Wide Approaches, post-conflict peace-building and reconstruction frameworks, or other post-2015 related plans. This includes support for *data collection and analysis; mapping services; supporting establishment of benchmarks and monitoring progress against them; gender-responsive budget initiatives; and capacity development of civil society organizations on policy-oriented advocacy* to promote accountability and participate in public policy formulation and monitoring mechanisms.
- *Enlisting relatively 'new' actors* who have a critical, but largely untapped, role to play in preventing and addressing violence against women and girls, such as *working with men and boys, young people, faith-based organizations, employers and trade unions*, among other strategic groups and sectors.
- *Supporting the implementation of international and regional human rights instruments, and of recommendations on ending violence against women from human rights bodies*, including the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) Committee, and the United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, among other special procedures as well as those of fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Status of Women
- Overall, *supporting capacity development* of implementers of national and local laws, policies and action plans, at inter-sectoral and sectoral levels.

In all cases, emphasis will be placed on the applicant's ability to clearly articulate the contextual challenges, expected results and strategies to achieve them, with a focus on tailored approaches to

⁶ See also UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict, <http://www.stoprapenow.org>

address the proposed form of violence or beneficiary age group targeted through the specific intervention. **Programmes reaching especially marginalized and high-risk populations including the internally displaced, refugees, women living in conflict, post-conflict and transitional settings, and women with disabilities will receive special consideration.** Additional information will also be requested of applicants shortlisted to submit a full-fledged proposal (see section 3.3 for details).

2.3 Budget and duration of proposals

For large civil society organizations, governments and UN Country Teams, budget requests should be within the range of a minimum of US\$ 300,000 to a maximum of US\$ 1 million total for duration of two to three years.

For small civil society organizations, especially grassroots women's organizations and youth-led organizations, budget requests for a minimum of US\$ 50,000 will also be considered.

Determination of budget requests should be made based on an organization's operational and absorptive capacity. In general, an organization should not request a grant amount that is more than twice its annual organization budget. **Small women's and youth-led organizations, however, may request between US\$ 50,000 - US\$ 100,000 regardless of the size of their annual organizational budget.**

3. Application and Selection Process

3.1. Who can Apply?

Applicants from, or working in, countries and/or territories in the "List of Eligible Countries"⁷, as follows:

- Civil society organizations and networks, including non-governmental organizations that are legally registered in the country of implementation.
- Regional/international civil society organizations and networks that have national presence in the country(ies) and/or territory(ies) of implementation. In this case, the proposal must indicate how the proposed interventions will contribute to national capacity development and ownership of national and local organizations in the implementation.
- Operational research/evaluation institutions specialized in gender equality and gender-based violence.
- Government authorities at central/national, sub-national and/or local levels, including National Women's Machineries and other sectoral Ministries. A government entity may either apply individually or as part of a UN Country Team proposal, but not both.
- UN Country Teams (UNCTs) are eligible where requested by the government and in partnership with women's groups, organizations and/or networks, as well as with other civil society organizations (see the box below). Only one application per country is permitted.

Proposals should ideally reflect partnerships among civil society and government. Special attention will be paid to organizations with a demonstrated record of working with local women's organizations, especially grassroots women's organizations and networks. Proposals from more than one organization

⁷ The UN Trust Fund follows the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development/DCD-DAC list of countries available at www.oecd.org/dac/stats/daclist.

or entity as co-applicants must clearly indicate which organization will take lead responsibility for project management and contractual obligations.

Organizations proposing multi-country initiatives must also demonstrate that they or their national implementing partners are legally registered in each of the countries (or territories) of implementation. Multi-country initiatives may cover a maximum of four countries.

Notes for UN Country Team (UNCT) Applicants

Proposals by **UNCTs** must:

- Involve two or more UN agencies, as well as UN Gender or Human Rights Thematic Groups where they exist, under the Resident Coordinator's overall leadership and endorsement. (This includes UNCTs from the pilot countries operating under the aegis of the Task Force on Violence against Women. Non-resident UN agencies may participate in the UNCT proposals.)
- Establish an explicit link to the Secretary-General's UNiTE Campaign, and indicate how the proposal will contribute to the concrete change at the national level and the specific achievement of one, or several of the 5 key outcomes of the Campaign.
- Reflect national ownership and partnership with both government and civil society, including women's groups and networks. Proposals must provide evidence of a request by the government (a signed letter by the corresponding government authority requesting UNCT assistance), and name the main women's and other civil society groups that will participate as implementing partners.
- Describe the linkages of the proposal to ongoing UNCT and UN-supported interventions in the area of violence against women and girls, including to the UNDAF and its budgetary allocations.
- Provide indications of matching funds from UNCTs, governments and other stakeholders, in addition to in-kind contributions (office space, staff, conference facilities, media outlets, supplies, other).
- Describe the participating UN agencies' comparative advantages and demonstrated record of working on gender-based violence.
- Describe the expected roles in joint implementation for each of the UN agencies involved in the proposal, including the Resident Coordinator's role. A signed endorsement letter by the corresponding Resident Coordinator is also required.

The UN Trust Fund will not consider applications:

- Submitted for interventions in countries and territories that are not in the "List of Eligible Countries";
- Submitted by individual UN agencies;
- Submitted by individuals without any organizational affiliation;
- Submitted by organizations that do not have a legal status in the country of operation;
- Submitted by civil society organizations, government entities, or UNCTs currently implementing a grant from the UN Trust Fund;
- Submitted by an organization that has been a recipient of a UN Trust Fund grant over the last three years (between 2010 and 2013);
- Submitted by an international organization whose affiliate/s or country office is currently a recipient of a UN Trust Fund grant;
- That have incomplete documentation, including blank or missing annexes;
- Requesting grants to fund on-going programmes or services - such as medications, counseling and treatment services, infrastructure or construction, etc. However, innovative piloting and evaluation of an existing programme or services intended as a model for learning and scaling up may be

considered on a discretionary basis, provided it falls within the scope or purview of the overall objectives outlined in the UN Trust Fund Call;

- Requesting funds to cover costs of infrastructure such as purchase of land, property, acquisition of office space, construction or repair of existing buildings or offices, including for example, the building and furnishing of service facilities, shelters or short-stay homes;
- Requesting funds for stand-alone general awareness raising and campaigns;
- Requesting funds for stand-alone research and data collection;
- Submitted by UNCTs from countries that are recipients of funding under the Spanish MDG Achievement Fund Gender Window (government entities, civil society organizations and research institutions from those countries *are* eligible to apply).

3.2. Where and When to Apply?

Applicants are expected to submit proposals online in the form of a brief **Concept Note**. For preparation of the Concept Note, refer to the following annexes:

Annex 1:	Concept Note Form
Annex 2:	Budget Summary

Concept Notes can be submitted in the following languages only: **English, French and Spanish** (please note that while the call is available in Arabic, Portuguese and Russian, concept note applications will only be accepted in English, Spanish or French).

The **deadline for submission of the Concept Note is 22 January 2014, 11:59pm New York Time (EST)**. Concept Notes received after the deadline will not be considered.

All applications must be submitted online. The UN Trust Fund will not accept applications submitted via e-mail, regular post and/or facsimile.

The online application will be available from 25 November 2013 until 22 January 2014 at: <http://grants.unwomen.org>. All information must be entered using the online application software.

The UN Trust Fund will acknowledge receipt of a submitted online application through a confirmation e-mail.

Due to the high volume of applications, the UN Trust Fund cannot respond individually to those not selected for further consideration.

Please contact the UN Trust Fund Secretariat (New York, USA) by email at untf-evaw@unwomen.org in the event of problems with the online application. Applicants will be informed of updates on the application process via email.

3.3 Appraisal and Selection Process

The UN Trust Fund awards grants through an annual open and competitive process. The application process consists of two rounds. The first round involves the submission of a Concept Note that will be assessed based on the overall quality and results-oriented nature of the proposed initiative. The appraisal process will involve committees at global and sub-regional levels that will follow common criteria for review. Those successful in the first round will be invited to develop full-fledged proposals. These proposals will be appraised and a smaller group will be selected as final grantees. This process will be undertaken during the period February-July 2014. Grant approvals and disbursements will be made

by October 2014. All successful grantees are expected to work closely with the UN Trust Fund Team to incorporate technical feedback, and ensure high-quality standards of programme design and rigorous monitoring and evaluation plans in the final programme document.

4. Contributors to the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women

The UN Trust Fund is financed through voluntary contributions from United Nations Member States, partners in the private sector and civil society, as well as concerned individuals from around the world.

The UN Trust Fund gratefully acknowledges the support of the Member State governments who have contributed in 2012-2013: Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Finland, Germany, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Oman, Pakistan, South Africa, Turkey, and the United States of America.

The UN Trust Fund is also grateful for the vital support of its partners in the private and non-profit sectors, including: Johnson & Johnson, M*A*C AIDS Fund, United Nations Federal Credit Union, Saban Foundation, the United Nations Foundation, Universal Peace Federation, UN Women National Committees in Austria, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Japan, Singapore and the United Kingdom, and Zonta International and Zonta International Foundation.

The UN Trust Fund would also like to acknowledge the individuals who have donated to the Fund and/or voiced their commitment to ending violence against women and girls by taking action via UN Women's Say NO – UNiTE campaign.