



SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PEACEBUILDING FUND

Gender and Youth
Promotion initiative
Call for Proposals
and Guidance Note

2021



PEACEBUILDING
FUND 

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1. PEACEBUILDING FUND

The Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) is the United Nations' instrument of first resort to respond to violent conflict. Since the General Assembly and the Security Council established the Fund in 2005, the PBF has supported 62 countries recovering from or coping with violent conflict. The aim of the Fund is to support interventions that are of direct relevance to peacebuilding processes and address critical gaps in areas for which no other funding mechanisms are available. In response to the Security Council resolutions on sustaining peace¹ and global conflict dynamics, the PBF has evolved from a post-conflict instrument to one that invests at all stages of conflict cycles: before, during and after conflict.²

The PBF works in the following Priority and Focus Areas:

PRIORITY AREA	FOCUS AREA
 <p>Responding to imminent threats to the peace process, support for the implementation of peace agreements and political dialogue</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Security Sector Reform  Rule of Law  Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration  Political dialogue (around specific time-bound peace/political agreements)
 <p>Building and/or strengthening national capacities to promote coexistence and peaceful resolution of conflict</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  National Reconciliation  Democratic Governance  Conflict Prevention/Management
 <p>Supporting efforts to revitalise the economy and generate immediate peace dividends for the population at large</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Employment  Equitable access to social services
 <p>Establishing or re-establishing essential administrative services and related human and technical capacities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Strengthening of essential national state capacity  Extension of state authority / local administration  Governance of peacebuilding resources

1. A/RES/70/262 and S/RES/2282 (2016)

2. PBSO (2017): What does "sustaining peace" mean?

2. BACKGROUND

■ GENDER PROMOTION INITIATIVE

Security Council [resolution 1325 \(2000\)](#) and subsequent resolutions on women, peace and security recognize women's key roles in the prevention and resolution of conflicts. The 2010 report of the Secretary-General, as requested by [resolution 1889 \(2009\)](#), contained a [Seven-Point Action Plan on Gender-responsive Peacebuilding](#)⁴, which included a target of 15 per cent for UN peacebuilding allocations to be focused on gender equality and women's empowerment. In response, the PBF launched its first Gender Promotion Initiative (GPI) in 2011. The initiative called for targeted peacebuilding projects on gender equality and women's empowerment. The Fund allocated \$6.4 million to the first round of GPI projects and this increased to \$8.1 million to the second round of GPI projects in 2014. In 2015, the PBF became the only UN Secretariat entity and first pooled UN fund to meet the 15 per cent target. The Fund has now exceeded the target for six years in a row, reaching 40 per cent in 2020. Since 2011, the Fund has invested over \$90 million in 60 GPI projects in 24 countries.

■ YOUTH PROMOTION INITIATIVE

The adoption of Security Council [resolution 2250 \(2015\)](#) and subsequent resolutions on Youth, Peace and Security recognizes the important and positive contribution of youth for the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security. In response, the PBF launched its first Youth Promotion Initiative (YPI) in 2016. The initiative called for targeted peacebuilding projects on youth inclusion and participation. The Fund increased its funding to the YPI from \$2.7 million in 2016 to \$22.1 million in 2020. Since 2016, the PBF has invested over \$79,4 million in 64 YPI projects in 18 countries. To date, the YPI remains the largest funding measure in support of the implementation of resolutions [2250 \(2015\)](#), [2419 \(2018\)](#) and [2535 \(2020\)](#).

■ GENDER AND YOUTH PROMOTION INITIATIVE 2016-2020

Since 2016, the Fund has launched the GPI and the YPI together as the Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative (GYPI). While being launched together in one call, the GPI and YPI are two separate initiatives with interconnected but distinct aims. The initiatives aim to support new and innovative ways to break down the different barriers faced by women and young people to engage in political and peacebuilding processes and to facilitate their meaningful participation in these processes at all levels. Through the initiatives, the Fund seeks to promote inclusive and bottom-up approaches to peacebuilding. Between 2016 and 2020, the PBF has invested 154,5 million USD in 124 GYPI projects in 29 countries. Out of the total investment, 48,6 per cent was allocated towards GPI projects and 51,4 per cent was allocated towards YPI projects. Out of the total investment, 96 million USD, 62,1%, was allocated to UN agencies, funds and programmes, 46,5 million USD, 30,1%, was allocated to CSOs. In 2020 GYPI welcomed joint UN-CSOs proposals for the first time and 12 million USD, 7,8%, was allocated to joint proposals.

■ CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT

Since 2016, the Fund has opened funding to CSOs through the GYPI, in addition to UN AFPs and in 2020 the GYPI was opened for joint UN-CSOs proposals for the first time. Providing direct funding to CSOs responds to the recommendations of [the resolutions on sustaining peace](#)⁵, the Secretary-General's report on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace (2018) and most recently, the [UN system-wide Community Engagement Guidelines on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace \(2020\)](#)⁶. These recommendations aim at enhancing locally-led peacebuilding impact, strengthening mutually respectful partnerships between the UN and civil society with a deeper understanding of local contexts, capitalizing on the expertise, broader networks and closer relationships of local organizations and communities and ensuring an inclusive approach, engaging the most hard-to-reach and marginalized populations. The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security notes that it is also critical to support and nurture the work done by youth-led CSOs, most of them being at the forefront of local peacebuilding initiatives but operating with extremely low support and funding. As per these recommendations, the GYPI not only provides direct funding to CSOs, but also requires that GYPI applicants demonstrate strong partnerships with local CSOs, in particular women- and youth-led organizations and networks.

3. [1820 \(2009\)](#); [1888 \(2009\)](#); [1889 \(2009\)](#); [1960 \(2011\)](#); [2106 \(2013\)](#); [2122 \(2013\)](#); [2242 \(2015\)](#), and [2467 \(2019\)](#).

4. [S/2010/466](#)

5. [A/RES/70/262](#) and [S/RES/2282 \(2016\)](#)

6. [UN Community Engagement Guidelines on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace \(2020\)](#)

3. GENDER AND YOUTH PROMOTION INITIATIVE FOR 2021

The Peacebuilding Support Office, announces the launch of its GYPI 2021, contributing directly to its 2020-2024 Strategy promoting the positive engagement of women and youth in peacebuilding through innovative approaches. Directly responding to challenges and neglected areas identified in the 2020 Secretary-General's Report on Women Peace and Security and his report on Youth Peace and Security, and Call to Action for Human Rights "The Highest Aspiration", this year's GYPI will focus on:

PROMOTING MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN AND YOUTH IN LOCAL PEACEBUILDING

The 2020 Secretary-General's report on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace stressed that peace is more sustainable when peacebuilding efforts are inclusive and locally owned, led and implemented. Local civil society actors, including women and youth, are primary agents of peacebuilding, playing key roles in conflict-affected societies and in situations of extreme fragility and transitions, as emphasized in the UN Community Engagement Guidelines on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace. As such, leadership of local communities and civil society actors is a central component and pre-requisite of peacebuilding.

Despite increased recognition of the importance of peacebuilding efforts being locally owned, led and implemented, many challenges remain. Local actors, in particular women, are not systematically engaged in a meaningful way in the conflict and context analysis, development and advancement of national and local peacebuilding priorities and continue to face a range of structural and other barriers, as pointed out in the 2020 Secretary-General's Report on Women Peace and Security. Responding to inequalities and exclusion faced by young women and men requires stronger youth voices in the development of local policies as emphasized in the 2020 Secretary-General's report on Youth Peace and Security. Young women face particular challenges, with fewer opportunities for participation in peacebuilding processes, and specific threats and discriminations having a direct impact on their safety and security. The importance of peacebuilding at the local level is the central focus of this year's GYPI. For the purpose of this call, the scope of local peacebuilding is defined as peacebuilding efforts focused on **the community or sub-national level**. Acknowledging the large variety and diversity in local peacebuilding efforts as well as the wide array of actors involved in such efforts, the GYPI requires applicants to demonstrate peacebuilding outcomes.

Projects are expected to apply programmatic methods and governance structures that promote local peacebuilding. To strengthen local peacebuilding organizations, all projects are required to allocate at least 40 % and preferably more of the requested grant to local civil society partners including networks, in particular women- and youth-led organizations. This can include direct sub grants, building capacities of implementing partners and direct payment of implementation of activities. As in previous editions, the 2021 GYPI will give preference to joint UN-CSO projects, projects implemented by national CSOs and projects that demonstrate strong partnerships with women- and youth-led organizations or networks.

PBSO will prioritize proposals to strengthen local peacebuilding in two areas:

1 PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF CIVIC SPACES, NOTABLY REGARDING LAND, INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND, ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES:

Civic space defines the environment enabling diverse civil society actors to participate meaningfully in the political, economic, social and cultural life of their societies. It relies on informal and formal mechanisms through which individuals, groups and communities can engage in decision-making, as defined in the UN Guidance Note on Protection and Promotion of Civic Space. This includes mechanisms to resolve specific conflicts in or out of formal local governance or political institutions. Civil society engagement is indispensable to peacebuilding and to create inclusive and resilient societies, as acknowledged in the 2020 Secretary-General's report on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace.



2 PROMOTION AND STRENGTHENING OF MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL WELL-BEING FOR WOMEN AND YOUTH AS PART OF LOCAL PEACEBUILDING PROCESSES

Young women and men face significant challenges stemming from shrinking civic and conflict prevention space as highlighted in the **2020 Secretary-General's report on Youth Peace and Security** and women's rights organizations are among the most affected by efforts to shrink civic space as emphasized in the **2020 Secretary-General's report on Women Peace and Security**. Furthermore, those facing multiple intersecting forms of discrimination are particularly impacted, young women and women human rights defenders notably face specific sets of challenges. The pandemic is imposing new challenges to the wide array of civic spaces, including at times disproportionate restrictions on fundamental freedoms and rights through emergency and other measures, and reports of intimidation and reprisals against peacebuilding, human rights and other civil society actors, both online and off-line. Further, the civic space has shrunk for many marginalized populations due to the digital shift as a result of Covid-19.

Actors engaged in certain areas face particularly grave threats. The **Global Analysis by Front Line Defenders** concluded that 69% of human rights defenders killed in 2020 were working on land, indigenous peoples' and environmental rights. Therefore, the GYPI seeks proposals **promoting and protecting civic spaces for women and youth** notably regarding land, indigenous peoples and environmental issues. All projects are required to adopt a do no harm approach throughout.

The **2020 Secretary-General's report on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace** calls for further integration of Mental Health and Psycho-social Services (MHPSS) in peacebuilding with a view to increasing the resilience and agency of people and communities. Psychosocial well-being and access to psychosocial support are essential to consolidate peace and prevent conflict in communities. Individual and collective mental health and psycho-social dynamics have an impact on the work of civil society organizations and human rights defenders as well as inter and intra-community trust and social cohesion, they help determine a community's capacities for inclusive and effective collaboration and decision-making, its ability to peacefully manage and resolve conflicts as well as its resilience to crises.

While women and youth are often primary agents of peacebuilding at community level in fragile and conflict contexts, women and youth, in particular human rights defenders, also disproportionately face particular mental health and psychosocial challenges linked to the consequences of violence such as heightened risk of abuse and, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), negative social stigma, and conflict-related stressors. Young women and men face particular challenges since most mental health conditions develop during youthhood. Available tools and resources supporting good mental health and psychosocial well-being at community level can be difficult to access for women and youth. As pointed out by the **Joint Interagency Call for Action on MHPSS 2020**, groups already facing exclusion, discrimination or stigma are particularly impacted, for example internally displaced and refugee populations, ethnic or religious minorities, people with disabilities, members of the LGBTI community or survivors of SGBV. This is compounded by the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, which has increased conflict-related stress factors, while also reducing access to quality, affordable mental health care in humanitarian and conflict settings as highlighted in the **UN Policy Brief on COVID-19 and the Need for Action on Mental Health**. The pandemic has also triggered new risks of stigma and discrimination for people who are perceived as being susceptible to contracting or spreading the virus.

In this context, and especially considering the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and as part of ongoing local peacebuilding efforts there is a need to ensure women and youth who are the most vulnerable be supported to gain access to these services to maintain or rebuild their connection to their communities and contribute to its collective resilience.

Work on mental health and psychosocial support risks to cause harm as it deals with highly sensitive issues and therefore applicants need to demonstrate experience of working on the topic and it is of utmost importance that projects adopts a do no harm approach throughout, as stressed by the **IASC Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings**

4. ELIGIBILITY

ORGANIZATIONS

PBSO is accepting proposals from UN entities and civil society organizations. All applicants interested in applying to the GYPI are advised to reach out to the PBF Secretariat and/or RC Office in the project country for guidance on the GYPI process.⁷

This year, the Fund will be accepting three types of proposals: joint UN proposals, joint UN-CSO proposals and CSO proposals. While both types of joint proposals will need to be submitted by UN Country Teams following the endorsement of the RC/DSRSG/SRSG, the CSO proposals will be submitted by the CSOs independently:

UN COUNTRY TEAMS ⁸	CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS ⁹
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Maximum of two GPI and two YPI proposals per UNCT ✓ Grants from \$800,000 to \$1,5 million per project ✓ UNCTs can submit joint UN proposals with up to three recipient UN organizations per project ✓ UNCTs can for the first time also submit joint UN-CSO proposals with up to three recipient organizations per project, maximum two UN organizations and one CSO (i.e. UN-UN-CSO or UN-CSO) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Maximum of two GPI and two YPI proposals per CSO globally ✓ Grants from \$300,000 to \$1,5 million per project ✓ CSOs can submit solo CSO proposals (submitted by the CSO independently) or joint UN-CSO proposals (submitted by the UNCT) ✓ CSOs organized in federations, confederations or umbrella organizations with independent international or national chapters will be considered as one organization for the purpose of this special call

COUNTRIES

The call for proposals is open to UN AFPs and CSOs in countries formally declared eligible by the Secretary-General to receive PBF funding as per April 2020. Therefore, the following 22 countries are eligible for PBF funding for the GYPI 2021:

 Burkina Faso	 Democratic Republic of the Congo	 Haiti	 Papua New Guinea
 Burundi	 El Salvador	 Honduras	 Sierra Leone
 Cameroon	 The Gambia	 Kyrgyzstan	 Solomon Islands
 Central African Republic	 Guatemala	 Liberia	 Somalia
 Chad	 Guinea	 Mali	 South Sudan
 Colombia	 Guinea-Bissau	 Mauritania	 Sudan
		 Niger	

7. Please email pbfgyipi@un.org for contact information of PBF Secretariats in a specific country

8. UN Peace Operations and Special Political Missions cannot be direct recipient organizations but are encouraged to support GYPI projects as implementing partners

9. Please check the eligibility criteria for CSOs below

■ CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

In order to be declared eligible for the GYPI, CSOs must be assessed as technically, financially and legally sound by the PBF and its fiduciary agent, the **Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office**. CSOs need to meet ALL the criteria to be deemed eligible for this call and proof will be required at the concept note stage. In the second stage, CSOs will also be assessed with respect to protection from sexual exploitation and abuse. In previous rounds, the Fund has funded mostly international CSOs and some national CSOs. We urge all CSO applicants to check the eligibility criteria **before** applying.¹⁰

CSO applicants must provide the following:



1. Proof of previously received funding from the PBF, UN, or any of the contributors to the PBF¹¹ in the project country (for example a grant agreement).



2. Proof of current valid formal registration as non-profit with a social mission for the duration of the proposed project in **1)** the country where the headquarters is located and **2)** the project country.

NOTE: If registration is done on an annual basis in the country, the organization must have the current registration and obtain renewals for the duration of the project in order to receive subsequent funding tranches.



3. Proof of tax exemption in **1)** the country where the headquarters is located and **2)** the project country.



4. Audited financial statements of the last two calendar years, including:

- The legal organization that will sign the agreement (and oversee the project country, if applicable).
- The signed auditor opinion letter. The letter from the auditor should also state whether the auditor firm is designated as a nationally qualified audit firm.
- The activities and budget of the project country.

NOTE: If the audited financial statements do not clearly include the in-country activities and budget, the organization should provide the latest two audit reports for a programme or project-based audits in the project country from the last two years.

NOTE: The organization needs to demonstrate an annual budget in the country of project implementation that is at least twice the annualized grant amount sought from the PBF, for both years. This means that for the smallest grant available of \$300,000 (for an 18-month project), the organization needs to demonstrate an annual budget of at least \$400,000.



5. Latest annual report that includes the activities of the project country.



6. Confirmation that the organization has worked at least three years in the project country.



7. Explanation of the organization's legal structure.

¹⁰. Please note that in the second stage of the GYPI process, PBSO will also conduct a due diligence review regarding prevention and response to sexual exploitation and abuse of selected CSO applicants

¹¹. Please find the list of PBF contributors for 2017-2019 in the annex

PROJECT GUIDELINES

- Projects must be submitted in English, French or Spanish.¹²
- Project duration is maximum 18 months.
- Projects must set aside at least 5 to 7 per cent of the budget for monitoring and evaluation, including final independent evaluation and financial audit.
- Projects must allocate at least 40 per cent of the requested grant to national/local civil society partners, in particular women- and youth-led organizations, including direct sub grants, building capacities of implementing partners and direct payment for implementation of activities.
- GPI projects must meet the Gender Marker (GM) 3 criteria and have gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) as the principal objective of the project. YPI projects must meet at least the GM2 criteria and have GEWE as a significant objective of the project. This includes GEWE issues being integrated throughout the proposal, from the conflict analysis to the results framework, and a dedicated budget allocation of at least 30 per cent of the requested grant to GEWE. YPI projects that do not meet the GM2 criteria will not be considered. YPI projects that have a GM3 and target young women specifically will be positively considered.¹³

REVIEW CRITERIA

CRITERIA	QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION
INNOVATION 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the proposal explain clearly what is innovative about the project and why it is innovative in the specific context? • Does the proposal include any innovative partnerships? • Does the proposal include testing out any new approaches or methodologies? • Does the proposal include the application of technology or Big Data?
GENDER / YOUTH APPROACH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the proposal clearly fall into one of the two thematic areas of this year (civic space / mental health and psychosocial well-being)? • Does the proposal put women and/or youth at the centre of the project? • Were women and/or young people meaningfully involved in identifying project priorities and designing the project interventions? What about women- and/or youth-led organizations? • GPI proposal: does it meet the Gender Marker 3 criteria? • YPI proposal: does it meet at least the Gender Marker 2 criteria?
PEACEBUILDING APPROACH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the project fall within one of the four PBF priority areas?¹⁴ • Are the peacebuilding outcomes formulated in a way which makes the expected institutional or behavioural change clear? Do the outcomes address any structural barriers to the participation and inclusion of women and/or young people? • Does the Theory of Change demonstrate a clear link between the proposed interventions/activities and the expected peacebuilding outcomes?
CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL ACTORS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the project have an inclusive and bottom-up approach where local stakeholders (e.g. women, young people, local leaders, communities) and implementing partners (e.g. national/local CSOs, national/local authorities) have been consulted and have contributed to the identification of project's objectives and interventions? • Does the project specify any partnerships being established with women- and/or youth-led organizations?

12. Spanish applications can be submitted either through the French or English application form

13. Please review the [PBF Guidance Note on Gender Marker Scoring](#)

14. Find the list of PBF priority and focus areas on page 1.

CRITERIA	QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION
<p>CONFLICT ANALYSIS</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the conflict analysis clearly identify the main conflict factors relevant to the project? Does it consider the main peacebuilding challenges? What about the main actors and the dynamics between them? • Is the conflict analysis gender- and age-responsive? Are women and youth considered as diverse groups (e.g. in terms of race, religion, ethnicity, socio-economic background, sexual orientation, political affiliation etc.) with diverse experiences and needs? • Does the conflict analysis identify any existing/potential actors for peace and clear entry points for peacebuilding? • Are the proposed interventions and results coherent with the conflict analysis? Do they clearly and directly respond to one or more main issues identified?
<p>FOCUSED INTERVENTIONS</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the proposal identify focused interventions in one or two main areas rather than aiming to address too many issues in one project? • Does the proposal have a realistic level of ambition given the time frame and budget? • Is the proposal clear about its contribution to laying the groundwork for larger-scale social, cultural or structural changes rather than setting as the project's aim the full realisation of large-scale change?
<p>TARGETING</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it clear which geographic areas will be targeted and why? • Is it clear which beneficiaries will be targeted and why, including any further selection criteria to be developed and indicative numbers of beneficiaries? • Does the proposal steer clear of broad classifications of beneficiaries, such as “youth” or “women”? Does the proposal explain which youth or women the project will work with and how they will be identified? • Is there a strong Do No Harm approach?
<p>LINKAGES BETWEEN PROJECT AND EXISTING PEACEBUILDING PRIORITIES</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the proposal demonstrate coherence with any existing strategic peacebuilding frameworks by the Government or the UN? • Does the project complement the existing PBF portfolio in the country and fill a specific peacebuilding gap? • Does the project leverage national commitments and action on gender-responsive and/or youth-inclusive peacebuilding? • Will the project foster any partnerships on gender-responsive peacebuilding and/or youth-inclusive peacebuilding among existing national structures?
<p>IMPLEMENTATION CAPACITY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the proposal demonstrate and leverage existing capacity, knowledge and experience on the ground to implement the proposed peacebuilding activities focused on gender and/or youth? ^{15, 16, 17}
<p>VALUE FOR MONEY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the project demonstrate value for money through its management and accountability mechanisms? • Is the proposal clear on why the project is cost-effective and on measures that will be taken to ensure cost-effectiveness? • Will at least 40 per cent of the budget be allocated to national/local CSOs? Will this include any capacity building of local partners and/or direct sub grants to women- and/or youth-led organization? • Are the staffing costs not more than 20 per cent of the total budget?

15. The PBF aims at financing country-driven initiatives. Organizations must show sufficient in-country capacity for implementation and hiring of new staff must be well justified.

16. For CSOs: PBF will not fund personnel at HQ or regional level except for time spent in the country of implementation. A detailed breakdown of staff costs and location will be required.

17. For UNCTs: PBSO encourages budgeting for international and national UN Volunteers (Expert, Specialist, Youth, Community or Online).

5. APPLICATION PROCESS

TWO STAGES

The application process for the GYPI 2021 is structured in two stages:

- 1. CONCEPT NOTES:** Applicants should register and submit their concept notes through an online application platform at www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/gypi. The deadline for submission of concept notes is the 18th of June at 23:59, New York time. A Project Appraisal Committee will review the applications against the outlined criteria and will invite selected submissions to be developed into full project proposals.
- 2. FULL PROJECT PROPOSALS:** Applicants who are invited to the second and last stage will have approximately six weeks to develop and submit full project proposals. Full project proposals will also require signatures by **1)** the representatives of the recipient organizations **2)** the representative of the national counterpart (e.g. Minister) and **3)** the senior-most resident UN representative in the country (RC/SRSG/DSRSG). The Project Appraisal Committee will reconvene to review the full project proposals and make its final selection.

TIMELINE ¹⁸

STAGE 1



STAGE 2



¹⁸ The timeline is subject to change.

¹⁹ For UNCTs: funds will only be transferred once all other terminated projects for which the RUNO has received past funding in the given country have been financially and operationally closed in line with PBF rules and regulations (not referring to recently approved and ongoing PBF projects in country)

²⁰ For CSOs: funds will only be transferred once the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office has cleared the CSO for eligibility

■ GUIDANCE FOR ONLINE APPLICATION

Applicants must register at www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/gypi before starting the online application process. For joint UN projects, the convening UN entity should register and submit on behalf of project partners after having received the endorsement of the RC/DSRSG/SRSG. For joint UN-CSO projects, the convening UN entity should also register and submit on behalf of project partners after having received the endorsement of the RC/DSRSG/SRSG. For CSO projects, the direct CSO recipient must register and submit the application independently.

UN applicants: must upload a cover letter with the endorsement of the submission by the RC/SRSG/DSRSG addressed to the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, Mr. Oscar Fernandez-Taranco.

CSO applicants: must upload:

- ✓ Cover letter by the Head of Organization addressed to the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, Mr. Oscar Fernandez-Taranco.
- ✓ All eligibility documents (including proof of previous funding, formal registration, proof of tax exemption, audited financial statements and annual report).

Online application process step-by-step:

1. Check if your organization meets ALL the eligibility criteria
2. Have ALL eligibility documents ready
3. Register through www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/gypi
4. Start application process
5. Submit application by 18 June

6. RESOURCES

Please find below some useful resources for the development of GYPI concept notes and full project proposals:

- PBF website
- GYPI website including resources and previous webinars
- PBF Guidelines on PBF funds application and programming (PBSO, 2019)
- PBF Guidance Note on Youth and Peacebuilding (PBSO, 2019)
- PBF Guidance Note on Gender Marker Scoring (PBSO, 2019)
- Guidance on Sustaining Peace (PBSO, 2017)
- UN Guidance Note on Protection and Promotion of Civic Space (UN, 2020)
- UN Guidelines for Community Engagement on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace (UN, 2020)
- Youth, Peace and Security: A Programming Handbook (UNFPA, UNDP, DPPA/PBSO, FBA 2021)
- Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict (UN-World Bank, 2018)
- The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth Peace and Security (2018)
- Global Study on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UN Women, 2015)
- The Highest Aspiration: A Call to Action for Human Rights (2020)
- Human Rights Defenders: Protecting the Right to Defend Human Rights (OHCHR)
- Sourcebook on Women, Peace and Security (UN Women, 2012)
- Guiding Principles on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding (IANYD, 2016)
- Practice Note on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding (IANYD, 2016)
- Young Women in Peace and Security: at the Intersection of the YPS and WPS Agendas (UN Women, 2018)
- Series on Inclusive Peace Processes (UN Women, 2018)
- The Thread that Binds: Volunteerism and Community Resilience – the State of the World's Volunteerism Report (UNV, 2018)

7. ANNEXES

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE PBF

List of contributors to the Peacebuilding Fund between 2017 and 2020:

 Argentina	 Estonia	 Italy	 Pakistan	 Switzerland
 Australia	 European Union	 Japan	 Peru	 Turkey
 Bangladesh	 Finland	 Liberia	 Poland	 United Kingdom
 Belgium	 France	 Luxembourg	 Portugal	 United States of America
 Canada	 Germany	 Morocco	 Republic of Korea	
 Chile	 India	 Netherlands	 Slovak Republic	
 Cyprus	 Indonesia	 New Zealand	 Spain	
 Denmark	 Ireland	 Norway	 Sweden	

CONCEPT NOTE TEMPLATE FOR UNCT APPLICATIONS

	INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED	EXPLANATION / REQUIREMENT	WORD LIMIT
REGISTRATION	Account details: username (e-mail address) and password		
	Convening recipient UN organization (RUNO) name and acronym	<i>The convening recipient UN organization (RUNO) of the proposal should register and submit the application on behalf of project partners after having received the endorsement of the RC/DSRSG/SRSG. A max. of 2 proposals per initiative (2 for GPI and 2 for YPI) can be submitted per UN Country Team.</i>	
	Organization type (UN)		
	Country of proposal	<i>Only countries that are currently formally declared eligible by the Secretary-General to receive PBF funds are eligible for the GYPI.</i>	
APPLICANT INFORMATION	Which initiative: GPI/YPI		
	Which theme is the project addressing: civic space or MHPSS?		
	Convening recipient UN organization (RUNO) name and acronym	<i>A maximum of 2 proposals per initiative (2 for GPI and 2 for YPI) can be submitted per UNCT. UNCT applications need to be endorsed by the RC/SRSG/DSRSG.</i>	
	Street address, city, state/province, zip/postal code, country		

APPLICANT INFORMATION

INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED	EXPLANATION / REQUIREMENT	WORD LIMIT
Head of convening organization info: prefix, name, title, phone, e-mail		
Key contact info: prefix, name, title, phone, e-mail		
Additional contact (if applicable)		
Are you submitting a joint UN proposal or a joint UN-CSO proposal?	<i>UNCTs can submit joint UN proposals with up to three recipient UN organizations per project or joint UN-CSO proposals with up to three recipient organizations per project, maximum two UN organizations and one CSO (i.e. UN-UN-CSO or UN-CSO).</i>	
Provide names of additional recipient organization(s) and specify type of organization (UN or CSO)		
Do all the recipient organizations have established presence in the project country? How many staff does each recipient organization have globally?	<i>PBF considers established presence in the country if an organization has: a functioning country office, in-country staff, operational and procurement capacities in the country</i>	
How many staff does each recipient organization have in the project country?		
How many years has each organization worked in the project country?	<i>If one of the recipients is a CSO, PBF can only fund CSOs that have worked in the project country for at least 3 years</i>	
What was each organization's global annual budget in 2020?		
What was each organization's global annual budget in 2019?		
What was each organization's annual budget in the project country in 2020?	<i>CSOs need to have an annual budget in the project country of at least \$400,000.</i>	
What was each organization's annual budget in the project country in 2019?	<i>CSOs need to have an annual budget in the project country of at least \$400,000.</i>	

	INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED	EXPLANATION / REQUIREMENT	WORD LIMIT
APPLICANT INFORMATION	If one of the recipient organizations is a CSO, specify if that organization has ever received funding from the PBF, a UN entity or a contributor to the PBF in the project country?	<i>PBF can only fund CSOs that have previously received funding by the UN, the PBF or any of the contributors to the PBF in the project country.</i>	
	If one of the recipient organizations is a CSO, briefly describe how the organization is legally structured (e.g. local/regional/global organization) and which specific legal entity will enter into the legal agreement for the PBF grant		
	If one of the recipient organizations is a CSO, is that organization formally registered in the project country?	<i>PBF can only fund CSOs that are formally registered in the project country.</i>	
GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION	Project Title		
	Project country	<i>Only countries that are currently formally declared eligible by the Secretary-General to receive PBF funds are eligible for the GYPI.</i>	
	Requested grant amount for the project	<i>Min. USD 800,000 Max. USD 1,500,000</i>	
	Total project duration in months	<i>The max. duration of projects is 18 months. The official start date of the project will be the date of transfer of funds by MPTFO (expected in December/January).</i>	
	Which PBF focus area best summarizes the aim of the project?	<i>Please specify the PBF focus area which best summarizes the aim of the project.</i>	
	Please list implementing partners on the ground: name of organization and type of organization (Government, CSO, UN, other)	<i>Implementing partners can be Government, CSOs, UN and others that would not receive direct funds from PBF but who will be essential for the design, planning and implementation of the project. Implementing partners may receive grants from direct PBF recipients to carry out specific project activities. PBF does not accept proposals without national/local implementing partners.</i>	
	Are any of the implementing partners women- or youth-led? If yes: please list them	<i>PBF strongly encourages partnering with women- and/or youth-led organizations and engaging them during the design, planning, implementation and monitoring of the project.</i>	

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED

EXPLANATION / REQUIREMENT

WORD LIMIT

Estimated amount and percentage to be allocated to national/local CSOs

PBF requests at least 40% of the requested budget to be allocated to national/local CSOs as implementing partners, in particular women- and youth-led organizations, including direct sub grants, building capacities of implementing partners and direct payment for implementation of activities.

Estimated amount and percentage to be allocated towards Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (GEWE)

Gender Marker Score

Please select one of the Gender Marker (GM) scores. GM3 = 80%-100% to be allocated to GEWE. GM2 = 30%-80% to be allocated to GEWE.

GPI projects must be GM3 and YPI projects can be either GM3 or GM2.

Gender- and age-responsive conflict analysis

Please provide a brief conflict analysis (problem identification and underlying causes, including gender and age dimensions). YPI projects also need to include a gender analysis. YPI projects that do not integrate gender equality as a cross-cutting dimension will not be considered.

MAX 1000 WORDS

Reflecting on the issues and dynamics described in the conflict analysis, state the main goal your project will achieve, including the main interventions

MAX 750 WORDS

Describe what is innovative about this approach

MAX 100 WORDS

Describe the gender considerations of the project

YPI projects must meet the criteria of Gender Marker 2. For the purposes of the concept note stage, this includes:

- 1) a conflict analysis that is gender-sensitive, and*
- 2) consideration within the project approach and proposed interventions of both barriers and opportunities that are unique to women and girls.*

MAX 100 WORDS

How will your project engage and support local peacebuilders and work with local CSOs?

MAX 300 WORDS

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED	EXPLANATION / REQUIREMENT	WORD LIMIT
Cover letter from the RC/(D)SRSG addressed to the ASG for Peacebuilding Support, Mr. Oscar Fernandez-Taranco		
Cover letter from the Head of CSO addressed to the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, Mr. Oscar Fernandez-Taranco	IF JOINT UN-CSO PROPOSAL: Please also submit all the required eligibility documents for the CSO recipient.	
Currently valid registration as a non-profit in the country where the headquarters is located		
Currently valid tax exemption proof in the country where the headquarters is located		
Currently valid tax exemption proof in the project country		
Latest annual report of the organization that includes its work in the project country		
Proof of previously received funding from the PBF, the UN or a contributor to the PBF in the project country		
Audited financial statements of 2020 signed by auditor (if available)	<p><i>The audited financial statements must include the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The legal organization that will sign the agreement (and oversee the project country, if applicable). • The signed auditor opinion letter. The letter from the auditor should also state whether the auditor firm is designated as a nationally qualified audit firm. • The activities and budget in the project country. <p>NOTE: If the audited financial statements do not clearly include the in-country activities and budget, the organization should provide the latest two audit reports for a programme or project in the project country from the last two years.</p> <p>NOTE: The organization needs to demonstrate an annual budget in the country of project implementation that is at least twice the annualized grant amount sought from the PBF, for both years. This means that for the smallest grant available of \$300,000, the organization needs to demonstrate an annual budget of at least \$400,000.</p>	
Audited financial statements of 2019 signed by auditor		
Audited financial statements of 2018 signed by auditor		
Any other financial audit reports at country level		

CONCEPT NOTE TEMPLATE FOR CSO APPLICATIONS

	INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED	EXPLANATION / REQUIREMENT	WORD LIMIT
REGISTRATION	Account details: username (e-mail address) and password		
	Organization name and acronym		
	Organization type (CSO)		
	Country of proposal	<i>Only countries that are currently formally declared eligible by the Secretary-General to receive PBF funds are eligible for the GYPI.</i>	
	Which initiative: GPI/YPI		
	Which theme is the project addressing: civic space or MHPSS?	<i>A maximum of 2 proposals per initiative (2 GPI and 2 YPI) can be submitted per organization globally.</i>	
APPLICANT INFORMATION	Recipient non-UN organization (NUNO) name and acronym		
	Street address, city, state/province, zip/postal code, country		
	Head of convening organization info: prefix, name, title, phone, e-mail		
	Key contact info: prefix, name, title, phone, e-mail		
	Additional contact (if applicable)		
	Website/social media page		
	Has your organization ever received funding from the PBF, a UN entity or a contributor to the PBF in the project country?	<i>PBF can only fund CSOs that have previously received funding by the UN, the PBF or any of the contributors to the PBF.</i>	
	Please briefly describe how your organization is legally structured (e.g. local/regional/global organization) and which specific legal entity will enter into the legal agreement for the PBF grant		

APPLICANT INFORMATION

GENERAL PROJEC INFO.

INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED	EXPLANATION / REQUIREMENT	WORD LIMIT
How many countries is your organization active in?		
Does the organization have established presence in the project country?	<i>PBF considers established presence in the country if an organization has: a functioning country office, in-country staff, operational and procurement capacities in the country.</i>	
Is your organization formally registered in the project country?		
For how many years has your organization been working in the project country?	<i>PBF can only fund CSOs that have been working in the project country for at least 3 years.</i>	
How many staff does your organization have globally?		
How many staff does your organization have in the project country?		
What was your organization's global annual budget in 2020?		
What was your organization's global annual budget in 2019?		
What was your organization's annual budget in the project country in 2020?	<i>CSOs need to have an annual budget in the project country of at least \$400,000.</i>	
What was your organization's annual budget in the project country in 2019?	<i>CSOs need to have an annual budget in the project country of at least \$400,000.</i>	
Project Title		
Project country	<i>Only countries that are currently formally declared eligible by the Secretary-General to receive PBF funds are eligible for the GYPI.</i>	
Requested grant amount for the project	<i>Min. USD 300,000 Max. USD 1,500,000</i>	
Total project duration in months	<i>The maximum duration of projects is 18 months. The official start date of the project will be the date of transfer of funds by MPTFO (expected in Dec/Jan).</i>	
Which PBF focus area best summarizes the aim of the project?	<i>Please specify the PBF focus area which best summarizes the aim of the project.</i>	

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED

EXPLANATION / REQUIREMENT

WORD LIMIT

Please list implementing partners on the ground: name of organization and type of organization (Government, CSO, UN, other)

Implementing partners can be Government, Civil Society Organizations, UN and others, that do not receive direct funds from PBF but who will be essential for the design, planning and implementation of the project. Implementing partners may receive grants from direct PBF recipients to implement specific project activities. PBF does not accept proposals without national/local implementing partners.

Are any of the implementing partners women- or youth-led? If yes: please list them

PBF strongly encourages partnering with women- and/or youth-led organizations and engaging them during the design, planning, implementation and monitoring of the project.

Estimated amount and percentage to be allocated to national/local CSOs

PBF requests at least 40% of the requested budget to be allocated to national/local CSOs as implementing partners in particular women- and youth-led organizations, including direct sub grants, building capacities of implementing partners and direct payment for implementation of activities.

Estimated amount and percentage to be allocated towards Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (GEWE)

Gender Marker Score

Please select one of the Gender Marker (GM) scores. GM3 = 80%-100% going to GEWE. GM2 = 30%-80% going to GEWE. GPI projects must be GM3 and YPI projects can be either GM3 or GM2

Gender- and age-responsive conflict analysis

Please provide a brief conflict analysis which justifies your project (problem identification and underlying causes, including gender and age dimensions). YPI projects also need to include a gender analysis. YPI projects that do not integrate gender equality as a cross-cutting dimension will not be considered.

MAX 1000 WORDS

Reflecting on the issues and dynamics described in the conflict analysis, state the main goal your project will achieve, including the main interventions

MAX 750 WORDS

Describe what is innovative about this approach

MAX 100 WORDS

Describe the gender considerations of the project

YPI projects must meet the criteria of Gender Marker 2. For the purposes of the concept note stage, this includes: 1) a conflict analysis that is gender-sensitive, and 2) consideration within the project approach and proposed interventions of both barriers and opportunities that are unique to women and girls.

MAX 100 WORDS

How will your project engage and support local peacebuilders and work with local CSOs?

MAX 300 WORDS

INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED	EXPLANATION / REQUIREMENT	WORD LIMIT
Cover letter from the Head of CSO addressed to the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, Mr. Oscar Fernandez-Taranco		
Currently valid registration as a non-profit in the country where the headquarters is located		
Currently valid tax exemption proof in the country where the headquarters is located		
Currently valid registration as a non-profit in the project country		
Currently valid tax exemption proof in the project country		
Latest annual report of the organization that includes its work in the project country		
Proof of previously received funding from the PBF, the UN or a contributor to the PBF in the project country		
Audited financial statements of 2020 signed by auditor (if available)	<p><i>The audited financial statements must include the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The legal organization that will sign the agreement (and oversee the project country, if applicable).</i> • <i>The signed auditor opinion letter. The letter from the auditor should also state whether the auditor firm is designated as a nationally qualified audit firm.</i> • <i>The activities and budget in the project country.</i> <p>NOTE: <i>If the audited financial statements do not clearly include the in-country activities and budget, the organization should provide the latest two audit reports for a programme or project in the project country from the last two years.</i></p> <p>NOTE: <i>The organization needs to demonstrate an annual budget in the country of project implementation that is at least twice the annualized grant amount sought from the PBF, for both years. This means that for the smallest grant available of \$300,000, the organization needs to demonstrate an annual budget of at least \$400,000.</i></p>	
Audited financial statements of 2019 signed by auditor		
Audited financial statements of 2018 signed by auditor		



PEACEBUILDING FUND



SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PEACEBUILDING FUND

**Gender and Youth
Promotion initiative**
Call for Proposals
and Guidance Note

2021



DPPA
Preventing Conflict. Sustaining Peace