

## **Call For Proposals: Strengthening Women's and Feminist Organizations to promote women's autonomy in the face of the COVID-19 crisis**

The Regional Fund for Women's and Feminist Organizations and Movements, which emerges within the framework of the ECLAC Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), are making this first call for the submission of grant applications to women's and feminist civil society organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Organizations and the Women and Feminists Movements (OWFM) who wish to apply for this call must send their application by **email** to: [CallForProposal.LAC@unwomen.org](mailto:CallForProposal.LAC@unwomen.org) (with copy to: [postulaciones@fondoregional-lac.org](mailto:postulaciones@fondoregional-lac.org)) before **January 24th, 2022 at 23:59 hours, Panama City**. This will be the only means of application, and applications submitted by any other means will not be accepted.

Projects must be submitted by non-governmental organizations with a national presence in which the project will be implemented and that are aimed at promoting actions related to the Regional Gender Agenda agreed in the framework of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean of ECLAC.

Proposals submitted should indicate which of the organizations will be primarily responsible for project management and contractual obligations.

### **OWFM eligible:**

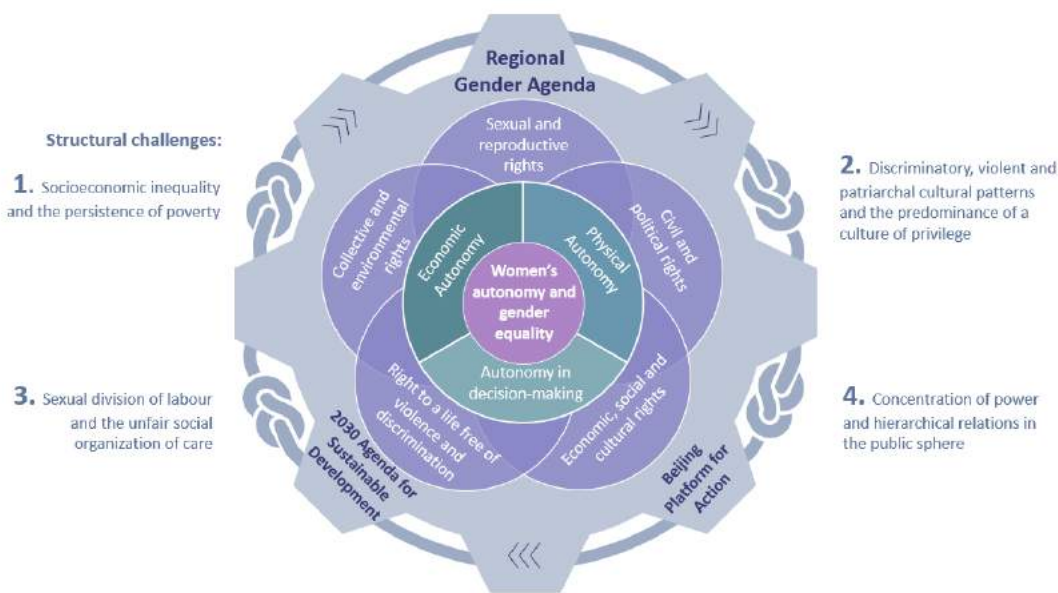
These OWFM applicants may submit an application if:

- They are registered and in operation for at least three years.
- It has sufficient capacity to collaborate with various stakeholders.
- Has sufficient financial management capacity, including the implementation of adequate financial policies and procedures to manage the small grant.
- They are not a government entity.
- They are not a UN organization.
- Its management staff does not participate in the Board of Directors or the Secretariat of the Regional Fund to Support Women's and Feminist Organizations.

### **Eligible activities:**

The applicant OWFM may request a grant to cover the following activities linked to capacity-building strategies of the OWFM to contribute to the achievement of gender equality, women's economic, physical and decision-making autonomy and the guarantee of women's rights in line with the commitments of the Regional Gender Agenda agreed in the framework of the ECLAC Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**Regional Gender Agenda to overcome the structural challenges  
and to achieve gender equality and women's autonomy**



**Source:** Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) (2021), «Regional Gender Agenda», adopted in the framework of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, <https://www.cepal.org/en/subsidiary-bodies/regional-conference-women-latin-america-and-caribbean/regional-gender-agenda>

Proposals may be aimed at:

- Introduce and improve organizational systems, tools, and processes.
- Strengthen skills, particularly in technical and managerial skills; and/or,
- To support equipment such as photocopiers, scanners, printers, laptops, and computers provided that the cost of such equipment is limited to 30 per cent of the proposed grant budget.

**Funding amounts in this call:** Grants for this call are limited to a maximum of **\$10,000** per women's and feminist organization or movement for a period of no more than **4 months**.

**Application:**

1. Each application must contain all relevant information demonstrating that the applicant women's and feminist organization or movement and the proposed activities are eligible. Handwritten applications will not be accepted.
2. Please use the application form in Annex I when submitting your application.
3. Submit a certificate of registration proving that you are a registered organization or movement or that it has been in operation for three years. Any application that does not contain sufficient information to demonstrate that the application or activities are eligible will be rejected.

**Review Criteria:**

The OWFM applicants must:

- Propose eligible activities that develop or strengthen their institutional capacity and are consistent with the priority areas of work of the Regional Fund.
- Propose a schedule that does not exceed 4 months of agreement duration and eligible activities that are feasible to achieve in that period, including political, security and logistical considerations. However, the impact of these activities may manifest or be achieved beyond that date.
- Propose eligible activities that sustainably support the applicant organization.
- Propose eligible activities where the applicant organizations or movements can reach the target audience.
- Propose a budget that is profitable given the eligible activities, the number of beneficiaries selected and the proposed location.
- Do not propose to use more than 30% of the small grant, to buy photocopiers, scanners, printers, laptops and computers.
- Do not propose to cover your indirect costs/support costs with the grant.
- Not getting direct benefits from the subsidy.
- Not propose to cover costs incurred or committed prior to the signing of a Small Grants Agreement or Counterparty Agreement as a result of this call.

**Background to the Regional Fund**

The Regional Fund is a joint initiative between Governments, women's and feminist organizations and movements from Latin America and the Caribbean and agencies of the United Nations System that arises within the framework of the ECLAC Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Regional Conference on Women is the main intergovernmental forum that for more than four decades brings together governments, the United Nations System and women's and feminist organizations and networks. As a result of this articulated work, a deep, ambitious and comprehensive Regional Gender Agenda has been agreed, which constitutes a roadmap to accelerate the step towards the full guarantee of women's rights and progress towards women's autonomy and gender equality. In this context, the fundamental role of women's and feminist organizations and networks for the consolidation and deepening of democracies in the region has been highlighted.

The Regional Fund aims to support the strengthening of women's and feminist organizations and their role in promoting gender equality and guaranteeing women's human rights in the region. This initiative complies with the measures established in the Montevideo Strategy for the Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda in the framework of Sustainable Development

towards 2030 (2016) and the agreements of the Santiago Commitment (2020) for the strengthening of the participation of women's and feminist organizations in the region.

The beginnings of the proposal to form a fund date back to the XII Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santo Domingo, 2013). Subsequently, a Working Group of the Regional Fund was formed and during the 57th Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, 2018) the countries "celebrated the creation of the Regional Fund to Support Women's and Feminist Organizations and Movements and the approval of the document that defines its objectives and structure, delineates the processes of allocation of resources and determines the profile of the participating organizations." Likewise, on that occasion, the Working Group was instructed to make progress in the definition of the legal and operational aspects, the operating regulations and the accountability mechanisms, as well as in the aspects necessary for the signing of an agreement with an administrative entity.

At the Board Meeting of the Regional Fund to Support Women's and Feminist Organizations and Movements (hereinafter Regional Fund), held on 16 February 2021, UN Women was designated as the Managing Body of the Regional Fund and therefore also becomes part of its Secretariat.<sup>1</sup> This decision was subsequently reflected in the agreements of the Sixtieth Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean. Agreement 13 "takes note of the report on the Regional Fund to Support Women's and Feminist Organizations and Movements, presented by its Board of Directors, in which the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women is designated as the administering entity, becomes part of the secretariat".

The Regional Fund aims to support with economic resources the financing of projects by women's and feminist organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean that contribute to the achievement of gender equality, economic, physical and decision-making autonomy of women and the guarantee of their rights in Latin America and the Caribbean, within the framework of the Regional Gender Agenda and in articulation with the mechanisms for the advancement of women.

The Fund works through *grants* from governments, United Nations agencies, development banks, foundations and civil society organizations or other regional and international cooperation funds and mechanisms, as well as the private sector.

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<sup>1</sup> Available in <https://www.cepal.org/es/eventos/sexagesima-reunion-la-mesa-directiva-la-conferencia-regional-la-mujer-america-latina-caribe>

## Annex I Application Form

CSO/Applicant Details	
Name and registration number (please submit proof of registration)	
Mandate of the CSO (according to the organizational by-law)	
CSO staff focal point and alternate	<i>(Please insert full name, title, e-mail address, telephone number)</i>
Application details	
Proposal title	
Small Grant Amount	<i>(Please provide the amount MDL)</i>
Duration and proposed start date	<i>(Please state the duration in months)</i>
Background	
Main objectives/Results to achieve	
Thematic focus and priorities	
Geographical area	<i>(Please indicate locality and district of the coverage by the organizational activities)</i>
Activities (list them 1, 2, ), related expected timeframe and expected outcomes	
How do these activities specifically support the development or strengthening of the CSO's institutional capacity?	

## Annex II: Grant Utilization Plan

### PROPOSED ACTIVITIES AND UTILIZATION PLAN

Describe the activities that will be carried out to develop/strengthen the institutional capacity of the Beneficiary.

Planned Activities	Implementation period (no more than 4 months)						Budget description	Total planned budget for the activity (in MDL)
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
1.1 Activity X							Project personnel	
							Trainings/workshops	
							Equipment	
							Other activities (please specify)	
<b>Total Activity 1.1</b>								
1.2 Activity Y							Project personnel	
							Trainings/workshops	
							Equipment	
							Other activities (please specify)	
<b>Total Activity 1.2</b>								
<b>Total requested grant amount</b>								

