



## **Terms of Reference: Landscaping Opportunities in the Humanitarian Sector to Unlock Resources and Opportunities for Girls, Young Feminists and Women**

### **The Opportunity**

As a part of a strategy to resource girls, young feminists, and women in acute and protracted humanitarian crisis, Purposeful, Global Fund for Women and MADRE (for more information on each organisation see below) seek to unlock opportunities within the humanitarian sector to 1) support the needs, dreams and demands of girls and young feminists in crisis and 2) resource the brave and resilient strategies they use every day to respond to and organize during crises. In order to do this, we need to develop a shared understanding of the dynamics of the humanitarian sector from a feminist lens, understanding where girls, young feminists and women are showing up, and what opportunities there may be for leverage around resource reallocation - for and beyond the our work - as well as learning, influencing and advocacy opportunities within the humanitarian sector.

We see the landscaping as providing critical information to us and our partners as we deepen our understanding of the resources available to girls and young feminists in crises and build out the Global Resilience Fund's strategy and organizational work of MADRE and Global Fund for Women. We also see it as a potential advocacy tool in and of itself - a springboard into a set of conversations in the humanitarian sectors about what it would mean to reach girls, young feminist, and women activists in more radical and rooted ways. As such, we would see at least part of the written deliverable as being packaged into a publicly shareable document.

### **Background to the ToR**

As the realities of COVID-19 began to unfold in early 2020, it quickly became clear that girls and young women, trans and non binary people – already battling the compounding effects of patriarchy, white supremacy and imperialist extraction – would be the very worst affected. Like

any other crisis, COVID-19 continues to expose and exacerbate the existing systemic oppressions and violence that position girls, young women and non-binary young people as particularly vulnerable, especially those who face multiple forms of oppression. At the same time, girls and young activists continue to show up with the bravery, resilience and organizing power they bring to all of their activism. And despite organizing against the backdrop of violence and repression, they bring creativity, joy, love, and liberatory tactics to all that they do.

It is in that context the Global Resilience Fund (GRF) was launched in May of 2020. Housed and facilitated by Purposeful, the GRF was launched by a cross-section of 25 funders, including MADRE, and Global Fund for Women, as a pop-up COVID response fund, to directly resource girls and young feminist's brave and transformative strategies. From May to December 2020, the GRF moved \$1M to 234 organizations led by girls and young feminists from around the world. In 2021, the fund continued to support these organizations by providing funding for their collective care and collaboration efforts and moved resources to young people who were experiencing the COVID crisis within the context of other crises - to groups in Afghanistan in partnership with MADRE and Myanmar in partnership with Tharthi Myay Foundation and directly to groups in Lebanon, Haiti, and the Occupied Territories of Palestine.

While continuing to provide accompaniment to current partners, in 2022, GRF has focused on supporting young feminist activists in emerging and intersecting crises. Called to action by activists who were funded in earlier rounds and GRF panelists from the region, the GRF has focused its energies to resource and respond to young feminists in and fleeing from Ukraine. To date GRF support has been focused on emergency funding and in bringing funders and activists together for critical dialogue. As crises continue to unfold around the world, GRF continues to be called on by activists and funders to move resources to girls and young feminists who are impacted and responding to crisis in their contexts. Therefore, as the GRF pops down its current mandate as a COVID response fund, it will deepen its work to support girls and young feminists who are organizing and responding in crisis contexts more broadly.

Due to the multiple compounding and protracted crises facing the world today, MADRE has grown its emergency funding to innovatively channel more flexible resources to young feminists on the frontlines of global crises like never before. For four decades, MADRE has been one part of a funding ecosystem towards a vision of gender justice, partnering with women, girls and LGBTQI+ feminist leaders and their organizations, mobilizing resources swiftly to support them in responding to urgent crises and to recover, rebuild and transform after a crisis. In our crisis funding model, MADRE focuses on ensuring that activists coming out of emergencies have continued support, so that feminist leaders can begin and continue the deep and still urgent work of rebuilding, recovering, healing, and moving forward towards equity and justice.

In recent years, and in particular with the rise of the global Covid-19 pandemic, Global Fund for Women has been amplifying its support to feminist organizations and movements around the world that are at the frontlines of crisis support. To complement this work, GFW launched [Feminist Alchemy: Building a World Beyond Crisis](#) a collective of 14 feminist funds from around the world, with the support of the international network of women's funds, Prospera. As a

community of practice, we share knowledge and best practices to strengthen our institutional capacity and impact during crisis, and we aim to leverage our expertise and networks to influence and transform the global humanitarian sector. As a member of the [Feminist Humanitarian Network](#), once the consultant team is selected, The Feminist Humanitarian Network will collaborate and be part of this work, with precise role to be defined in the set up phase.

Together, as part of the feminist funding ecosystem, GRF, Global Fund for Women and MADRE make connections, create links, and rely on our ecosystems' collective expertise to move resources to women, young feminist, and girls and their activism in the face of mounting crises worldwide.

## Terms of Reference

To better understand the humanitarian sector and key actors, moments and opportunities to influence the sector, we are seeking a consultant/team of consultants with expertise in the humanitarian sector.

The objective of this consultancy is to conduct a mapping and landscape analysis of the humanitarian sector through a feminist lens. This mapping will help us not only better understand key players within the humanitarian sector, but to map them based on their gender-based approach, their adherence to [feminist humanitarian principles](#) to their work, and help us inform our strategic influencing to improve and create a more feminist crisis response.

While we are looking at women and girls more broadly, given the focus of the work of the Global Resilience Fund and MADRE's Viva Girls Program, we want to ensure segmented and ***dedicated analysis on girls, young women, trans and intersex youth throughout all sections of the report.*** You will see this lens built into all below areas.

The consultant(s) would conduct a landscaping that would include:

### 1. Landscaping and Segmenting the space

Research, identify, and analyze humanitarian actors and entities that respond to crises. We would expect a spotlight on multi-lateral/UN mechanisms, bilateral government agencies and INGOs within the broader landscape, but also the unusual or less visible players including private sector contractors and networks.

Initial perspective on levers of influence within the sub-sectors, including the potential role for a re-granting mechanism

*Specific focus on girls and young people*

We would want to see an overview of girls within the crisis and humanitarian sectors, bringing to life when, where and how girls and young activists are named and programmed for, how long

those interventions last, when they start and when they end, in relation to the emergency response effort. We are interested in developing a broad segmenting of the space to understand which thematic, issues or agencies / actors are naming girls in their work (and not) and are approaching the work from feminist/gender/transformational perspective.

## **2. A map of critical moments and influencing opportunities**

Highlighting high impact opportunities, events, conferences and processes within the humanitarian space, including any current UN or other multilateral policy processes where there may be opportunities to influence and advocate.

This should include specific reference to opportunities and moments as relevant to girls and young people in crisis and the critical role young activists play at crisis moments.

## **3. Funding Opportunities**

Within the humanitarian sector, including a broad overview of financing mechanisms/streams and a deep dive into Humanitarian Funds and/or re-granting mechanisms, including an analysis of source funding flows.

Initial perspectives on potential funding partners for the Global Resilience Fund, including tangible perspectives on when, where and how to engage humanitarian source donors around a Fund of this type:

- UN processes or funding mechanisms that could be influenced and/or be leveraged to move resource to girls and young feminists/ where policies could be influenced to better support girls and young feminists
- Funding opportunities within the humanitarian sector, including new kinds of funding models (e.g. influencing UN humanitarian appeals, etc.)
- Opportunities within INGO localization efforts to influence and/or partner.

## **4. Develop a taxonomy that can help categorize the various humanitarian organizations globally based on their overall feminist lens and women's rights approach.**

Identify and categorize humanitarian organizations based on their adherence to [feminist humanitarian principles](#) to their work, and help us inform our strategic influencing to improve and create a more feminist crisis response.

## **Key activities**

We invite the consultant to develop a proposal outlining their recommended approach for this task.

Some key activities we anticipate include:

- ★ Desk research;
- ★ Key informant interviews

## **Deliverables**

- ★ Final report outlining key findings and recommendations based on the landscaping categories, including narrative material for part 1 (landscaping and segmenting the space) that could be shared externally (either on its own or part of a larger piece of documentation).
  - Taxonomy

## **Duration and timing**

This consultancy is expected to take place over the coming 1-3 months between September - December 2022.

## **To Apply**

As a proposal, please outline the following in no more than 2 pages:

1. Suggested approach to the work outlined in the terms of reference
2. Day rate and estimated number of days
3. Availability
4. Proposed timeline
5. A sample of previous work (can be linked or in an annex to the proposal)

Please send proposals to Purposeful: [applications@wearepurposeful.org](mailto:applications@wearepurposeful.org) by September 27th 2022.

## **Background on the organizations involved**

### **About Purposeful**

Purposeful is a feminist hub for girls' activism, rooted in Africa and working all around the world. We amplify girls' voices, resource their resistance, build solidarity between and across girls' movements, catalyse collaborative philanthropy and support innovation in grassroots programming with and for girls.

Our work is both global and deeply local. In Sierra Leone, we bring our work together into one integrated strategy, sparking a groundswell of girls who can access and imagine new possibilities for themselves and their communities. Across the world we support girls' organising and activism through a girl-led participatory grantmaking process called the With and For Girls Awards. No matter where we are, we work so that girls and their allies can access the resources, networks, and platforms they need to remake the world for themselves.

**Our Vision:** Girls are living in safety, dignity and freedom, and the world is transformed.

**Our Mission:** Girl activists and their allies have access to the resources, networks and platforms they need to power their activism and remake the world for themselves.

### **About MADRE**

MADRE is an international women's rights organization that partners with community-based, women-led organizations on the frontlines of war, disaster and their aftermath. MADRE works for a world where all people enjoy the fullest range of individual and collective human rights. A world where resources are shared equitably and sustainably. A world where women and girls participate effectively in all aspects of society. And a world where people have a meaningful say in policies that affect their lives.

In 2018, MADRE launched our VIVA Girls Initiative to resource feminist, rights-based programming led by and for adolescent girls and young women across Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Middle East. We support girls and their allies to foster a new generation of feminist activists who deeply and specifically understand their communities' priorities and have the knowledge, tools, and resources to meet urgent needs and assert their agency and voice in social movements. Our VIVA Girls partnerships uplift the leadership of girls who identify as Indigenous, Afro-Descendant, LGBTIQ, or disabled, and girls who are refugees or are internally displaced.

For four decades, MADRE has been one part of a funding ecosystem towards a vision of gender justice, partnering with women, girls and LGBTQI+ feminist leaders and their organizations, mobilizing resources swiftly to support them in responding to urgent crises and to recover, rebuild and transform after a crisis.

**VIVA Girls' Vision:** Girls flourish in a world where rights are respected, communities thrive, and systems are just.

**VIVA Girls Mission:** Advance girls' rights by resourcing girls and their allies to meet urgent needs in communities and build lasting solutions to the crises they face as well as connecting them to networks that uplift and strengthen their activism and ensuring their voices are centered in spaces where decisions are being made about them

### **About Global Fund for Women**

Global Fund for Women is one of the world's leading foundations for gender equality, standing up for the human rights of women and girls. It campaigns for zero violence, economic and political empowerment, and sexual and reproductive health and rights. Global Fund for Women uses its powerful network to rally advocates, raise money, and get support to where it's most urgently needed. It funds and partners with women-led groups who are courageously fighting for justice in their own communities. This rights-based approach gets to the root of gender inequality and is the most effective way to create permanent social change.

Global Fund for Women's feminist crisis response fund seeks to intentionally empower localized, grassroots gender-transformative crisis response, rebuilding and resilience. Our crisis funding of six months to two years compliments our multi-year general operating and short-term travel and events grantmaking to provide not only immediate relief, but support for mid-term and long-term strategies for feminist futures. Our model is in direct contrast to top-down international humanitarian aid where only 0.4 percent of humanitarian assistance goes directly to locally run organizations. Based on deep relationships within local communities, we believe that local feminist gender justice movements have the visibility, influence, and social networks required to rapidly mobilize and respond during a crises.

**Our vision:** We envision a world where movements for gender justice have transformed power and privilege for a few into equity and equality for all.

**Our Mission:** We fund bold, ambitious, and expansive gender justice movements to create meaningful change that will last beyond our lifetimes.