

Second Call: Strengthening Women's and Feminist Organizations to Promote Women's Autonomy and the Advancement of the SDGs and the Regional Gender Agenda

The Regional Fund for Women's and Feminist Organizations and Movements (Fondo Regional) is issuing the second call for grant applications for women's and feminist civil society organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Regional Fund arises within the framework of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, a subsidiary body of ECLAC, which since 2020 has been organized in coordination with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women).

Women's and Feminist Organizations and Movements wishing to apply for this call **should send their application** (see **annex 1 and 2**) **by email** to: CallForProposal.LAC@unwomen.org (with a copy to: postulaciones@fondoregional-lac.org) before January 30th, 2024 at **23:59, Panama City** (GMT -5). This will be the only submission method, and applications submitted by any other means will not be accepted.

Projects must be submitted by non-governmental organizations with a presence in at least one country in Latin America and the Caribbean and aimed at promoting actions related to the [Regional Gender Agenda](#) agreed within the framework of ECLAC's Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

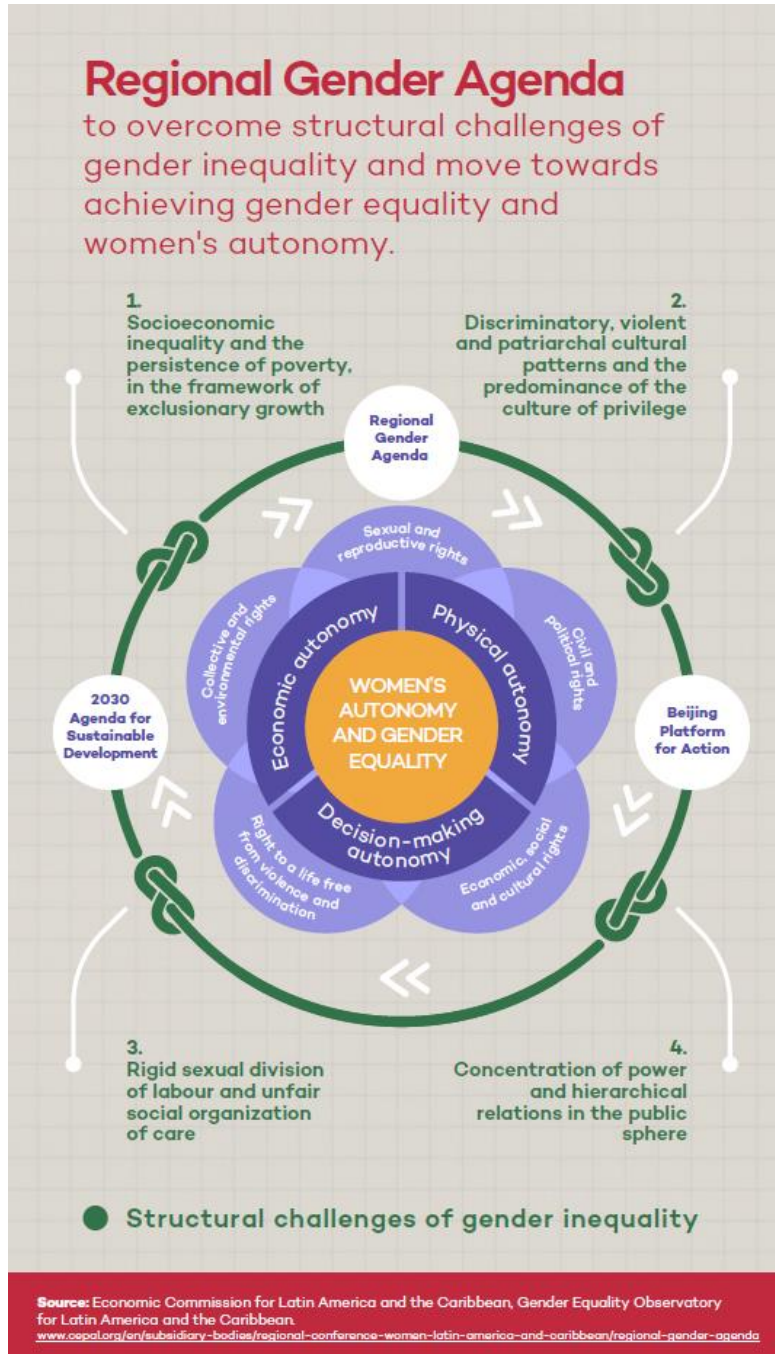
Eligible Women's and Feminist Organizations and Movements:

Applicant Women's and Feminist Organizations and Movements may apply if:

- They are registered and operating as civil society organizations for at least three years.
- They are capable of collaborating with various stakeholders.
- They have sufficient financial management capacity, including implementing appropriate financial policies and procedures to administer the grant.
- Its management staff does not participate in the Board of Directors or the Secretariat of the Regional Fund for the Support of Women's and Feminist Organizations.

Eligible Activities:

Women's and Feminist Organizations and Movements may apply for a grant to cover activities related to capacity-building strategies to contribute to the guarantee of women's rights and their economic, physical, and decision-making autonomy, to the achievement of gender equality and sustainable development and actions in response to climate change, in line with the commitments of the [Regional Gender Agenda](#) agreed in the framework of ECLAC's Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) (2021), "Regional Gender Agenda," *adopted within the framework of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean,* <https://www.cepal.org/es/organos-subsidiarios/conferencia-regional-la-mujer-america-latina-caribe/agenda-regional-genero>

Proposals may be aimed at:

- Introducing and improving organizational capacities, systems, tools, and processes ;
- strengthening capacities, particularly in technical, and managerial skills, or
- support with equipment such as photocopy machines, scanners, printers, laptops, and computers, provided that the cost of such equipment is limited to 30% of the proposed grant budget.

Amounts eligible for funding in this call: Grants under this call are limited to a maximum of USD 20,000 per women's and feminist organization or movement for no more than **eight months**.

Application:

1. Applications must be made through the Application Form (Annex 1) and the Utilization Plan (Annex 2).
2. The Application Form (Annex 1) must include information that allows verification of the eligibility criteria of the applicant and the proposed activities.
3. Along with the Application Form (Annex 1), a certificate of registration must be submitted showing that it is a registered organization or movement that has been in operation for at least three years.
4. **Important:** Handwritten applications will not be accepted. Any application that does not contain sufficient information to demonstrate that the application or activities are eligible will also be rejected.

Review criteria:

Applicant Women's and Feminist Organizations and Movements must:

- Propose eligible activities that develop or strengthen its institutional capacity and are consistent with the areas of work prioritized by the Regional Fund.
- Propose a timeline that does not exceed the eight months of the agreement and eligible activities that are feasible to achieve in that period, including political, security, and logistic considerations. However, the impact of those activities may materialize 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 cost-effective budget given the eligible activities, the number of beneficiaries selected, and the proposed location.
- Do not propose using more than 30% of the small grant to purchase photocopy machines, scanners, printers, or computers.
- Do not propose to cover your indirect costs/support costs with the grant.
- Not obtain direct benefits from the grant.
- Do not propose to cover costs incurred or committed prior to the signing of a Small Grants Agreement or Matching Agreement as a result of this solicitation.

Regional Fund Background

The Regional Fund is an initiative that aims to support women's and feminist organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean through the financing of projects that seek to contribute to the achievement of gender equality, women's economic, physical, and decision-making autonomy, and the guarantee of their rights in the region, within the framework of the Regional Gender Agenda and in coordination with the Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women.

The Regional Fund 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 \(2020\)](#) and the [Buenos Aires Commitment \(2022\)](#) for the strengthening of the participation of women's and feminist organizations in the region.

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

The Fund operates through donations from governments, United Nations agencies, development banks, foundations, civil society organizations, other regional and international cooperation funds and mechanisms, and the private sector.

The [Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean](#) is one of ECLAC's subsidiary bodies. It is the main United Nations intergovernmental forum on women's rights and gender equality in the region, the only one in the world at 45 years old. It is organized by ECLAC as the Secretariat of the Conference and, since 2020, in coordination with UN Women. It is convened regularly, no more frequently than every three years, to analyze the regional and subregional situation concerning women's autonomy and rights, to present recommendations on public policies for gender equality, and to carry out periodic evaluations of policies, programmes, and initiatives carried out in compliance with regional and international agreements.

It brings together governments, the United Nations system, international agencies, and civil society organizations, in particular women's and feminist organizations. As a result of this coordinated work, a profound, ambitious, and comprehensive Regional Gender Agenda has been agreed upon, which guides the countries' public policies to achieve gender equality, the guarantee of the rights of women, adolescents, and girls in all their diversity, the exercise of their autonomy and the sustainable development of the region. In this context, women's and feminist organizations and movements have a fundamental role to play in ensuring progress towards the achievement of gender equality and women's autonomy and in consolidating and deepening democracies in the region.

On the occasion of the [XII Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean \(Santo Domingo, 2013\)](#), ECLAC member states agreed to "study the possibility of creating a regional fund for gender equality and intercultural dialogue with the contribution of different types of donors and

promoting public-private partnerships" ([paragraph 120](#)).

Subsequently, a Working Group of the Regional Fund was formed, and during the [57th Meeting of the Presiding Officers 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 for allocating resources and determines the profile of the participating organizations" (paragraph 1, 1). On that occasion, the Working Group was also instructed to make progress in defining the legal and operational aspects, the operating regulations, and the accountability mechanisms, as well as the aspects necessary for the signing of an agreement with an administering entity ([paragraph 13](#)).

At the Regional Fund Board Meeting on February 16th, 2021, UN Women was appointed as the Managing Entity of the Regional Fund. In this way, he became a member of its Secretariat. 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](#) (February 23-25, 2021)¹.

¹ On the occasion of the 60th Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, it was agreed that "13. To take note of the report on the Regional Fund to Support Women's and Feminist Organizations and Movements, submitted by its Board of Directors, designating the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women as the administer;" ([Paragraph 13](#)).

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, email 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 8 months)								Budget description	Total planned budget for the activity (in MDL)
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
1.1 Activity X									Project personnel	
									Trainings/workshops	
									Equipment	
									Other activities (please specify)	
Total Activity 1.1										
1.2 Activity Y									Project personnel	
									Trainings/workshops	
									Equipment	
									Other activities (please specify)	
Total Activity 1.2										
Total requested grant amount										