



EuroMed Feminist Initiative  
المبادرة النسوية الأورومتوسطية  
Initiative Féministe EuroMed

France 



# Strengthening Feminist CSOs Working on the Implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda (WPSA)

Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan, and Palestine

This project is funded by the Support Fund for Feminist Organisations of the Agence Française de Développement and the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs



جمعية النساء العربيات في الأردن  
Arab Women Organization of Jordan



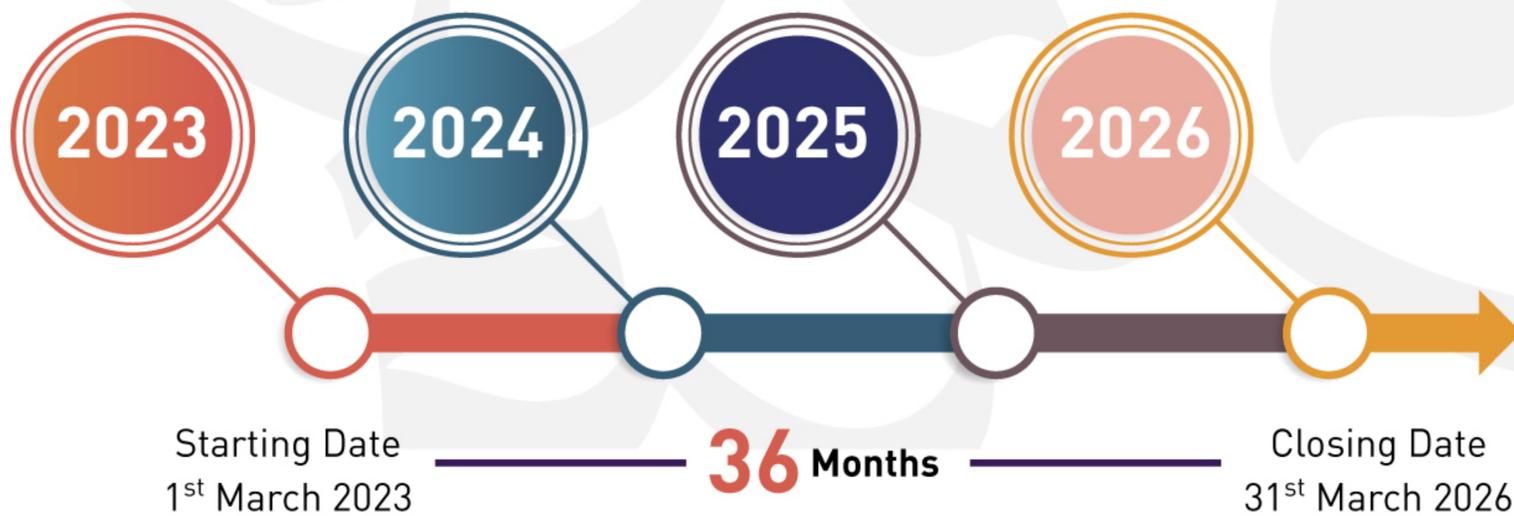
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# PROJECT SUMMARY

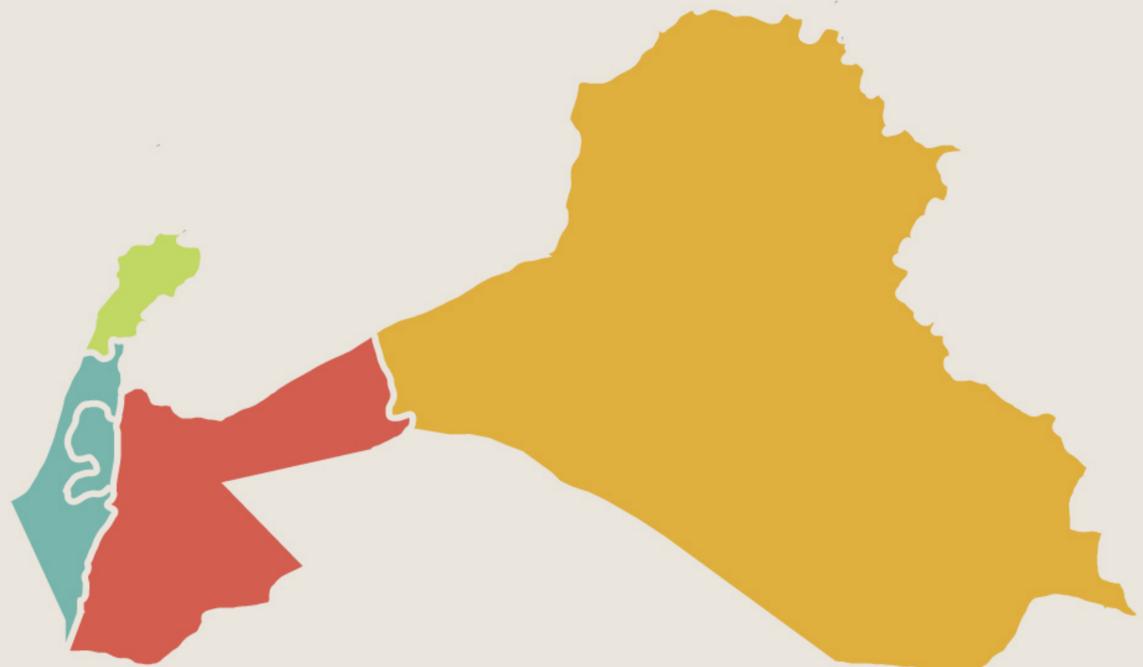
On March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, EuroMed Feminist Initiative (EFI) in partnership with four consortium members – Women Empowerment Organisation (WEO), Association Najdeh, Arab Women Organisation (AWO), and the Palestinian Working Women Society for Development (PWWSD) - started implementing a 36-month project to strengthen feminist CSOs in the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda (WPSA).

## PROJECT DURATION



## GEOGRAPHIC AREAS

- IRAQ**  
Erbil, Duhok, Baghdad, Anbar, Salahaddin, Ninewa and Diyala
- LEBANON**  
Akkar, Baalbek-Hermel, Beirut, Beqaa (Zahlé), Mount Lebanon, and North and South
- JORDAN**  
Mafraq, Irbid and Zarqa
- PALESTINE**  
West Bank and Gaza Strip



# RESULTS AND ENGAGED GROUPS AND STAKEHOLDERS

01

Women, girls, men and boys from local communities and community leaders, influencers, and gatekeepers are mobilised to combat Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG), conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) and promote women's participation.



At least 20,000 people to be reached by the project.

02

Feminist CSOs and women-led CBOs have enhanced capacities in addressing VAWG, CRSV and promoting the WPSA.



36 organisations have enhanced capacities.

03

Feminist CSOs and women-led CBOs are sharing knowledge and expertise and are effectively networking in a community of practice on the WPSA.



The CSOs and CBOs will reach around 4,000 women and girls-victims or those at risk of violence-along with 80 local and national stakeholders, including national observatories, relevant decision-makers and policymakers, and media, to promote the implementation of the WPSA.



## Delegation of funds to national and local CSOs and CBOs

Sub-grants to 8 feminist CSOs (2 per country)



Seed funding to 12 women-led CBOs (3 per country)

## Capacity building and learning

Twelve thematic trainings (3 per country) on various topics linked to the WPSA such as victim-centred approaches to VAWG, awareness-raising techniques challenging norms and stereotypes, community mobilisation, negotiation skills, women's leadership, etc.



Four trainings on conflict-sensitive implementation, monitoring and evaluation with a focus on equality between women and men.



## Regional networking and exchange of expertise and practices

Ten cooperation and networking events (2 regional and 8 national) to share experiences, best practices and lessons learned to strengthen mutual learning.



Three annual meetings for the consortium to follow up progress, ensure coordination and networking, support the M&E and learning processes, and exchange of practices and experiences.



Learning and advocacy: exchange lessons learned and good practices through the development and dissemination of brochures, promotional materials and social media campaigns.



# WHAT IS THE WPSA?

Women, Peace and Security Agenda (WPSA) recognises that VAWG is a major threat to women's security at all times, emphasising its continued presence in both peace and conflict. It states that addressing inequalities between women and men[1] Therefore, the WPSA calls for conflicts to be resolved through political means, with gender equality perspectives integrated across all areas at all times. The four pillars of the WPSA are **participation** of women in peace and security decision-making, **protection** of women's rights during and after conflict, **prevention** of conflict and gender-based violence, and **relief and recovery** to ensure women's needs are addressed in post-conflict reconstruction.

If armed conflicts arise, the WPSA aims to ensure the implementation of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security adopted in 2000, and its subsequent resolutions.[2] It prescribes securing women's equal participation in decision-making and peace negotiations during all stages of the conflict. For this, the WPSA applies an analysis inclusive of the needs and interest of both women and men to all areas of participation, prevention, protection, legislation, equal access to power and resources, as well as to the labour market, recovery, and transitional gender justice in the context of post conflict, occupation and militarisation. These actions are mutually reinforcing.

The WPSA emphasizes the need to prevent and protect women and girls from sexual violence and exploitation. It recognises that rape and other forms of sexual violence and exploitation can constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity or a constitutive act with respect to genocide. Thus, the WPSA focuses on victims' rights to justice and redress for sexual violence and stresses the importance of ending impunity for such crimes.

Therefore, the WPSA needs to be an integral and central part of all States' policies, at all times, both in their internal (e.g., domestic, judicial) and external (e.g., foreign and security, trade and migration) policies, programmes, and actions.

Effective implementation of the WPSA requires the active involvement of women, women's rights organisations and defenders at all levels and all stages of the decision-making process—in shaping and developing policies, and in their monitoring.

[1] The Beijing Platform for Action acknowledges violence against women as an extreme manifestation of the historically embedded hierarchies in gender roles and power differences between men and women in all our societies.

[2] UNSCR 1325 (2000), 1820 (2009), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2010), 1960 (2011), 2106 (2013), 2122 (2013), 2242 (2015), 2242 (2015) and 2467 (2019).



**EuroMed Feminist Initiative (EFI)** is a policy platform that provides expertise in the field of women's rights and equality between women and men, democracy building and citizenship, and advocates for political solutions to all conflicts, and for the right of people to self-determination. EFI's headquarters are in Paris and the regional MENA office is in Amman, Jordan with country offices in Amman, Beirut and Erbil.

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