



USAID's Collective Action to REduce Gender-Based Violence (CARE-GBV)

**Responses to Questions on Call for Concept Notes
February 17, 2021**

Eligibility:

International Organizations

1. I've seen your materials say both new, local, or underutilized USAID partners and also new, local, and underutilized USAID partners. Our work is not technically local by your definition as we are US-based, although we would propose work in a country on the eligible list of countries. We are however a new organization. Please let <us> know if we would be eligible.
Yes. Qualified US non-governmental organizations are eligible for award under CARE-GBV. However, CARE-GBV encourages partnerships with a local, new, underutilized organization.
2. We are interested in applying for the CARE GBV Grant but noticed that the US is not listed as a country that is eligible to apply. We just wanted to clarify and ask if we are eligible to apply for this grant as most of our work centers around immigrant communities from the eligible countries listed in the US.
Qualified new or underutilized US non-governmental organizations are eligible for award under CARE-GBV.
3. I work for a UK-based organisation, and we have been speaking with an organisation in Uganda about using our in-house technologies to support their work in Uganda. Could you confirm whether a project led by our Ugandan partner, where we were a partner subcontracted to provide technological and methodological support for their work, would be eligible under USAID policy on country eligibility to apply to this call?
Yes.
4. Can a US non-governmental institution prime and have both Ghana and Nigeria country offices apply?

Yes, as long as the US NGO fits the criteria for a new or underutilized partner in [Annex A](#) of the call for Concept Notes. The applications for each country will be evaluated separately.

5. Are international NGOs eligible?

Yes, as long as the international NGO fits the criteria for a new or underutilized partner in [Annex A](#) of the call for Concept Notes. Please note the application would be strengthened if it is submitted in partnership with a local organization.

6. Is a US based nonprofit eligible to apply and submit a concept note?

Yes, as long as the US nonprofit fits the criteria for a new or underutilized partner in [Annex A](#) of the call for Concept Notes. Please note the application would be strengthened if it is submitted in partnership with a local organization.

7. Can an NGO based in the US, apply with a project focused on some of the countries listed, but include another one (ex. Brazil, but also Mexico).

Yes, as long as the US NGO fits the criteria for a new or underutilized partner in [Annex A](#) of the call for Concept Notes.

8. I wanted to get some clarification on the definition of "Underutilized Organization", and women led organization. Does it apply only to an organization at the national or local level (branch) or globally/main office level (total amount received by all the national offices)?

Both terms; "Underutilized Organization" and "women-led" apply to the entire organization including the organization's main office and any local branches globally. For more information on New Partnerships Initiative (NPI) terms please visit:

https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USAID_NPI_KeyDefinitions_0.pdf

9. For example, if a DRC local office, as a branch of an International organization, with its Home Office in the US, has received less than \$25 million in the last five years, would it be eligible?

Yes, as long as the entire international organization (including its Home Office and Local branches) fits the criteria for a new or underutilized partner in [Annex A](#) of the call for Concept Notes.

10. As a general rule, is USAID willing to provide a grant to a local branch of an international NGO under this call, assuming this local branch meets the requirements outlined in Annex A? And does it make a difference if the local branch of the international NGO is a lead applicant or only a co-applicant?

Yes, an organization is eligible to receive awards under CARE-GBV if the entire international organization (including its Home Office and Local branches) fits the criteria for a new or underutilized partner in [Annex A](#) of the call for Concept Notes. Only the lead applicant organization must fit the criteria for new, local or underutilized partner.

Specific Countries

11. Can you tell me if Rwanda is one of the eligible countries for the small grants program?
Rwanda is one of the countries eligible for the small grants program. See complete list [here](#).
12. ...from South Sudan, I am writing to inquire about this Country's eligibility since it is not listed, should one still apply for this grant? I am asking on the basis that USAID is presence here though the country is not listed. I am very much interested in applying for this Grant.
CARE-GBV would like to fund all concept notes from anywhere in the globe. However, US government procurement processes are time bound, and may require certain notifications. Therefore, based on the timeframe of the grant award, CARE-GBV made the tough decision to limit the concept notes from countries that do not need additional approvals. We updated the list with the most up-to-date eligible countries on February 22, 2021.
13. We are an NGO working in South Sudan doing GBV prevention and response among women and girls, although we are not a women-led NGO. Are we eligible to apply for this GBV funding opportunity?
CARE-GBV would like to fund all concept notes from anywhere in the globe. However, US government procurement processes are time bound, and may require certain notifications. Therefore, based on the timeframe of the grant award, CARE-GBV made the tough decision to limit the concept notes from countries that do not need additional approvals. We updated the list with the most up-to-date eligible countries on February 22, 2021.
14. Are non-women led South Sudanese NGOs eligible for this funding?
CARE-GBV would like to fund all concept notes from anywhere in the globe. However, US government procurement processes are time bound, and may require certain notifications. Therefore, based on the timeframe of the grant award, CARE-GBV made the tough decision to limit the concept notes from countries that do not need additional approvals. We updated the list with the most up-to-date eligible countries on February 22, 2021.
15. We would like to forward our concept note to the USAID collective action to reduce gender-based violence (CARE - GBV). But our country (South Sudan) isn't among the eligible [countries] list. Is it advisable for us to forward to you the concept note irrespective to being not on the list? Please advise.
Unfortunately, as of the date on this response, South Sudan is not eligible for awards under CARE-GBV. Please do not submit a concept Note. We may update the Call for Concept Notes and the list of eligible countries upon guidance from USAID. CARE-GBV is only able to engage in the countries on Annex B. These are countries that do not require any additional Congressional approval to be awarded a grant. Our timeline for awarding grants is very short and we would not have time to get this approval. We updated the list with the most up-to-date eligible countries on February 22, 2021.
16. Could you please let us know if Central America Countries are on the list?
Currently, Panama is the only Central American country eligible for grants under CARE-GBV. See complete list in [Annex B](#) of the Call for Concept Notes. We updated the list with the most up-to-date eligible countries on February 22, 2021.

17. We are undergoing registration as a company limited by guarantee but currently duly registered as a Community Based Organization in the district we operate in, can we be restricted from applying since in the due course, we will be getting our registration certificate in a few months from the Uganda registration Bureau?

If your organization has applied for registration, it is eligible to apply. Applicants must be officially registered as a legal entity and working in compliance with all applicable local laws and statutes. However, if an applicant is not legally registered, the applicant can show proof of effort to secure registration, exemption from registration, or show cause and justify with supporting documentation why such registration would be harmful, or unfeasible.

18. We are a South African Non-Profit Organization. Please could you be so kind as to confirm we are eligible to apply.

Yes, South Africa is on the list of eligible countries under CARE-GBV. See more information about the Call for Concept Notes here: <https://www.makingcents.com/care-gbv-small-grants-program>

19. We are a grassroots level NGO working for Women and adolescent girls since 2003 in India. We are not yet registered as a partner with USAID, but we want to register as a partner of USAID. So, shall we eligible to apply for this grant?

Yes, registration with USAID is not required to apply for funding under CARE-GBV. However, applicants must be officially registered as a legal entity and working in compliance with all applicable local laws and statutes. If an applicant is not legally registered, the applicant can show proof of effort to secure registration, exemption from registration, or show cause and justify with supporting documentation why such registration would be harmful, or unfeasible.

20. I saw that the eligible organisations are the new, local, or underutilized and that underutilized means an organization that has received less than \$25 million in direct or indirect awards from USAID over the past five years. Is it for the whole organisation or in the country the project would be based ?

This criterion applies to the entire organization.

21. We are a voluntary development organisation engaged in development programs in the state of Odisha (India). We are also working on women and gender issues through capacity building, livelihood, entrepreneurship development and against gender discrimination. Can we apply for the CARE-GVB support?

Yes. However, applicants must be officially registered as a legal entity and working in compliance with all applicable local laws and statutes. If an applicant is not legally registered, the applicant can show proof of effort to secure registration, exemption from registration, or show cause and justify with supporting documentation why such registration would be harmful, or unfeasible.

22. We were alerted about this opportunity through the USAID Mission in Zimbabwe encouraging local organizations to apply, however, after further reviewing the list of eligible countries noted that Zimbabwe is excluded. Can you please kindly confirm as to whether you expect Zimbabwe to be added to the list of eligible countries?

CARE-GBV would like to fund all concept notes from anywhere in the globe. However, US government procurement processes are time bound, and may require certain notifications.

Therefore, based on the timeframe of the grant award, CARE-GBV made the tough decision to limit the concept notes from countries that do not need additional approvals. We updated the list with the most up-to-date eligible countries on February 22, 2021.

23. We got this call from USAID to submit our Concept Note, but Zimbabwe is not on the list for eligible countries, please assist.

CARE-GBV would like to fund all concept notes from anywhere in the globe. However, US government procurement processes are time bound, and may require certain notifications. Therefore, based on the timeframe of the grant award, CARE-GBV made the tough decision to limit the concept notes from countries that do not need additional approvals. We updated the list with the most up-to-date eligible countries on February 22, 2021.

24. We are an indigenous NGO operating in western Uganda and have programs in GBV, WASH, SRHR among others. Is it allowed for 2 organisations to have a consortium and apply jointly? Yes, partnerships are encouraged under CARE-GBV.

25. Writing to you from Nyali Zambia a youth led non-profit organization based in Zambia. Our organization is currently in the process of applying for the care Grant's (Collective Action to reduce GBV) but unfortunately, we only saw the grant opening a few days ago and started to apply for the DUNS number. Because of the duration it takes to be granted the DUNS number is it possible if we can be granted as extension?

Your organization is eligible to apply if it has applied for a Data Universal Numbering System, (DUNS) Number. All recipients approved to receive a grant exceeding \$25,000, will be required to maintain an active System for Award Management (SAM) registration and DUNS number for the place of performance.

If selected for award, all Grant recipients are required to complete the Core Data and Points of Contact sections of the entity management registration in the SAM [here](https://www.sam.gov/SAM/): (<https://www.sam.gov/SAM/>) to be eligible to receive federal grants.

26. I volunteer with a local charity organization based in Papua New Guinea. We would be interested in applying for the Collective Action to Reduce GBV grant. I've checked the list of eligible countries and PNG is not one of them. I understand the list will be updated, is there any way to know whether PNG will be included in the list?

Papua New Guinea is included in the updated list of eligible countries under CARE-GBV. You may submit a Concept Note in response to this Call for Concept Notes under CARE-GBV using the [application form](https://www.makingcents.com/care-gbv-small-grants-program) found here: <https://www.makingcents.com/care-gbv-small-grants-program>

27. Can an organization qualify as a "locally established partner" for participation in this program? The classification is listed in the NPI guidance CARE-GBV references, but it is not included as an organizational category in the application page.

Locally Established Partners (LEPs) will be eligible for award under CARE-GBV.

28. My organisation would like to apply for the grant, and we have applied for D.U.N.S but don't understand what is SAM ? Please explain how to get it .

Your organization is eligible to apply if it has applied for a DUNS Number. All recipients approved to receive a grant exceeding \$25,000, will be required to maintain an active System for Award

Management (SAM) registration and DUNS number for the place of performance. If selected for award, all Grant recipients are required to complete the Core Data and Points of Contact sections of the entity management registration in SAM here: (<https://usfcr.com/sam-registration/>) to be eligible to receive federal grants. You will be given a SAM registration number upon completing the form.

29. May organizations that do not meet the criteria in Annex A for new, local, or underutilized USAID partners serve as a subrecipient to an organization that does meet those criteria?
Yes. Partnerships are encouraged as long as the organization leading the activities meets the criteria in [Annex A](#) for new, local, or underutilized USAID partners. Lead applicants must demonstrate they will retain management of the activities and are using a larger partner organization only in a supporting and/or advisory role.
30. Can an organization be proposed as a partner/subrecipient on multiple applications?
Yes.
31. For South Africa, do all districts qualify or will USAID only consider selected districts for implementation? If the answer is selected, which districts will be considered?
All districts in South Africa qualify.
32. Is asking a question one of the requirements for the Concept Note acceptance?
No.
33. I work with <our organization> team in Jordan who expressed interest in the CARE-GBV program. I see this is available under NPI and had a question about our organization eligibility to participate in NPI. <our organization> has been a sub recipient of BHA funding in Syria, but our Jordan office has never participated in a USAID program. Could we be eligible for the CARE GBV opportunity based on this?
Yes, as long as the entire international organization (including its Home Office and Local branches) fits the criteria for a new or underutilized partner in [Annex A](#) of the call for Concept Notes.
34. Are partnerships between NGOs allowed?
Yes. Partnerships are encouraged.
35. We are quite interested in the call for proposals titled "Collective Action to Reduce Gender-Based Violence (CARE-GBV)." We thought that this offers opportunities for our work and partners in different countries to pursue our initiatives and learnings out of the COVID-19 19 response. We would like to know if we can submit multiple proposals. If we can, how many proposals can we submit?
Yes, there is no limit in the number of concept notes an applicant can submit if it has the capacity to implement the proposed activities and deliver the proposed results. Please ensure that all applications meet the application criteria found here.
36. Our NGO is currently receiving funding from the US Embassy in Durban. Will this exclude us from applying for this, or can we apply?
If your NGO has received less than \$25 million in direct or indirect awards from USAID over the past five years, you are eligible and can apply.

37. Our CBO entitled is new and still growing, it was registered last year. So far, we have been dealing with strengthening HIV/ AIDs prevention, education and addressing HIV/AIDS impact in youth and women, eliminating gender-based violence (GBV) against women. Promoting gender equality of women treatment and empowering them economically and socially. Kindly ask do we qualify to apply for this grant?
Yes, as long as the Community-Based-Organization (CBO) fits the criteria for a new or underutilized partner in [Annex A](#) of the call for Concept Notes.
38. We are currently receiving funding for a small project sponsored by USAID/ Vuka Now, which concludes in June 2021. Does existing funding preclude us from receiving further funding?
No, it does not. We are targeting new, local, and underutilized partners and you may still be an underutilized partner if you have received less than \$25 million in direct or indirect awards from USAID over the past five years.
39. Can we include other organisations of persons with disabilities as an organisation of persons with disabilities?
Yes.
40. Can any organization with 2 years of experience on the subject matter (GBV) apply for this grant?
Yes.
41. Can an organization that provides technical assistance (TA) to government programmes on gender-based violence, apply for this grant? And apply for grant towards resiliency and wellness development related intervention for the cadre/colleagues providing counselling and outreach services who receive honorarium from government agency for their services?
Yes.
42. We have reviewed the list of eligible countries and Guatemala does not appear as an eligible country; however, we are currently executing a USAID fund . The specific consultation would be as Tetrtech partners knowing that we develop interventions to prevent violence in Guatemala, could we apply to the call?
CARE-GBV would like to fund all concept notes from anywhere in the globe. However, US government procurement processes are time bound, and may require certain notifications. Therefore, based on the timeframe of the grant award, CARE-GBV made the tough decision to limit the concept notes from countries that do not need additional approvals. We updated the list with the most up-to-date eligible countries on February 22, 2021.
43. Our institution is the College of Medicine campus of a University and we are planning on applying for the CARE-GBV grant. Is a public tertiary academic organization eligible to apply?
Yes.
44. What percentage of the total budget of the program for the operational?
There is no set percentage of operational cost. The summary budget must realistically cover the proposed activities and approach of your concept.

45. What is meant by "Direct Labor" and " Benefits Side" in the Budget Sample?

Direct Labor: This section includes the salaries of the employees that are involved in the project implementation. When explaining this section indicate the name of the employee, his/her position in the project, state whether wages are based on annual salary or hourly wage, the amount that will be paid to each of the employees and the amount of work time that he/she will spend on the project.

Benefits: This section includes those taxes and benefits that the employer must pay for an employee that are required by law. When listing fringe benefits in your budget, be sure to note "Standard Government Fringe Benefits Package as Required by Law," in case a reviewer does not know what fringe benefits include.

An explanation for each budget section is provided on the "CN budget Instructions" sheet in the CARE GBV – Concept Note Summary Budget file [here](#).

46. How many applicants were approved for grant proposals, whether in each country or globally?

CARE-GBV expects to award five to seven grants globally. Ideally there will only be one per country but this depends on the applications received.

47. We observe that new, small, and local organizations mostly serving women, marginalized and underserved populations need facilitation support in order to understand the call and put together an application. What is the role of USAID field missions in socializing the application, targeting new and small organizations?

We encourage USAID missions to share the call for concept notes to any and all networks. For any questions you receive, please share with grants@makingcents.com. Please keep in mind, the questions & answer period has ended. To be fair with all potential applicants, CARE-GBV cannot answer any additional questions.

48. Can missions tailor the responses locally by using your global live Q and A webinars in local Nepali language?

Due to fairness, we decided to record a live webinar with the questions we received in English. You may translate the recording in your local language.

Can we tailor some messages?

You can translate responses but cannot tailor the messages as that likely changes the meaning of the English responses.

To what extent can Missions be involved in helping them understand the requirements of the application? What should missions not do? USAID/Nepal uses pre bidders' conferences in the local Nepali language so that more local organizations can participate in such initiatives.

Missions can engage in processes they use for other calls for proposals or concept notes received from USAID/Washington. This includes assisting in translating the call, reaching out to networks, answering basic questions that are found in the call, and referring inquiries as needed to grants@makingcents.com.

Will the shortlisted applicants be shared with Missions and what is our role in the final selection? How many awards in total or per country be provided?

CARE-GBV will engage with those missions where a semi-finalist applicant's concept note is proposing to work in their country. CARE-GBV will go through the mission concurrence process for apparent winners per [ADS 201man](#).

49. We are an USAID NGO Partner registered and working in two countries (Uganda and Nigeria). Can we submit an application from both countries? If yes, then: Can it be the same or a similar project? Different projects?

You can submit multiple applications for different projects.

50. Is there a total dollar amount for this program? How many grants will be awarded?

CARE-GBV will provide funds for grants between \$50,000 to \$125,000 each. CARE-GBV expects to award five to seven grants globally.

51. In an application by a partnership, must all partners meet the requirements outlined in Annex A? Or only the lead applicant?

Partnerships are encouraged as long as the organization leading the activities meets the criteria in [Annex A](#) for new, local, or underutilized USAID partners. Lead applicants must demonstrate they will retain management of the activities and are using a larger partner organization only in a supporting and/or advisory role.

52. We have programming, with local partners, in both Senegal and Kenya. Are applicants eligible to apply for funding in multiple countries and with multiple partners?

Yes, applicant can submit their Concept Notes for multiple countries and with multiple partners.

53. Is it possible to apply as peer organizations, or does one organization apply as the lead?

Applicants can submit their Concept Notes in partnerships with peer organizations, however, one must be the lead.

Partnerships are encouraged as long as the organizations are legally registered or are making every effort to obtain registration in the place of performance.

54. If applying as a partnership, which organization fills out the organizational background information for the concept note?

The lead organization should fill out the background section.

Cost

55. What is the total budget for the grants?

CARE-GBV will provide funds for grants between \$50,000 to \$125,000 each.

56. My organization is interested in applying for the USAID Collective Action to Reduce Gender-Based Violence (CARE-GBV) but the grants amount was not stated on the application. Is there a way we can know the amount has to enable us to work on our budget document?

CARE-GBV will provide funds for grants between \$50,000 to \$125,000 each.

57. Is the max amount <of the grant for a U.S. nongovernmental organization> \$100,000? Is this correct?

Yes.

58. I have been interested to apply for this small grant but just i want to know how much should be requested in USD?

Funding for each grant under CARE-GBV will be between \$50,000 to \$125,000. Grants must be 12 months or less in duration.

59. Can an NGO not based in the US and not based in the listed countries participate for a grant of \$125,000? Even if the intervention will take place in one of the listed countries?

No.

60. Can we buy training equipment like laptops, projectors, etc., and vehicles under this grant?

Purchase of laptops and projects may be allowed. However, procurement of vehicles is not allowed. Please see the [list of ineligible expenses](#) on the answer to question 12 below.

61. [What is the] quantity of staff that can be hired?

There is no limit in the number of staff that applicants can propose in their Concept Notes.

62. Can the proposed concept be made at the national level?

Yes.

63. [Can] alliances be made with other NGOs?

Yes, partnerships are encouraged.

64. What is the amount of the grants?

CARE-GBV will provide funds for grants between \$50,000 to \$125,000 each.

65. Can funds from the grant be used for salaries or stipends for staff and volunteers?

Yes.

66. What costs are allowable vs. Unallowable?

The following expenses are not allowed under CARE-GBV:

- **Ineligible and Restricted Commodities and Services:** The recipient must not, under any circumstances, procure any of the following under this award:
 - a. Military equipment,
 - b. Surveillance equipment,
 - c. Commodities and services for support of police or other law enforcement activities,
 - d. Abortion equipment and services,
 - e. Luxury goods and gambling equipment, or
 - f. Weather modification equipment.
- **Ineligible Suppliers:** Any firms or individuals that do not comply with the requirements in Standard Provision “Debarment and Suspension” and Standard Provision “Preventing Terrorist Financing” must not be used to provide any commodities or services funded under this award.
- **Restricted Commodities:**

- a. Agricultural commodities,
- b. Motor vehicles,
- c. Pharmaceuticals,
- d. Pesticides,
- e. Used equipment,
- f. U.S. Government-owned excess property, or
- g. Fertilizer.
- **In addition, CARE-GBV will not consider the following for funding:**
 - Individuals
 - Public International Organizations
 - Organizations that appear on the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Non-procurement Programs, the U.N. 1267 list, or have an active restriction or exclusion on the System for Award Management (www.sam.gov)
 - Organizations that advocate, promote, or engage in illegal activities or anti-democratic activities
 - Any entity affiliated with USAID, Development Professionals Inc., Making Cents International, or FHI 360, including their officers, directors, employees, or their family members
 - Any governmental organization, political party, or political group
 - Concept notes proposing scaling existing interventions that do not address the purpose of the grants program
 - Concept notes proposing work on femicide and trafficking in persons
 - Concept notes with any infrastructure or construction activities
 - Concept notes with a primary focus on GBV awareness raising
 - Concept notes that primarily serve to promote the visibility of an organization
 - Concept notes that do not consider COVID-19 in their response

Technical

Questions about self-care, wellness, and resiliency

Several questions were submitted that relate to the grant program’s focus on self-care, wellness and resiliency for staff of GBV prevention and response organizations and embedding these principles in organizational culture.

- We are looking for innovative concept notes that explore this area.
- Ideally, GBV organizations will focus on incorporating wellness and resiliency into its organizational culture in a way that promotes individual staff self-care, wellness and resiliency and strengthens its ability to prevent or respond to GBV.
- For examples of integrating self-care and wellness into staff self-care as well as organizational culture please see the following, although these are just examples:
 - http://raisingvoices.org/wp-content/uploads/How_can_we_amplify_self_and_collective_care.pdf
 - https://wipc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Healing-Through-Rituals-A-Guide-for-Sustaining-Wellbeing-and-Activism_.pdf

- Cayir E, Spencer M, Billings D, Hilfinger Messiah DK, Robillard A, Cunningham T. “The Only Way We’ll Be Successful”: Organizational Factors That Influence Psychosocial Well-Being and Self-Care Among Advocates Working to Address Gender-Based Violence. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. January 2020. doi:10.1177/0886260519897340

67. Would it be possible to clarify the scope of the call? As we read it, it appears to concentrate on organizational capacity to ensure staff well-being when implementing GBV programs rather than implementation of GBV programs. Am I correct?

Correct, we are focusing on building organizational capacity to ensure staff wellness and resiliency (that we hope to see embedded within organizational cultures), which in turn strengthens implementation of GBV programs.

68. You mention to "build capacity to generate solutions that elevate the role of staff wellness and resiliency." Is this grant for staff mental health needs or for programming?

Concepts for funding under this grants program should include a focus on elevating the role of staff wellness and resiliency. Wellness includes mental health as well as other things. Staff often deal with burnout and secondary trauma due to the nature of their work. Providing adequate resources and support to staff can help to strengthen GBV programming.

Grants may be awarded for concepts that include this but go beyond, to include strengthening of knowledge about “what works” in GBV prevention and response, and staff capacity to implement programs. However, funds are not meant to be used to develop new programs.

69. Are you looking for something that is more like a rape crisis center that also provides mental health support for staff who work with GBV survivors? Or does education pertaining to prevention also fall into your guidelines?

We are open to ideas about how various types of GBV organizations can incorporate wellness and resiliency into its organizational culture in a way that promotes individual staff self-care, wellness and resiliency and strengthens its ability to prevent or respond to GBV. For a discussion of integrating self-care and wellness into organizational culture see above resources.

70. When you mention “capacity to generate solutions that elevate the role of staff well-being and resilience in promoting high-quality, sustainable and survivor-centered GBV prevention” Does this mean the intervention has to focus on strengthening the capacities of officials, workers of public institutions that provide services to victims of violence? The organizations may work on prevention or response to GBV. However, in all cases, the approach should be survivor-centered. We are also interested in concepts that promote learning and build capacity around self-care, wellness and resiliency – at the level of individual staff and the organizational level.

71. Does the focus of the intervention have to be oriented exclusively to personnel of institutions that provide services to victims of violence? (strengthening of technical and social capacities and emotional management) The organizations may work on prevention or response to GBV. However, in all cases, the approach should be survivor-centered. We are also interested in concepts that promote learning and build capacity around self-care, wellness and resiliency – at the level of individual staff and the organizational level. wish for further clarifications on staff wellness and resilience so that we can well understand what is required of us. We would also appreciate it if you could share with us the link to the webinar scheduled for the 24th of February 2021 and the time. CARE-GBV seeks to elevate the importance of GBV organizational staff wellness and resiliency as an important component of effective GBV programming. Staff often deal with burnout and secondary trauma due to the nature of their work. Providing adequate resources and

support to staff can help to strengthen GBV programs, reduce burnout and turnover, and ensure the do-no-harm principle applies to communities and staff alike. We are looking for organizations to suggest innovative ways to build their capacity to design and implement and learn from the CARE-GBV Question and Answer Webinar will be recorded and posted on the CARE-GBV [grants landing page](#) on Wednesday, February 24th by 8:00AM ET. It can be downloaded without any additional registration.

72.

Can organizations undertake primary research along with the resiliency and wellness development related intervention under this grant?

We believe it is unlikely a group could propose a primary research project that is well-designed and conforms with all ethical and safety guidelines for research that would be able to fit into the one-year timeline for these grants. You are welcome to submit a concept note if you think your organization can deliver within the timeframe of this Call for Concept Notes but be advised that it must be very convincing.

Other technical questions

73. I wonder if an application for capacity building in the area of movement building would be eligible for consideration.

If the movement building includes promoting learning about self-care, wellness and resiliency for staff of member organizations and embedding these principles in the culture of the movement, this would be a concept eligible for award.

74. Could you clarify your definition of “primary focus on GBV awareness-raising” (which is outlined as a non-acceptable focus)? Does this have to do with communication campaigns?

We are not funding GBV interventions and this includes any type of awareness-raising or primary prevention activities, including mass communication campaigns. Our focus is on building the capacity of GBV organizations to support their interventions.

75. Given the interconnectedness of GBV and issues such as femicide, can a proposal touch upon indirectly to femicide? Or femicide should not be considered at all in the proposal?

Femicide is not a topic that is within the scope of CARE-GBV.

76. Does the planned intervention need to be national in nature, or can localized (district) projects be considered?

The planned intervention does not need to be national. Localized projects are acceptable.

77. Are allowed, filed Concept Note on the organization program has ended but still require financial support to prepare sustainability into the future?

We are not clear what this question is asking. However, the concept note indicates that a focus area might be capacity building to leverage funds to build organizational sustainability beyond the grant period. This means that an organization might use the grant funds to build its own capacity during the grant year. This might be through partnering with another organization that can support capacity-building. However, no funds will be available after the grant ends for organizations that need further funding to achieve grant objectives.

78. If an Organization is not led by a Woman and is not feminist but has an intentional plan of building the capacity of its female staff to be promoted to senior positions of leadership, would it be eligible?

Yes, though preference will be given to applications from organizations that are feminist, women-, LGBTI- or survivor-led.

79. Is there a limit on number of focus areas an organization can focus on?

No.

80. Is it okay to base the concept note across all the focus areas as listed?

Yes, however please detail why the focus is on all four.

81. We are interested in doing programming around prevention that also includes counseling, but we understand that discussing prevention could be seen as raising awareness and "awareness raising" is something you do not fund. Would you consider education and prevention programming as awareness raising?

Awareness raising may be part of prevention programming, however it is not something that we will fund. This is because awareness raising by itself is not sufficient to prevent GBV. In addition, while offering counseling may be part of a wellness program, merely offering counseling is not enough to build organizational culture that prioritizes staff wellness and resiliency.

For discussion of prevention programming that works to prevent GBV please see this brief, for example: <https://prevention-collaborative.org/resource/prevention-foundations-3-roadmap-and-vaw-prevention-programmes/>.

This grants program will support building capacity of an organization to do prevention programming. However, it should also include promoting a wellness and resiliency component into the organizational culture.

82. In Peru district Coordination Instances have been established to fight against GBV, a space that brings together various institutions involved in the care of victims (local government, police stations, prosecution, local educational management unit-UGEL, centers Health Center, Women's Emergency Center, district women's organizations), in order to articulate efforts for better care. Is it possible to consider this space as the center of intervention focusing on its strengthening, or would only one have to be chosen from this group of institutions?

Yes, you may consider this space as the center of the intervention focusing on its strengthening. Please include a focus on organizational culture that promotes staff and organizational self-care, wellness and resiliency.

83. Likewise, the social organizations present in the communities (made up mainly of women leaders from the area), have been assuming an active role in guiding and promoting the rights of victims of violence in their districts. Is it possible to direct the intervention to these groups in order to strengthen organizations and improve the capacities of their members for a better performance in the care and support they provide to victims, as well as strengthen their capacity to resist due to the emotional burden that this means for them?

Yes.

84. Regarding the focus areas, with regard to capacity development, it is mentioned "developing organizational knowledge and capacity for effective prevention and response programming, as well as its sustainability, focused on GBV survivors through an association mentors ", does the latter mean that they should be associated with an organization identified with good

management practices and that it serves as a reference for the organizational strengthening of the institution participating in the intervention?

A mentoring partnership is not mandatory, but it is suggested as a way to build organizational capacity.

85. Can we focus on GBV only or we could include safeguarding?

Organizations that work on GBV issues should include safeguarding as part of their work. You can include a focus on building or strengthening your organizational culture to ensure safeguarding and creating relevant safeguarding policies such as those focused on do no harm, prevention of sexual abuse and exploitation, sexual harassment, and others.

86. We are creating a model of establishing community-based counsellors who are volunteer in nature. Can organizations include community-based volunteers along with staff as eligible target group for this grant?

Yes.

87. Can events like dissemination conferences and learning webinars be organized under this grant?

Yes.

88. Would funding for this grant be able to also support translation on a larger scale of a staff/self-care workbook (the grant would otherwise focus on implementation of a program focused around staff/self-care within one country office)? And could costs from the grant cover 5% of the time allocated by an HQ staff?

Yes, any activities that support staff wellness are part of allowable costs. The 5% of time for a HQ staff person would be allowable if the organization fits the definition of a local, new, or underutilized USAID partner.

89. From Monrovia, Liberia - Does this Grant support an ongoing project that is working to end violence against women and girls?

No, these funds are not meant to focus on supporting ongoing projects.

90. Can organizations use data collected in an existing program for this grant?

Yes.

91. Can organizations apply for just research on GBV, specifically on social norms that are barriers to prevention of GBV and the barriers for women to access the services?

The grants should fall under one of the four focus areas outlined in the Call for Concept Notes. We believe it is unlikely a group could propose a research project that is well-designed and conforms with all ethical and safety guidelines for research that would be able to fit into the one-year timeline for these grants.

92. Can our proposed solutions include training and dialogue with boys and men as part of a GBV education strategy?

The grants should fall under one of the four focus areas outlined in the Call for Concept Notes. Without knowing more about the full scope of what you would propose we cannot comment on this. However, funding is not meant to primarily support direct interventions.

93. What are the parameters of the concept note, I.e., is the focus on sensitization; prevention; mitigation?
Within the focus areas the concept notes can focus on prevention or response. Wellness and resiliency and capacity building of organizations are primary focus areas. In addition, COVID-19 and research utilization and scaling up effective interventions may be considered.
94. Is the grant specifically for organisations to implement initiatives for their staff members or can they implement initiatives that target communities they are working in?
The grant is specifically focused initiatives focused on building an organizational culture that promotes staff wellness and resilience, which in turn will help the organization achieve better results for their target communities.
95. What will the grant cover?
Please refer to our [Call for Concept Notes](#) and look at the four focus areas outlined, as well as budget guidelines.

Language

96. Can we submit concept notes that we write in Indonesian?
We are very sorry, however, only Concept Notes written in English will be accepted.
97. Can the [Concept] note be submitted in French?
We are very sorry, however, only Concept Notes written in English will be accepted.
98. The CARE-GBV project is very interesting. However, we have difficulties to present the project in English, even to understand the documents. Is there a guide in French?
We are very sorry, however, the Call for concept Notes and reference materials are only in English.
99. Would you be able to help us with the presentation materials in French?
We are very sorry; assistance will not be provided to develop materials under CARE-GBV.
100. Can the note be submitted in French?
We are very sorry, only Concept Notes written in English will be accepted.
101. The national languages in DRC are Kiswahili, Linguala and French. I have seen that the submission language for the concept note would be English, this is not an issue as we are willing to support our partners in the translation of the submitted Concept Papers. My question concerns the oral presentation, should any of them become Semi-finalist, could the presentation be done in another language? Most likely in French.
Translation services for oral presentations will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Webinar

The following six questions about the webinar can all be answered with the same response:

102. We want to attend the live webinar regarding the questions related to the CARE-GBV grant program. So, we request you to provide the details of the webinar.
103. I have reviewed all documents in the open call for proposals for the small grants program. In the concept note guideline, it mentions a webinar happening on Feb. 24th (tentative timeline, page 5), yet I can find no place to sign up for this webinar. I would appreciate having a link to register or getting an email with the registration.
104. Finally, could you provide more information regarding the time and modality of the Q&A Webinar on February 24th?
105. We would also appreciate it if you could share with us the link to the webinar scheduled for the 24th of February 2021 and the time.
106. How do i register for the upcoming webinar?
107. What time is the Q&A Webinar on February 24th?

The CARE-GBV Question and Answer Webinar will be recorded and posted on the CARE-GBV grants landing page on Wednesday, February 24th by 8:00AM ET. It can be downloaded without any additional registration.

- The webinar will be in English.
- The webinar will provide an oral review of the grants program and responses to the most frequently asked questions.
- Responses to the full set of questions that were submitted via email will also be available for downloading.
- The recorded webinar will ensure that those unable to participate to have the same access to the information shared.
- If you have problems accessing the webinar, please contact: grants@makingcents.com.

Logistical/Operational

108. In the Call for Concept Notes you didn't release the final decision date, but do you have some dates in mind?
Yes, awardees are expected to be announced on June 21, 2021.
109. Do you know how far after award you will release the money?
There is no set date. Dates for disbursements under this award including Initial funding will be determined by the work plan and the payment schedule agreed upon during the negotiation stage.

110. What is the minimum term that should be considered for the execution of the project?
You may propose what you believe will work. If less than one year, please provide an explanation about why and how you think results can be achieved in a shorter period of time.
111. Will the oral presentations be done via an online platform?
More information regarding the oral presentations will be sent to the semi-finalists. This will be via an online platform.
112. Clarification on the template attachment for an objectives and activities for the proposed project on gender base violence RFA, wish to get an accurate guide on how to attach the Template provided or should a new template be created for it?
Please use the template provided and attach where indicated in the application form. If you need additional technical help, please let us know.
113. Is a monitoring and evaluation plan required for the proposed program? No, however an activity plan should be provided as requested.
114. How long (pages) should the concept note be?
Applicants must submit a Concept Note outlining their organization's proposed approach using the [online application form](#). The online form will request information for each section which is limited to no more than a 500-word response in English.

Application Form

115. Which is the format we need to prepare our application? could you clarify which format should be followed and if the proposal's submission is online or by email?
The application must be completed using the Online Application form here:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd0GKAs_YIPULIXavm4IG8lszoolq_zfCKRNm4upVh_a1DZ2uA/viewform
- Can we get access to the complete application apart from the online submission?
Yes, a copy of the [full online application](#) has been posted on the CARE-GBV [Small Grants Program Landing Page](#) for your reference only. All applications must be submitted electronically by completing the application here:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd0GKAs_YIPULIXavm4IG8lszoolq_zfCKRNm4upVh_a1DZ2uA/viewform
116. When is the deadline for the USAID Collective Action to REduce Gender-Based Violence Grants Program: Concept Note Application Form?
10:00 AM EDT on March 17, 2021.