Call for Applications
Carol Bellamy Leadership Award (Fellowship Program)

The Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) is launching its second edition of the fellowship program in honor of our founding Board Chair, Carol Bellamy, a pioneer in women’s and girls’ rights. The Carol Bellamy Leadership Award is a fellowship program that aims to provide support to small local and grassroots organisations led by women, or those working towards women’s empowerment, in the field of preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE) in GCERF partner countries*. This fellowship is intended for women from communities vulnerable to violent extremism, with the goal of providing them with the necessary tools that would enable them to create and leverage socio-economic opportunities and flourish.

GCERF is the only multilateral fund focusing exclusively on Preventing Violent Extremism. GCERF currently works in 19 countries around the world where communities are vulnerable to radicalisation or violent group recruitment, funding over 250 frontline organisations to implement resilience-building activities and coordinating with national government partners to reduce the threat of extremism.

Women-led organisations working on women’s empowerment in the context of P/CVE play a vital role in meeting the needs of survivors and those vulnerable to recruitment by extremist groups. Still, they are often too small or under-resourced to meet the requirements of institutional donors. They often lack access to funding that can support them to develop sustainable structures and increase their leadership capabilities. To directly confront this challenge, GCERF created the Carol Bellamy Fellowship to provide additional support to strengthen the women-led organisations/organisations working towards women’s empowerment we work with. The Fellowship will directly support small-scale, women-led organisations/organisations working on women’s empowerment in the context of preventing/countering violent extremism to strengthen their ability to programme effectively.

Fellowship recipients will be selected from applicants within the GCERF partner countries*. GCERF aims to make up to 10 individual awards of a maximum of USD 2,000 to partners.

* Albania, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Chad, Iraq, Kenya, Kosovo, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Philippines, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Yemen
The award can be used in the following ways:

1) To support the development of small local and grassroots organisations led by women, or those working towards women’s empowerment, in the field of P/CVE, however the organisation decides it needs this – through operations, training, office payments, technology purchases, etc.
2) To develop leadership skills, and enable the subsequent direct promotion, of women within either a female- or male-led organisation.
3) To identify and support women from communities vulnerable to violent extremism to establish and/run their existing initiatives.

Organisations will be able to use the fellowship award within these three modes however they think best to build their capacity and improve opportunities for women to take leadership roles. An award from the Carol Bellamy Fellowship is a step towards shifting power to those most impacted – and enabling them to make a sustainable difference in the fight against violent extremism.

**Eligibility**

The Fellowship is open to:

- All current GCERF grantees in partner countries*
- Civil society organisations/Women-led initiatives (non-GCERF funded) working at the community level towards women empowerment in GCERF partner countries.

Preference will initially be given to smaller, community-based organisations to support their development.

**Submission**

All applications must be submitted electronically to fellowships@gcerf.org.

**Methods of submission**

Applications can be submitted in either of the two methods:

- A two-page document (maximum); or

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• Five-minute video (maximum) **Application components**

Applications (document/video) must include the following components:

• Purpose of the initiative/organisation;
• A detailed explanation of how the award will be utilised and in what specific manner it will empower women to take charge of their organisations, or enable individuals to establish new initiatives or sustain existing ones;
• How the award would be contributing to Preventing/Countering Violent Extremism.

**Documentation required** (*non-GCERF funded CSOs and/or women initiatives*)

Documents to submit with the application:

• Official registration of the organisation (only for CSOs);
• CV – if women-led or 200 words on the project to be benefited (target group, main objective and location).

**Selection Criteria**

Applications will be selected based on the following criteria:

• The application demonstrates a clear link between receiving the award and the positive impact this will have on the individual/organisation/community it will go to;
• An established track record of implementing effective violence prevention programming in their local community would be looked upon favourably;
• Proposal is in line with GCERF’s values and the Code of Conduct;
• The applicant has had no fiduciary issues raised in the course of programming for GCERF.

Once the applications are received, a review panel made up of three members of the GCERF Secretariat, one member of GCERF’S Independent Review Panel, one GCERF National Advisor, and Ms. Carol Bellamy, will review the applications and select the award recipients within 45 days from the closing date for receiving of the applications.

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Monitoring

The awardees will provide GCERF with a three-page update or maximum of a 10-minute video demonstrating how the award has been spent and the impact it has had on the individual/organisation/community.

Organisations and female leaders benefiting from this award will also be invited to connect with GCERF and its network through its Global Action Platform, to share their experiences with women/organisations alike to further promote women’s engagement and empowerment in this field.

Deadline

All applications must be submitted electronically to fellowships@gcerf.org by 10 May 2023 (23:59 CET) with the subject line ‘Proposal for Carol Bellamy Leadership Award 2023’.

If you wish to know more about the first edition of the Carol Bellamy Leadership award, please watch a video or read a success story on the impact of the award piloted in Tunisia.