

March 15, 2023

## Equality Fund Response to the Recent Earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria

This note provides a brief overview of Equality Fund grantmaking in response to the recent earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria.

Through our crisis grantmaking stream – Prepare, Respond and Care – we are committed to supporting feminist responses to crises.

The Equality Fund Global Program team contacted partners in Turkey, Syria and Lebanon to check how they were affected by the earthquake and how they are responding to this crisis. In order to support their work, we will provide grants to the following organizations totalling approximately 1M CAD:

### NORTHERN SYRIA

**Women Now for Development (WND):** WND is a prominent feminist organization working with the Syrian population in Lebanon, Turkey and inside Syria. Their response is focused on supporting local efforts to evacuate and provide humanitarian aid to families and psychological support to the communities affected by the trauma of losing family members. Some of WND's own staff were directly impacted by the earthquakes. They have activated emergency response activities at the local level and are distributing humanitarian aid.

### TURKEY

**Kadınlarla Dayanışma Vakfı/ Women's Solidarity Foundation (KADAV):** KADAV is providing support to local efforts in 11 devastated cities. KADAV has quickly mobilised to assess the needs in the area and will be responding to short term needs such as assistance on-site for housing, medical, legal, psychological, education, vocational training, and employment problems of women in the affected regions.

**Pink Life:** Pink Life is leading emergency responses for the LGBTI+ community in disaster areas and providing basic support to members of the community who cannot or are not accessing Government services and support due to fear of discrimination and violence.

### THREE WOMEN'S FUNDS

**Doria Feminist Fund:** Doria Fund will provide grants to organizations working in Northern Syria and other affected areas. The grant will be used for emergency response, disaster relief support,

well-being and care initiatives, medical or health support, community aid, or for strengthening the work of organizations or initiatives to be able to respond more effectively to the changing conditions in context.

**Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights:** UAF WHR has been working with its networks, reaching out to their advisors in Turkey and Syria to quickly get resources to those in need. UAF Global is prioritizing psycho-social and emergency support services, and relocation with a special focus on for the LGBTQI+ community and feminists working with media.

**Global Resilience Fund:** GRF is providing emergency rapid response grants to young women-led, trans youth and girl centered groups who are directly impacted by and responding to the Earthquake in Turkey, Syria and Lebanon. They are in touch with a number of activists and groups and are working with its advisory to initially move resources to 10 groups: including six from Syria, one from Lebanon working in Syria and three from Turkey.

**See also our companion background note: *Highlighting the Specific Needs of LGBTQI+ People Following the Earthquake in Northern Syria and Türkiye***

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