

Selection of Women Peace Architects (WPA)

Background

Aurat Foundation (AF) formed 50 Women Leader Groups (WLGs) in 50-districts of Pakistan and implemented Raising Her Voice, a women’s leadership development program in Pakistan. These women outreached directly in 50-districts of four provinces of Pakistan became actively engaged in socio-political issues of broader concerns and started experiencing leadership skills in their community affairs. Keeping in view previous successful experience with AF and Search for Common Ground’s [Women’s Initiative for Learning and Leadership \(WILL\)](#) program, AF is currently implementing **SHE - The Peacebuilder** project with the support of Search for Common Ground in Pakistan. The objectives of the project are to increase the capacity of “Women Peace Architects (WPAs)” to participate in conflict resolution and peacebuilding processes and to increase the coordination and collaboration among women peace architects, government and civil society stakeholders, and cultural influencers in responding to violent extremism and conflict.

Geographical Location

AF will focus on identifying WPAs from Lahore, Karachi, Quetta, Peshawar, and Islamabad. However, applicants from all regions will be considered and women from neighboring districts will also be engaged depending on the applications received. Balance in representation from the different provinces will also be considered in the selection process.

Selection Criteria

The selection will be based on criteria such as diversity, level of experience, minority groups, and political backgrounds. They will be 40% WPAs from different walks of life including social, political, business, academia, sports, fashion Industries, media, lawyers, social media activists, and other professions. 20% young students and social entrepreneurs, 20% from religious and ethnic minorities, 10% women with different disabilities, and 10% trans women.

Number	Percent age	Thematic Areas / Fields/ Departments
20 Professionals from different sectors	40%	5 - Political activists such as elected or ex-women councilors, office bearers of political parties, or MPs. 5 - Social activists, such as those working in women’s rights organizations including NGOs, CBOs, and CSOs. 5 – Athletes, such as growing champions of different fields of sports like cricket, hockey, football, boxing cycling, judo, karate, basketball, tennis, etc. 5 – Lawyers from bar associations.

10 Young girls'/students and social entrepreneurs	20%	5 - Students of secondary and tertiary education institutions and universities including Punjab University, Fatima Jinnah, Quaid-e-Azam, Karachi, Sardar Bahadur Khan Women's University, Balochistan, BZU, University of KP including the Lincoln corners set up by USAID. 5 - Journalists and media personnel including social media activists.
10 Religious and ethnic minorities	20%	8 - Christian, Hindu, Sikh, Ahmadi, Parsi, and other religious minorities. 2 - Hazara and Sidi communities.
5 Women with different disabilities	10%	5 - Women from different disabilities, such as those from organizations for people with disabilities (PWD). Physically challenged and blind women will be a priority, but the decision will be taken based on received CVs.
5 Transgender women	10%	5 – Transgender women from trans organizations or individual activists who are leading their own businesses.
Total: 50 WPAs	100%	

Call of Nomination of WPAs

AF has advertised the membership form along with the below instructions on their website.

AF will invite the **Nominations of Women Peace Architects** from across the country. A dually filled and signed membership form along with a 3-4 pager CV and passport size picture will be required on the e-mail: headoffice@af.org.pk till Wednesday, **August 24, 2022**.

The link to the advertisement is below:

[Aurat Foundation \(af.org.pk\)](http://af.org.pk)

[Membership Form SHE-The Peacebuilder.pdf \(af.org.pk\)](#)

AF, Search, and KCC will widely circulate the link with partners, networks, alliances of transgender, PWDs, and women groups.

Process of Selection

On August 25, 2022, AF will notify a committee to securitize the CVs of WPAs followed by the criteria. The committee would be comprised of representatives of AF, Search, and KCC and subject experts from the field. AF will ensure the horizontal and vertical linkages of WPAs followed by the objectives and results of the project.

AF team will share the CVs of WPAs with its regional offices based in Karachi, Lahore, Quetta, Peshawar, and Islamabad. AF regional teams will hold short interviews of WPAs and share back the list of potential WPAs with its comments to AF Head Office.

AF team will give a brief presentation to the Committee Members on August 30, 2022. With the recommendation and approval of the committee, a final list of WPAs will be shared and submitted to Search on **August 31, 2022**. Search will then share the list with the US Embassy for approval.