Digital Gender Inclusion and Innovation Bootcamp

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is thrilled to announce a bootcamp to provide training and support to **refugee-led and community-based organizations** seeking to **break down the digital gender divide for forcibly displaced women and girls.**

To apply, please [complete an application form](#) by 7 April 2023. Specific dates for the bootcamp will be announced in due course.

The digital age has brought countless opportunities and benefits across the world, but for the more than 50 million women and girls worldwide who have been forced to flee their homes, these opportunities are limited – or even completely out of reach. The consequences of this **digital gender divide** are significant.

Women and girls are unable to access information and resources vital for their protection and safety, take advantage of the many opportunities digital technology can offer, or fully engage in their communities online.

UNHCR is working to bridge the digital gender divide within displaced communities. The Innovation Service is looking forward to furthering this work alongside key stakeholders, to better understand the online challenges and opportunities faced by refugee women and girls, develop and implement solutions that address the divide, and promote inclusive technology use.

Join us in this effort to ensure our digital age leaves no one behind. Women-led organizations, in particular, are strongly encouraged to apply for this **Digital Gender Inclusion and Innovation Bootcamp,** to engage in specialized intensive training that aims to equip participants with the skills and tools to bridge the digital gender gap in their communities.

Who can apply?

Established community-based organizations (CBOs), refugee-led organizations (RLOs), women-led organizations (WLOs), national organizations, and social enterprises working with female refugees and/or on digital inclusion.

Currently, this opportunity is open to organizations in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and the East Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes (EHAGL) regions. We hope to announce a further call for applications from additional regions within the application period.

To apply, you must:

☐ Be a **legally registered** non-profit CBO, national organization, faith-based organization, or social enterprise with a bank account.
☐ **OR be a refugee-led organization**[1] (locally registered).
☐ Have a **physical presence** in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and/or East Horn of Africa and Great Lakes (EHAGL) regions.
☐ Have a **track record** of innovative approaches that address digital inclusion challenges.

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1   "An organization or group in which persons with direct lived experience of forced displacement play a primary leadership role and whose stated objectives and activities are focused on responding to the needs of refugees and/or related communities." (UNHCR, 2023)

Why apply?

This unique opportunity will enable your organization to amplify its impact. You'll be equipped with the skills you need to build inclusive and innovative solutions that tackle the digital gender divide, and you'll receive a certification of completion at the end of the programme.

During the bootcamp, you'll:
- **Explore** groundbreaking solutions with expert guidance and support from experienced mentors, who will help you turn your vision into reality.
- **Connect** with a community of like-minded peers, who are just as passionate about driving change and creating a better future for women and girls through peer-to-peer learning opportunities.
- **Gain a deep understanding** of UNHCR's approach to digital inclusion and innovation, and leverage this knowledge to build transformative solutions.
- Work closely with a range of stakeholders and learn how to **validate your assumptions, refine your ideas**, and **build solutions** that meet the needs of diverse groups.
- **Forge connections** with UNHCR and other participating organizations, and join a vibrant network of innovators, change-makers, and thought leaders.
- **Develop a pitch** to help bring your innovative digital gender inclusion projects to life.

The bootcamp will provide a holistic perspective on delivering impactful digital gender inclusion projects. It will be delivered online in English, with Arabic interpretation. We will make our best effort to accommodate the needs of selected organizations, including for visually/hearing impaired attendees.

Please note that a detailed agenda, tailored to the priorities highlighted by applicants, will be shared later on.

For any questions related to the bootcamp, please contact innovation@unhcr.org.

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