

EMPOWERING WOMEN IN HYDROGRAPHY PROJECT
UK GENDER BALANCE FUND - CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

References:

- A. Letter from UKHO dated 7 May 2024 – United Kingdom support to the Empowering Women in Hydrography project.
- B. IHO CL 25/2024 – Empowering Women in Hydrography Project - UK improving Gender Balance Fund – Call for applications.

Dear Hydrographer,

1. In 2024 the UK supported the Empowering Women in Hydrography project through a dedicated Improving Gender Balance Fund (see reference B).

The fund is available to IHO Member States and other states and will provide financial support for women who are working to advance their careers, including their progression to leadership roles in the hydrographic sector.

2. The Circular Letter indicated in reference B. invited applications for the Gender Balance Fund. To date this fund has supported nine individuals from nine nations with opportunities including IBSC Internship, attendance at RHC's, attendance at IHO Working Group meetings and various opportunities for training. Reports can be found here [initiatives around the world](#).

3. The UK continues to provide this opportunity in 2025.

The following general selection criteria will be used:

- Proposals must directly support the improvement of gender balance in hydrography.
- Proposals should include a clear and measurable benefit. This may include how they support the progression of the applicant towards a leadership position or personal developments that will be gained.
- A broad geographic distribution of applicants will be sought.

Proposals will be assessed by the UK upon receipt while keeping the IHO Secretariat informed, and applicants will be notified via email if their request has been approved.

4. The UK *Gender Balance Fund* will provide financial support for travel and accommodation for the participants. Any other associated expenses beyond these will be considered and should be outlined in the applicant's proposal.

5. Applicants will be expected to provide a short report on the completion of the activity and this material may be included in broader EWH material to demonstrate the value of the investment.
6. Applicants for the funding opportunity should send the accompanying application form in Annex A to ibte@ukho.gov.uk. Submissions must be supported by a signed statement from their nation's hydrographic office (or relevant organization where no hydrographic office currently exists).
7. The IHO Secretariat thanks the UKHO (United Kingdom) for its strong commitment to the EWH project. The IHO Secretariat would also like to encourage Member States to consider any future offers and further participation in the EWH project.

On behalf of the Secretary-General

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luigi Sinapi', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Luigi Sinapi Director

Annex A: Application form (to be sent to ibte@ukho.gov.uk)

UK Gender Balance Fund Application Form

Applicant details	
First and last name	
Nationality	
Job title	
Address	
Telephone	
Email	

Present position of applicant and description of duties

Future aspirations and career goals of applicant

Requested support including a full description and itemised estimated costs of support

Describe the benefits to you that this support will provide including how it will support your development (Maximum 250 words)

STATEMENT OF THE NATIONAL HYDROGRAPHER
or
APPROPRIATE NATIONAL AUTHORITY

The **Hydrographer** (or _____) of _____
requests UK Hydrographic Office to consider this Application and confirms that the candidate
_____ is fully aware of the following conditions which apply to this
application:

1. The candidate (if selected), once the opportunity has been successfully completed, will likely be involved in hydrographic activities in the long-term.
2. The candidate complies with all the opportunity requirements