

## To consider before you commit to providing assistance to the WAN-IFRA Afghan Journalist Appeal

Balancing the urge to help and the practical realities of providing that assistance is crucial before deciding on a course of action that will have a tremendous impact on the lives of our Afghan colleagues. Please read the following to ensure you are in a position to commit to supporting the various processes this will involve.

- How many places can your newsroom or media organisation offer?
- Are your placements physical or would you consider virtual working?
- Can you already narrow down some criteria? For example, are you looking to support only female journalists; would you prefer to support journalists arriving without family; are there particular skill sets you have in mind?
- How long can you realistically cover the costs associated - with employment/with support for family members/living costs, etc.
- Be aware of language constraints. Are you in a position to offer language learning support?
- Many journalists will be relocated along with their immediate families. Can you offer support for living costs and/or help with living arrangements on top of a salary?
- All those seeking resettlement will have undergone some form of psychological trauma in the process of arriving at your newsroom. Be prepared to support them in their recovery. We can advise you on where to turn for help and support in this.
- The process for obtaining visas and necessary working papers, etc., will likely be complicated and potentially long, and may come with associated additional costs. Ensure you have the relevant in-house support/resources to assist in this.
- Be prepared for the worst - be aware that the visa process may not be successful, or once arrived, the journalist(s) is/are unable to settle. You need to have a plan for this.
- WAN-IFRA's role is to facilitate the connection between willing hosts from our networks and those in need identified by our partners - trusted organisations managing lists of displaced journalists. This is a fast-developing situation and we ask you to please be patient as we establish and adapt the processes required to coordinate such a complicated international effort.
- **Financial contributions to the Afghan Media Support Fund:** At present, the needs are many and the ways and means to best support colleagues, their families, Afghan media companies, and those who will continue to work from inside the country are simply not known. Together with relevant and trusted international partners, WAN-IFRA commits to identifying priority needs and disbursing any financial contributions received from members in the most effective and impactful manner. WAN-IFRA will provide a full accounting as to where financial contributions are directed.

[Please fill out the response form](#) and/or contact [andrew.heslop@wan-ifra.org](mailto:andrew.heslop@wan-ifra.org) directly if you wish to make a contribution or require more information.