



United Nations Human Rights Report 2021



UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

United Nations Human Rights Report 2021



Credits

In memoriam

With a special recognition to staff members who lost loved ones in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021 and were not always able to get back home in time.

Prepared by

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Karabo Precious Khoele, youth participant at the Kitso event in remembrance of victims and survivors of the 1960 Sharpeville massacre, in South Africa. © OHCHR

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Foreword by the High Commissioner



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2021 marked the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, a prolonged crisis that continues to undermine human rights the world over.

Pandemic-related inequalities magnified existing gaps between the marginalized and privileged, conflicts erupted and intensified and the deadly consequences of climate change wreaked havoc in many countries.

Despite the hardship, last year also gave us reasons for hope. Extraordinary collaboration between scientific and medical experts – working at an impressive and unprecedented speed – delivered effective vaccines against COVID-19. In the face of the tragedies that were caused or compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic, the world has shown remarkable resilience and an ability to adapt.

At UN Human Rights, I am proud of our staff who have risen to the challenges of our new ways of working and are continuing their tireless efforts to ensure human rights are being upheld all over the world.

I thank the 1,669 UN Human Rights staff members, across our 103 field presences and at headquarters, for their unwavering dedication and vision.

This annual report is a testimony to their initiatives and achievements.

Throughout 2021, we continued to fight for the human rights of those affected by conflict. In Ethiopia, we documented severe and wide-scale violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law committed in Tigray. In Myanmar, we

publicly condemned the violence following February's military coup and called for perpetrators to be held accountable. And as Syria marked one decade of its devastating war, we continue to advocate for truth, justice and reparations for its victims.

During the year, we doubled the number of our Emergency Response Teams stationed around the world to enhance our early warning analysis. In Nicaragua, we brought international attention to widespread political repression, including the detention of human rights defenders, political opponents and journalists during the elections.

In December, I travelled to the Sahel region of Africa, visiting Niger and Burkina Faso, where we opened an office. In this region, plagued by poverty, conflict and the ravages of climate change, I renewed our commitment to working closely with our partners on human rights and encouraged governments to enable inclusive dialogue with all groups, particularly ethnic and religious minorities, women and youth, to find durable solutions for peace and sustainable development.

We continued to highlight the deep inequalities exposed by the pandemic and consistently advocated for vaccine equity, universal health care and improved social protection around the world. We prioritized the needs of vulnerable groups in response and recovery efforts, including, for example, Roma people and older persons in the Republic of Moldova, LGBTI people in Panama, women detainees in Senegal and persons with disabilities in the occupied Palestinian territory.

Our Surge Initiative – comprised of a team of economic, social and cultural rights experts – maintained its focus on strengthening the centrality of rights in the design and monitoring of economic policies. They implemented projects, advising States, UN Country Teams, civil society and other partners on building effective responses and sustained solutions to the pandemic anchored in human rights.

Dismantling systemic racism and racial discrimination remained a central part of our work in 2021. The killing of George Floyd in the previous year and the subsequent global movement that saw millions of people standing up against racism highlighted the litany of abuses against Africans and people of African descent. Based on the findings of my report published in June, I called on all Member States to adopt a four-point transformative agenda to uproot systemic racism and put an end to impunity.

Following up on Human Rights resolution 43/1, in Europe, our advocacy contributed to the adoption of a recommendation on Roma equality, inclusion and participation by the Council of the European Union. As of the end of the year, 11 EU countries had presented or adopted Roma National Strategies.

Over the last 12 months, we have seen a disturbing global escalation of discrimination and hate speech in the digital sphere. At the same time, social media companies and governments are applying increasingly strict content regulations, placing freedom of expression and opinion under grave threat – underscoring the importance of our advocacy and collaboration

with major social media companies to ensure that minorities and human rights defenders are better protected.

As the climate emergency's devastating consequences continued to play out globally, threatening the survival of our planet, our advocacy underscored the centrality of human rights to climate change adaptation and mitigation policies. In October, the Human Rights Council adopted a landmark resolution, recognizing, for the first time, the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

Finally, our focus on actively promoting the rights of women and girls remained a core activity last year. Our legal advice and support led to the adoption of a new gender-based violence law aimed at prevention and protection in North Macedonia. With our support, a similar draft law was presented to the Parliament in Libya. We also strengthened our response to sexual and gender-based violence in a large number of countries, including Kenya and Somalia.

The results and achievements of our work are simply not possible without the support of our donors. We are grateful for your generous assistance in 2021, which led to a record high of received voluntary contributions of US\$227.7 million.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to stand up for human rights. We cannot do this without you.

Time and again, history has proven that investing in human rights can help us emerge stronger from crisis. I am convinced that if we stand united in the fight against discrimination and inequality and

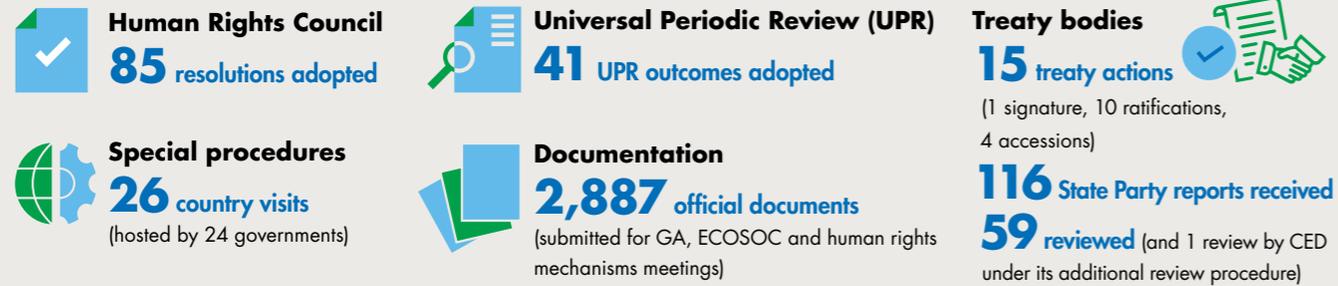
demand the freedoms that we all deserve, we will pave the way to the world we aspire to, with human dignity and justice at its core.

Michelle Bachelet
UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

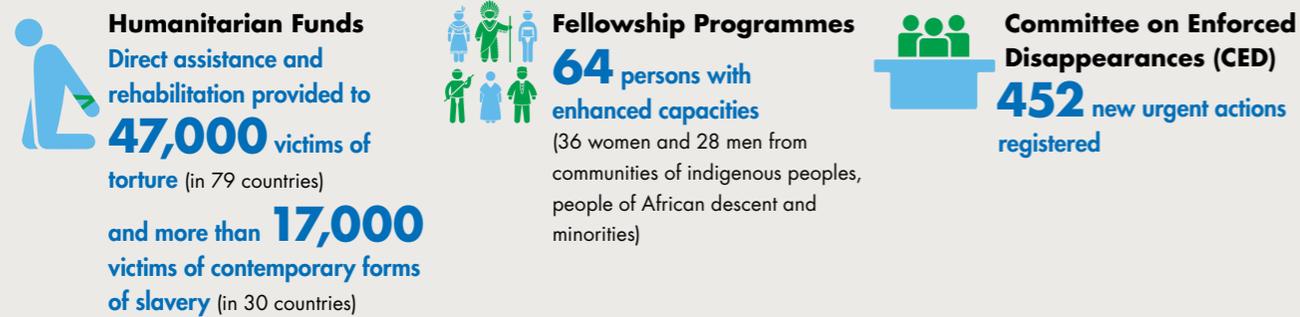
May 2022

Facts and figures in 2021

MEMBER STATES COOPERATION



PEOPLE-CENTRED



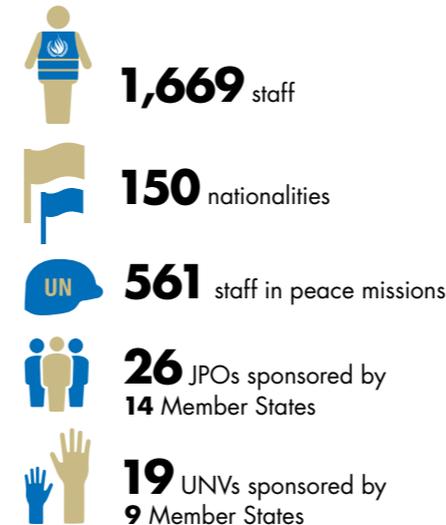
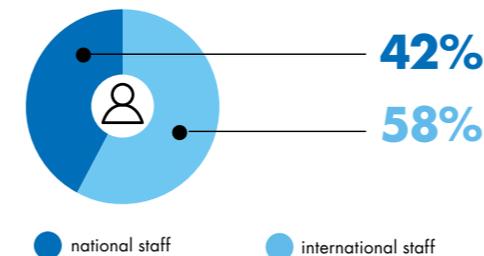
CIVIL SOCIETY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



Global presence in 2021

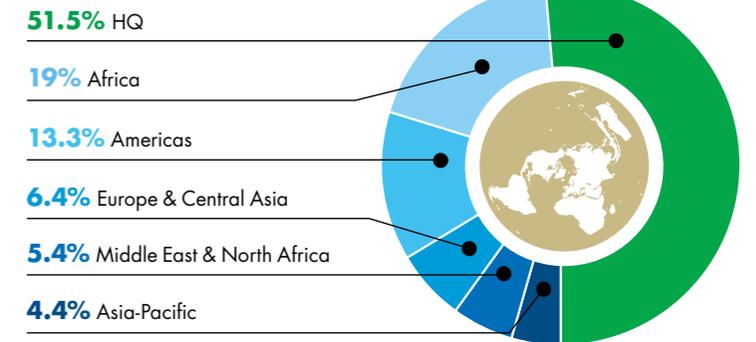


Staff distribution by category

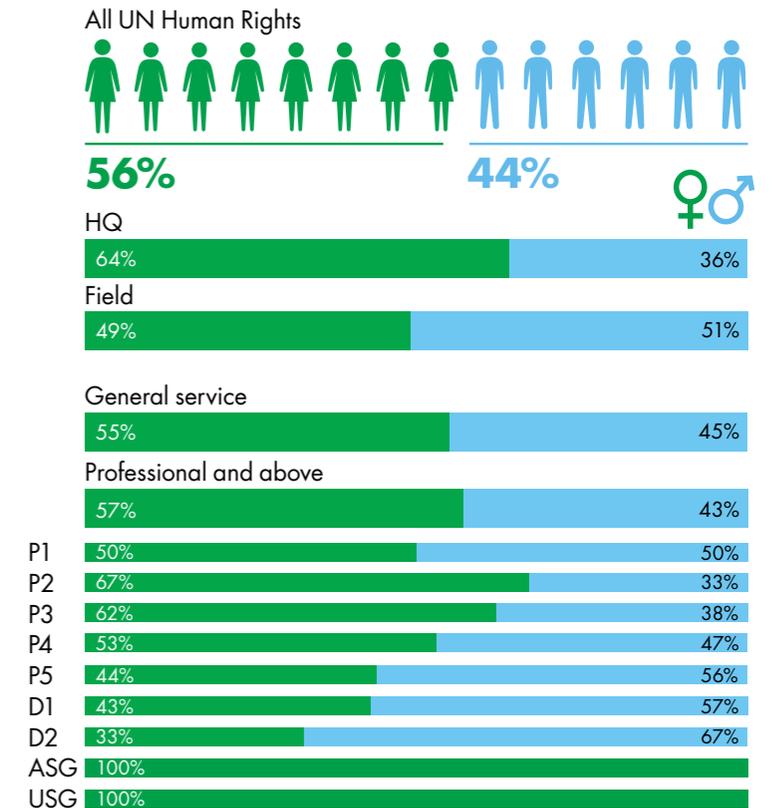


Notes: Data as of 31 December 2021. UNV figures represent those fully funded in 2021. The data include all UN Human Rights and UNDP-administered staff in the General Service, National Officer, Professional and higher categories on temporary, permanent, continuing and fixed-term appointments. Locally recruited staff in the General Service category are considered as national staff. HQ includes staff at the Geneva and New York locations.

Staff distribution by location at HQ and in the field



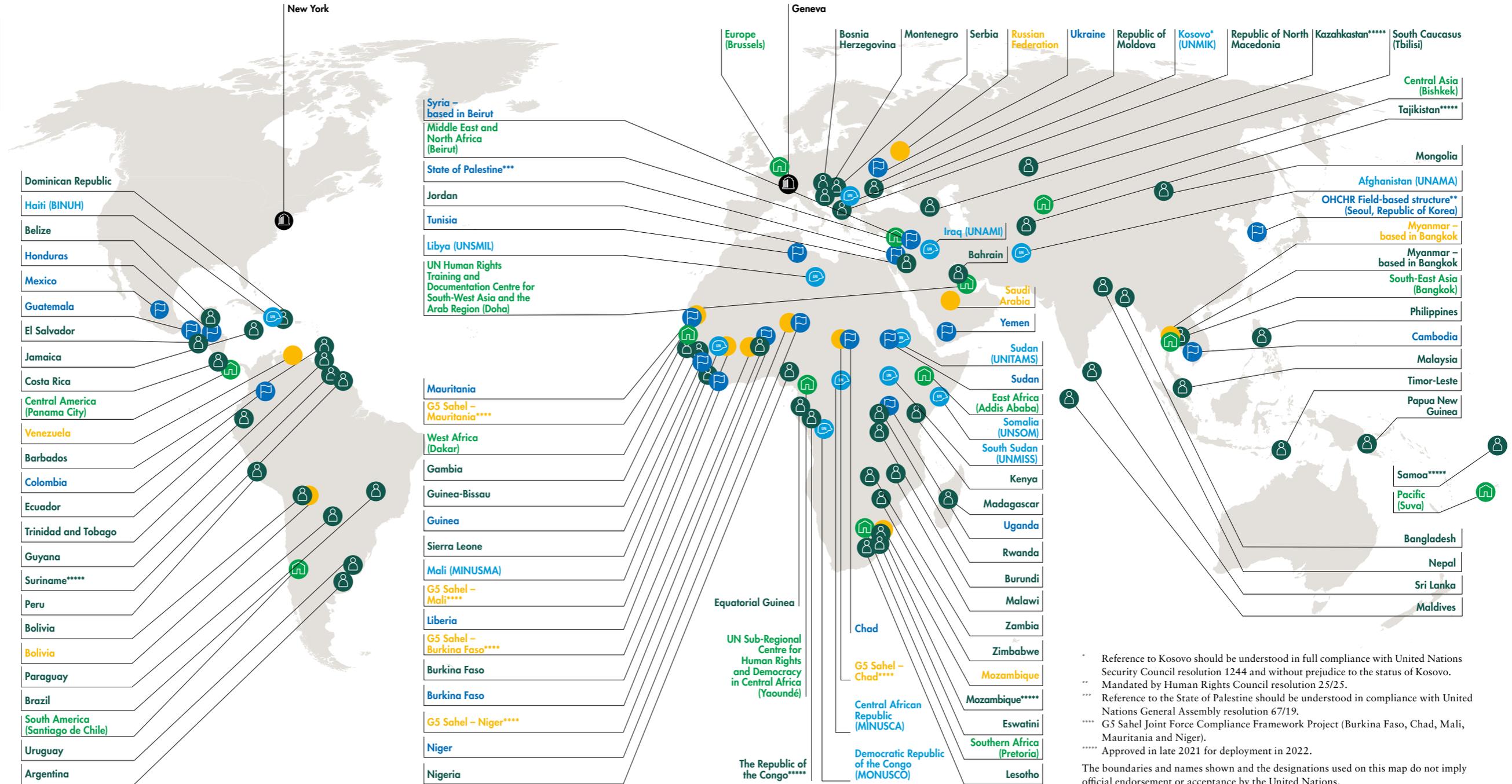
Staff distribution by gender



UN Human Rights around the world in 2021

2 + **103**
 HQ locations field presences

- 2** Headquarters
- 19** Country/Stand-alone Offices/ Human Rights Missions
- 12** Regional Offices/Centres
- 11** Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions
- 54** Human Rights Advisers deployed under the framework of the UNSDG
- 7** Other types of field presences



* Reference to Kosovo should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.
 ** Mandated by Human Rights Council resolution 25/25.
 *** Reference to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.
 **** G5 Sahel Joint Force Compliance Framework Project (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger).
 ***** Approved in late 2021 for deployment in 2022.
 The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Highlights of results



UN Human Rights team visiting the indigenous communities of Q'eqchi in Petén, Guatemala, to listen to their concerns and human rights challenges faced. © OHCHR

Human rights at the heart of the response: Key figures

GUIDANCE, COOPERATION AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT



Guidance and cooperation

1 strategy for engagement

(on COVID-19 for 2021 and beyond; for field presences to enhance engagement on vaccines, social protection, health and other economic and social rights)

2 COVID-19 specific resolutions (approved by the HRC on equitable access to vaccines (A/HRC/RES/46/14) and on human rights implications of the pandemic on young people (A/HRC/RES/48/12))



Socio-economic response to COVID-19

24 strategic engagements

(with RCO economists on human rights-based transformative economies)

7 seeding-change country projects

(for the integration of economic and social rights, including human rights-based transformative economies)

1 ECOSOC report

(on OHCHR's Surge Initiative efforts to place economic and social rights at the heart of the UN's building back better efforts)

MONITORING AND REPORTING



Persons in detention

At least **62,300** persons benefited from urgent release/alternatives to detention

AWARENESS-RAISING AND ADVOCACY



Engagement by human rights mechanisms

Human rights treaty bodies

5 legal guidance documents issued:

- CESCR: Statement and guidance on universal affordable vaccination for COVID-19, international cooperation and intellectual property
- CED-WGEID: Joint statement and guidance on connection between enforced disappearance and economic, social and cultural rights
- 2 SPT Advices issued (under OP-CAT article 11(1)(b)):
 - a) SPT follow-up advice on COVID-19
 - b) The protocol for NPMs to visit under COVID-19
- CMW: Legal guidance note on equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines for migrants

ADJUSTING WORKING METHODS



Human Rights Council

Annual programme of work completed

(remotely or in a hybrid format)



Treaty bodies

78% of work online **22%** in hybrid format or in person



Human rights training

More than **3,400** workshops delivered, approximately **30%** of which were online



Engagement with human rights mechanisms

Creation of online platform and simplified guidelines (for submission of written statements by NGOs and publication of virtual events for NGOs)

Our COVID-19 response: Examples of UN Human Rights actions

In 2021, COVID-19 and its impacts continued to affect communities around the world, with the brunt of the negative effects falling on the most vulnerable. The UN Human Rights COVID-19 Strategy 2021-2022 aims to respond to the needs of the most affected populations and places them at the heart of recovery efforts. To this end, UN Human Rights' strategy outlines four focus areas that identify needs, opportunities and priority activities.

FOCUS AREA 1

ENHANCED ENGAGEMENT ON VACCINES, SOCIAL PROTECTION, HEALTH AND OTHER ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the weaknesses of social and economic systems that made insufficient investments in their fundamental public services, such as health care and social protection. The Secretary-General's Common Agenda and New Social Contract elevated social protection and universal health coverage as global priorities that are critical for facilitating access to health care, protecting people against poverty and ensuring the enjoyment of basic economic and social rights, including food, water, housing, health and education.

The pandemic also revealed vaccine inequity as a key challenge in building back better. In addition, incidents of gender-based violence (GBV) spiked during the pandemic, particularly domestic violence and child marriage. Sexual and reproductive health services were not considered as basic and essential health services in most COVID-19 responses, resulting in an increase in maternal mortality rates and unmet needs related to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR).

UN Human Rights will advocate with stakeholders, including governments, civil society and UN entities, in order to: promote the health and protection of particularly vulnerable populations, raise awareness about the impacts of COVID-19 and highlight the importance of social protection in COVID-19 recovery and overcome economic crises.

UN HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIONS

In 2021, UN Human Rights engaged and advocated with relevant stakeholders to promote the health and protection of vulnerable populations and to raise awareness about the impacts of COVID-19. In the **Republic of Moldova**, the capacities of 50 representatives of the NGO Task Force on COVID-19 and Human Rights were strengthened on protection measures. A set of 5,700 materials, including 1,600 leaflets and 4,100 informative briefs on COVID-19, were distributed through the NGO Task Force to vulnerable groups (Roma, persons with disabilities, older persons, families with many children). In **Ukraine**, UN Human Rights advocated with State and local authorities to undertake additional measures for protecting the life and health of homeless people, especially during COVID-19, which resulted in the opening of homeless shelters in Zaporizhzhia and Melitopol and unblocked funding for another shelter in Sumy. In **Panama**, a short film and related digital materials on the differentiated impacts of COVID-19 on LGBTI persons were produced and disseminated through social networks to raise the profile of the human rights concerns of LGBTI persons and support their efforts to bring about legal change and more inclusive public policies for tackling the pandemic. In the **State of Palestine**,¹ information on COVID-19, including on psychological and social support services from the government and NGOs, was prepared in an accessible format for persons with disabilities and their families and widely distributed. The campaign was promoted on social media channels, amassing more than 230,000 views, and on Palestinian Television, government and CSO channels. In **Burundi**, an awareness-raising session was delivered to penitentiary personnel and detainees of the Bubanza prison in West Burundi on measures to curb the spread of COVID-19 and to protect detainees. In the **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**, **Madagascar** and **Somalia**, OHCHR advocated with authorities on measures to reduce overcrowding in prisons in the context of COVID-19. Over 3,200 inmates were consequently released from several prisons in the DRC, over 10,400 convicted detainees were granted pardons in Madagascar and 80 detainees were released in Somalia.

UN Human Rights developed guidelines and advocacy messages for field presences on vaccine equity and affordable access to all without discrimination. In **Cambodia**, UN Human Rights advocated for the rights of detainees and prisoners and their access to humanitarian assistance in the context of COVID-19 and to ensure that they receive adequate health care, including through access to tests and vaccines. As a result, the vaccination of all detainees was largely completed by the end of August. In **Iraq**, an awareness-raising campaign was undertaken in collaboration with six Iraqi NGO partners. This enabled UN Human Rights to inform minority communities about the impacts of COVID-19, health protection measures and vaccination. More than 17,000 posters were translated into six minority languages and distributed throughout 25 districts. Also in Iraq, social media campaigns were launched, 20 graphic illustrations encouraging vaccination were disseminated and a “Mask Up” campaign on protection measures reached over 160,000 viewers.

¹ All references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with General Assembly resolution 67/19.

Art gives a glimmer of colour and hope amid the pandemic in Iraq

While COVID-19 cases continued to be registered in Iraq’s capital of Baghdad, artists joined forces to bring the human rights impacts of the virus into the public consciousness.

Across 10 Baghdad neighbourhoods, nearly 20 murals, ranging from 20 to 45 metres in height, were painted on more than half a kilometre of city walls, including on the walls of medical clinics, schools, a university, a local government building and on the side of a bridge.

The murals brought to light a number of issues, with a particular focus on access to health care, and highlighted a “collective responsibility to speak up.”

In addition, to mark Human Rights Day, another 45 metres of wall were transformed into colourful information boards to reinforce the awareness-raising campaign about the human rights impacts of COVID-19. Four murals were painted under the Forest Tunnel in Mosul city, in the Ninewa Governorate, and six murals can be found in the Al-Kut city centre, in the Wasit Governorate.

The projects were initiated in October 2020 by the NGO, Imprint of Hope, with the support of UN Human Rights.

“Public art is an effective tool to provoke discussion on the human rights dimensions of COVID-19, including the increased risk of domestic violence, stigma, discrimination, access to health care for women and girls and access to education for all Iraqi children,” said Danielle Bell, Chief of the UN Human Rights Office in Iraq.

“The neighbourhood murals are a powerful reminder that we are united in the fight against COVID-19,” she added.

To complement the mural project, 19 Imprint of Hope volunteers, including three women, distributed 10,000 postcards depicting the images and messages of the mural paintings to three Baghdad neighbourhoods.



A volunteer taking part in the mural project. © OHCHR



The picture urges “Stop domestic violence, it destroys families!” © OHCHR



The picture depicts the pervasive stigma related to COVID-19 in Iraq. A customer at a tea stand says that he must leave because of an approaching person who he believes could have the virus. The tea seller discourages the customer from approaching everyone with fear and states that by collectively following the instructions of health authorities, “we will get through this together.” © OHCHR



A mural illustrating a family impacted by COVID-19. © OHCHR



Volunteers distributing postcards. © OHCHR



The mural illustrates the community fighting together against the pandemic. © OHCHR

FOCUS AREA 2

BUILDING BACK BETTER: INTEGRATING HUMAN RIGHTS INTO RECOVERY, INCLUDING MACROECONOMIC POLICIES AND STRUCTURAL REFORM

COVID-19 emergency responses and recovery efforts are not being integrated into the long-term structural changes that are needed for health, education, housing, employment, social protection measures and policies. Existing responses and efforts do not sufficiently address the significant setbacks in women's economic security and livelihood and fail to include women in policymaking, despite the disproportionate impacts of the crisis on women and girls. Furthermore, there is recognition that economic transformation is needed to tackle inequalities and invest in health and social protection.

UN Human Rights will promote a human rights-based recovery from COVID-19, including through the implementation of the UN Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights and Our Common Agenda. Further, through its Surge Initiative to accelerate the realization of economic and social rights and create conditions to build back better, Leave No One Behind (LNOB) and reduce inequalities, OHCHR will strengthen engagement at the country level, working closely with UNCTs and in the context of Common Country Analyses (CCAs) and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs).

UN HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIONS

Through the Surge Initiative, UN Human Rights implemented eight projects aimed at building back better from the COVID-19 pandemic, including by undertaking more targeted analysis on groups left behind, building disaggregated datasets and evidence to advise States, UNCTs, CSOs and other national partners and stakeholders on human rights-based socio-economic responses. For example, in **Ukraine**, UN Human Rights carried out human rights analyses of 10 municipal budgets in relation to social protection, including by considering whether such budgetary processes and related structures enable the effective participation of affected rights-holders, particularly the most marginalized. In **Nepal**, UN Human Rights identified and costed the minimum essential elements of the right to adequate health for three marginalized communities of women working in the informal sector, with an emphasis on sexual and reproductive health.

By supporting human rights integration into the recovery efforts of UNCTs in **Kenya and Zambia**, UN Human Rights contributed to the development of new CCAs to ensure the integration of human rights analysis and priorities, with a focus on inequalities and the LNOB principle, the incorporation of inputs derived from a human rights-based analysis of their respective budgets and the importance of considering the human rights situation and impacts of COVID-19 on marginalized communities. In **Zambia**, UN Human Rights was actively involved in mainstreaming human rights into the new UNSDCF 2023-2027, which will be finalized in April 2022. In **Libya**, OHCHR contributed to the integration of a human rights-based approach into the UN Socio-Economic Framework (SERF) in response to COVID-19.

To contribute to more focused decision-making, the UN Human Rights Regional Office for **Southern Africa** undertook research and analysis and published its results in a document entitled *Minimum core obligations of South Africa to ensure a more just and inclusive economic recovery in a post COVID-19 era: Budgetary allocations*. It also issued a complementary advocacy brief. Additionally, three thematic advocacy briefs were produced on: 1) the impacts of COVID-19 on economic, social and cultural rights (ESCRs), with an emphasis on the centrality of human rights in socio-economic responses; 2) the impacts of COVID-19 on women in Southern Africa and their right to participation in COVID-19 response and recovery efforts; and 3) youth activism in the era of social media.

FOCUS AREA 3

MONITORING, REPORTING AND ANALYSING COVID-19 IMPACTS AND GOVERNMENT ACTIONS AND RESPONSES

Since the beginning of the pandemic, OHCHR's monitoring, tracking and reporting of human rights issues of concern has been instrumental in providing timely and accurate information for decision-making and advocacy with key stakeholders. In 2021, UN Human Rights continued to strengthen its systematic monitoring, reporting and analysis of COVID-19 issues, including from a gender perspective as they relate to LNOB and vulnerable groups, and with regard to COVAX and the vaccine roll-outs. In addition, UN Human Rights closely monitored pandemic-related restrictions that limited political rights and freedoms, including the freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly.

Within field presences, regular monitoring and reporting will continue to identify the impacts of COVID-19, including from a gender perspective and on vulnerable groups, and highlight measures that restrict human rights and freedoms.

UN HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIONS

UN Human Rights continued to integrate COVID-19 into its regular monitoring and reporting and closely monitored ways in which restrictions were used to curtail the enjoyment of human rights, freedoms and civic space. In **South Sudan**, reports were produced on a regular basis with information on the human rights situation in South Sudan and weekly briefs specific to COVID-19-related human rights and protection issues were maintained until July. Since then, UN Human Rights continued to monitor and report on places of detention, undertook periodic analysis regarding vulnerable groups, particularly persons with disabilities, and advocated with national authorities to ensure compliance with international human rights standards. In **West Africa**, UN Human Rights developed and maintained a COVID-19 situation dashboard to provide daily updates on the infection rate and vaccine administration in the region. It also commissioned a study in Senegal on the situation of women detainees in the context of the pandemic, with a view to using the findings to advocate for increased mainstreaming of women's rights into the criminal justice system. In **Malawi**, the Malawi Prevention Platform (MPP) informed the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) and the UNCT about trends in human rights issues and provided early warning reports and evidence and data-based guidance on preventing, mitigating and responding to emerging crises. Its research showed that though the number of protests remained constant, there was a reduction in violent incidents. The MPP identified that protests were no longer politically motivated but were instead driven by reactions to corruption and economic-based grievances, the mistreatment of irregular migrants and a consistent escalation in mob justice attacks throughout the country. Other identified trends included a possible link between the economic impacts of COVID-19 and an increase in attacks on persons with albinism.

To enhance monitoring and reporting in **Mexico**, UN Human Rights and the National Institute of Statistics and Geography worked together to measure the impacts of COVID-19 and explore existing data to shed light on COVID-19 repercussions for ESCRs. Subsequently, a specialized technical committee on human rights was established at the National Institute of Statistics and Geography, which includes UN Human Rights as a member. The committee establishes the interests and goals related to human rights measurements. Additionally, UN Human Rights contributed to the development of a census on graveyards that measured disappearances and unreported COVID-19 related deaths. The census revealed that death rates attributable to COVID-19 were higher than those registered by the Ministry of Health.

As part of the PROMIS project, a joint initiative between UN Human Rights and UNODC that aims to strengthen the capacities of West African States to develop a human rights-based response to the smuggling of migrants and effectively respond to human rights violations related to irregular migration, UN Human Rights collected information and produced reports on **Mali and Niger**. Emphasis was placed on COVID-19 and the socio-economic situation of migrants, thereby providing insights and analysis of the impacts of COVID-19 on their mobility, livelihood and socio-economic rights, such as access to health services, sanitation, housing and education. In **Panama**, a report was submitted to the Office of the Human Rights Ombudsperson on migrant populations at reception stations in the context of COVID-19. In the **Republic of Moldova**, an in-depth study was conducted and an impact assessment concluded on COVID-19-related human rights including in the Transnistria region.

Listening to the people during the pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has quickly become the worst human and economic crisis of our time, eroding years of progress made on many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), deepening existing inequalities and social disparities and opening up new fractures, particularly in relation to human rights. The vulnerable and marginalized continue to bear the brunt of these impacts.

Policies are only as good as the data that informs them. Since the pandemic, policymakers have routinely had to make time-sensitive decisions on health, society and the economy. Yet, the basic data guiding national decision-making and response is often lacking. The pandemic has highlighted the value of timely and high-quality data. It is evident that no strategy can be effectively developed

and no measure can be effectively implemented without a solid foundation of reliable data.

It is within this context that **OHCHR, UNICEF and UN Women collaborated to implement COVID-19 Rapid Gender Assessments (RGAs)** in seven West and Central African countries, namely, the Central African Republic (CAR), Côte d'Ivoire, the DRC, Guinea, Mali, Niger and Senegal. The RGAs were developed in close cooperation with national authorities, particularly the National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and the respective Ministries of Gender. The studies aimed to measure the impacts of COVID-19 on different aspects, i.e., social and economic activities, distribution of unpaid care work, education, discrimination, and violence, to support informed and evidence-based policymaking. The RGAs adopted a **human rights-based approach to data (HRBAD), which is underpinned by six principles (participation, disaggregation, self-identification, transparency, privacy and accountability), to define the focus of the questionnaire and guide data collection.**



Survey workers piloting the OHCHR-supported SDG 16 Survey in Kazakhstan and listening to respondents during the pandemic. © Bureau of National Statistics Kazakhstan

Particular efforts were undertaken to ensure that the voices and concerns of vulnerable groups were heard and that No One was Left Behind.

In light of the COVID-19-related restrictions and social distancing measures, OHCHR and its partners used computer-assisted telephone interviews (CATIs) to collect disaggregated data during the last two quarters of 2020.

Since the start of the COVID-19 crisis, people's feelings of safety have been shaken. This is a visible pattern that has been reported across all demographics. The RGA asked women and men in the region about their personal experiences and perceptions of discrimination since the onset of the pandemic. On average, more than four in 10 respondents felt that discrimination had increased during the pandemic. Further, almost half of the respondents living with at least one disability felt that discrimination had increased. While there were no marked differences between women and men, women living in CAR were significantly more likely than men (55 per cent versus 43 per cent) to report an increased perception of discrimination in their communities.

Emerging evidence demonstrated that gender-based violence increased in the region during stay-at-home restrictions and other confinement measures. The results from the RGAs confirmed earlier findings and indicated that roughly one quarter or more of respondents believed that violence within households in their community had increased since the imposition of COVID-19 restrictions. Though there were some variations across countries in the region, men were more likely than women (28 per cent versus 23 per

cent) to think that domestic violence had increased in their community.

ADDRESSING DATA GAPS ON SDG 16

Discrimination is at the heart of inequalities in obtaining and enjoying human rights. Collecting disaggregated data on the prevalence of discrimination (SDG Indicator 10.3.1/16.b.1) is an essential step towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and can contribute to post-pandemic recovery. Yet...

...data on peace, justice and inclusion measures are few and far between. Six years after adopting the 2030 Agenda, several countries are facing considerable challenges in measuring progress on SDG 16. In order to support countries in addressing data gaps, **OHCHR, UNDP and UNODC developed an integrated survey methodology to collect timely and comparable data on 13 different SDG 16 survey-based indicators.** The dimensions of the survey methodology include access to justice, corruption, discrimination, governance, human trafficking and violence. The SDG 16 survey is built on existing practices and international standards and is founded on an HRBAD. It is designed to be implemented as a stand-alone survey though separate modules that can be integrated into other household surveys. In implementing the HBRAD, OHCHR also supported **formal collaborative platforms between NSOs and national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and other parts of national statistical systems.**

The questionnaire was piloted in eight countries, namely, Cabo Verde, El Salvador, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Somalia, Tanzania, Togo and Tunisia. While the

pilot phase was impacted by the pandemic, remote data collection, such as computer-assisted web interviewing (CAWI) and CATI, was a pragmatic and effective tool in some pilot countries. Overall, **the questionnaire was found to be relevant and necessary for opening up discussions in policy circles about the identified themes.** In Tunisia, respondents appreciated that they were consulted on important issues, had the opportunity to express their views and looked forward to the implementation of concrete actions in response to the survey results.

The pilot experience enabled countries to test the survey. Based on their initial experience, El Salvador integrated the Discrimination Module into its 2021 Multipurpose Household Survey and Tunisia integrated the SDG 16 Survey into its National Peace, Security and Governance Survey, which was conducted at end of 2021.

"...global initiatives need to draw on local experiences to better represent reality."

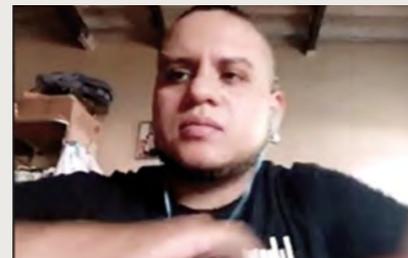
El Salvador pilot report

"The respondents felt that they were being consulted on important issues and could express their point of view through the survey."

Tunisia pilot report



Survey workers piloting the OHCHR-supported SDG 16 Survey in Cabo Verde (CAPI), on the left, and El Salvador (CAWI), on the right. © General Administration of Statistics and Censuses (Cabo Verde and El Salvador)



FOCUS AREA 4

HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS CONTRIBUTIONS TO COVID-19 RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

Since the emergence of the pandemic, the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures mandate holders, the Human Rights Council (HRC) and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) analysed and addressed the human rights impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and **undertook** significant advocacy. They also consistently incorporated a human rights-based approach (HRBA) into policies and actions responding to the pandemic, particularly to address inequalities and the needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups.

The international human rights mechanisms received updated and substantive information on the COVID-19 situation on the ground from a variety of sources, including civil society. This enabled the mechanisms to identify risks and concerns about COVID-19-related government actions from a legal perspective, alert the international community and engage with authorities to promote the implementation of measures to ensure that COVID-19 response and recovery efforts were in compliance with international human rights law.

The international human rights mechanisms, including the HRC, paid increased attention to economic, social and cultural rights. UN Human Rights will leverage this momentum and expand this focus. In order to give effect to the UPR principles on sharing good practices and providing technical cooperation, space will be created to enable discussions in relation to COVID-19, identify common concerns and good practices and encourage cooperation and coherent action. The special procedures will facilitate engagement on the COVID-19 response and recovery through press releases, guidance documents, reports and responses to communications from those directly affected by the pandemic or adopted measures.

UN HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIONS

UN Human Rights continued to compile the evolving jurisprudence issued by the human rights treaty bodies on COVID-19 and detailed how they addressed human rights issues through the application of the provisions of their respective treaties. The treaty bodies also addressed COVID-19 issues in their concluding observations and lists of issues prior to reporting.

The HRC adopted two resolutions on COVID-19. Resolution A/HRC/RES/46/14 entitled “Ensuring equitable, affordable, timely and universal access for all countries to vaccines in response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,” emphasizes the importance of international cooperation and the central role of States in adopting a gender-responsive and multisectoral approach to ensure that vaccines are accessible and affordable in developing countries. It mandates the High Commissioner to provide an oral update and report on this issue. A panel discussion will be held on the matter in the latter half of 2022. Resolution A/HRC/RES/48/12 entitled “Human rights implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on young people,” recognizes that the pandemic and the measures to combat the spread of COVID-19 have exacerbated existing challenges faced by young people, particularly young women and girls, in exercising their human rights. It requests that the High Commissioner conduct a detailed study on ways to mitigate these impacts.

A significant number of stakeholders’ submissions to the UPR during the year refer to the negative impacts of the pandemic. The contributions demonstrate how COVID-19 is affecting all human rights, including civil and political rights and ESCRs (i.e., domestic violence, early pregnancy, school dropout, discrimination against LGBTI persons, the right to work, prison overcrowding). The inputs will be compiled and summarized in UPR pre-session reports to facilitate the formulation of UPR recommendations to address COVID-19 issues.

In response to the deepening effects of the pandemic, the space for civil society engagement with the international human rights mechanisms was kept open through a number of initiatives. For instance, an online platform was created and simplified guidelines were prepared in relation to the submission of written statements by NGOs. In addition, a list of virtual events for NGOs was regularly updated on a dedicated OHCHR web page in an effort to make these events more visible.

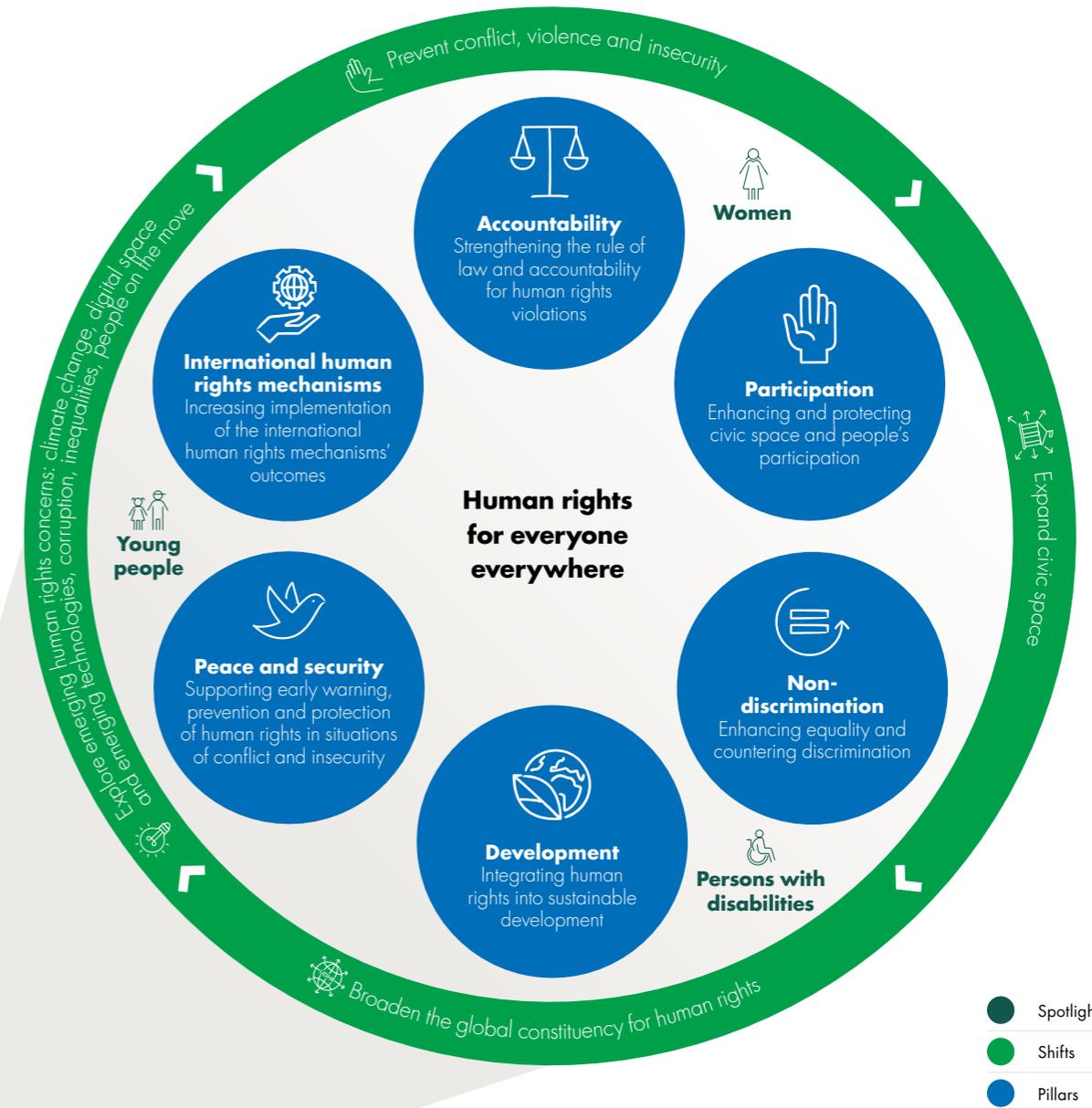
The special procedures will continue to advise States and other stakeholders, create innovative tools and carry out their preventive and monitoring work. Mandate holders will develop their responses and advice on COVID-19 and recovery efforts by issuing reports and guidance on specific human rights issues. They will also highlight relevant cases with governments and entities through communications and focus the attention of the international community on important developments by issuing press releases and other public statements.

Implementing the OMP in 2021

The priorities, strategies and targets of UN Human Rights are set out in the OHCHR Management Plan (OMP) 2018-2021. The Plan provides a robust results framework and is based on six pillars, four shifts and three spotlights. This framework remained relevant during the COVID-19 crisis and simultaneously provided the flexibility that was needed to respond to changing circumstances. This led to the decision to extend the current OMP until 2023 and update some elements to strengthen support for specific

groups, bolstering the Office's contribution to the guiding principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to Leave No One Behind. Extending and updating the OMP will ensure that results are consolidated, providing the opportunity to recalibrate the focus of the Office in response to the human rights impacts of the COVID-19 crisis, and guarantee that important initiatives, such as the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights, the Common Agenda and other recent developments, are included.

OMP 2018-2021 at a glance



The OMP has been extended to cover 2022-2023

Overview of progress made towards achieving OMP results in 2021

In 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to present significant challenges in terms of programme delivery and demands for working on new and pressing issues. The data that follow are based on self-assessments that were undertaken by 123 reporting entities on their level of progress, notably in reference to a shift, a spotlight population or country results that were set as targets in the OMP.

REPROGRAMMING TO RESPOND TO THE PANDEMIC

The continuation of the pandemic into 2021 affected the implementation of mandates. At the beginning of 2021, sessions of the human rights treaty bodies were held remotely. Some committees resumed in-person sessions, in September, and some sessions were held in hybrid mode to enable States Parties and other stakeholders to participate remotely. Despite this, as of December, 415 State Party reports were pending review. The ongoing suspension of international travel also affected planned missions and country visits by special rapporteurs, members of the human rights treaty bodies, fact-finding missions and commissions of inquiry. Nevertheless, the special procedures carried out 28 visits in 2021.

UN Human Rights conducted all Human Rights Council sessions in a hybrid format. Some consultations and events that are normally held in parallel with sessions of the Council took place virtually, albeit with far less participation than in pre-pandemic years. Finally, the capacity of many partners, such as NHRIs, to participate in virtual activities was limited as they did not have access to necessary technology, including sufficient Internet bandwidth and uninterrupted electricity.

UN Human Rights took steps to reprogramme and divert its capacities to respond to global needs. In particular, it made significant contributions that ensured the UN system’s response to the pandemic protected human rights. UN Human Rights also continued to improve on its remote monitoring and documentation activities and provided advice to States on reducing overcrowding in prisons, especially in the context of the pandemic.

In addition, to support Member States on issues related to the pandemic, the Office offered policy advice, guidance and disseminated data and information related to the pandemic and human rights within the overall scope of planned outputs.

Finally, UN Human Rights contributed human rights analyses and advice for

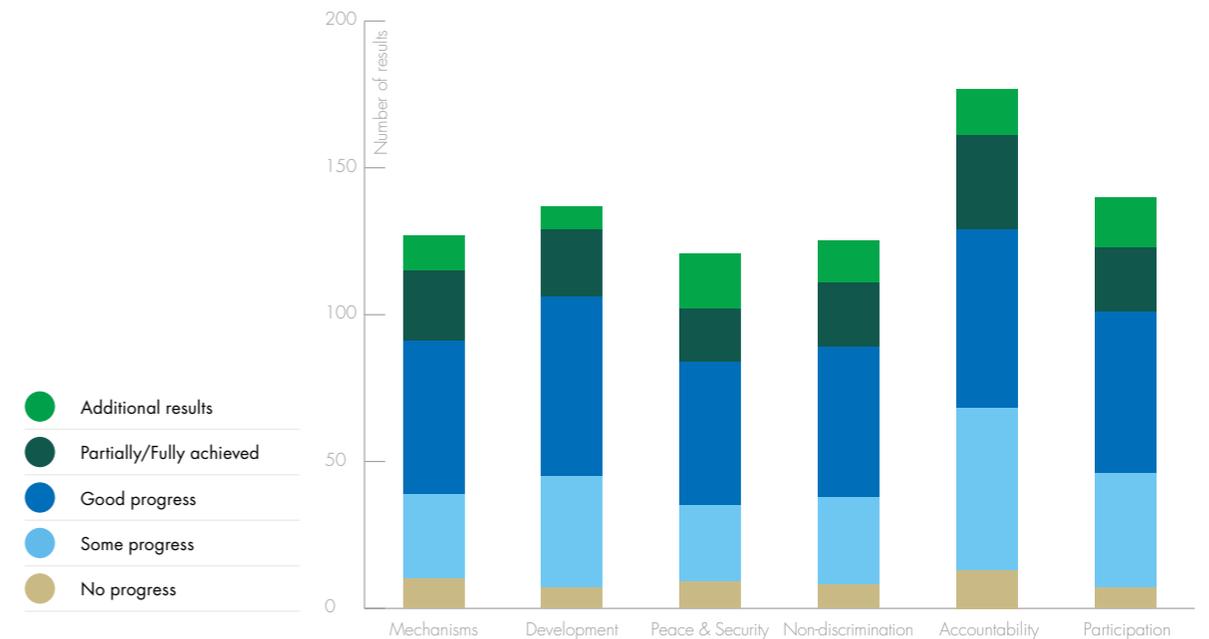
CCAs, UNSDCFs and Regional Monthly Reviews (RMRs), held consultations with economists from Resident Coordinators’ Offices and contributed to national development processes.

PROGRESS TOWARDS COUNTRY RESULTS

Updates demonstrated that progress was made towards achieving country results across the Office, as evidenced by results that were partially or fully achieved. The number of these results has progressively increased each year. Nevertheless, the majority of country results were assessed as having achieved some progress or good progress, reaffirming the decision to work on these country results for another two years in the context of the extended OMP.

The primary reasons for results that had no progress were identified as insufficient funding and staffing constraints, as well as challenges arising from complex political contexts and/or difficulties in guaranteeing government buy-in to activities, including strained relations between civil society and governments. Pandemic-related restrictions on movement and gatherings also played a role. In most cases where some progress was reported, processes continued to move forward.

Progress reported under each pillar in 2021



All pillars show a similar pattern of results that had good progress or were partially/fully achieved in 2021.

In 2021, the relatively high number of additional results was maintained, indicating that UN Human Rights remained responsive to new developments and the ongoing crisis and that reprogramming has been effective for adapting to new circumstances.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO SHIFTS AND SPOTLIGHT POPULATIONS

Four shifts were identified in the 2018-2021 OMP that contributed to: 1) the prevention of conflict, violence and insecurity; 2) the expansion of civic space; 3) a broadening of the global constituency for human rights; and 4) the exploration of emerging human rights concerns identified as “frontier issues.” The last shift had five sub-thematic categories, namely, inequalities, climate change, digital space

and emerging technologies, corruption and people on the move.

The spotlight populations identified in the OMP were women, youth and persons with disabilities.

Prevention, civic space and inequalities were the major shifts selected by reporting entities in 2019-2021. In 2021, there was a slight increase in the selection of “inequalities.”

As in previous years, “women” was the most commonly selected spotlight population. This was followed by “persons with disabilities” and “youth.” Specific results related to the shifts and spotlight populations are highlighted throughout the report.

Mechanisms (M)

Increasing implementation of the outcomes of the international human rights mechanisms



TREATY BODIES

Experts
172 treaty bodies experts
 (including 34 new experts)

Recommendations
59 concluding observations
 (and 132 lists of issues prepared)

Capacity-building
83 capacity-building activities (63 held online, attended by more than 2,300 participants, including 995 women, to support integration of human rights in development agenda and engagement with treaty bodies)

General comments
2 new comments adopted (CMW on migrants' rights to liberty and freedom from arbitrary detention, and CRC on children's rights in relation to digital environment)

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL (HRC) AND UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR)

UPR mid-term reports
11 documents submitted (on the implementation of recommendations issued during the 2nd and 3rd UPR cycles)

REPORTING AND FOLLOWING UP ON RECOMMENDATIONS

National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up
70 established and/or strengthened
More than 700 participants (State officials, CSOs, NHRIs, UN partners from over 80 countries took part in regional consultations on National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up)

SPECIAL PROCEDURES

Special procedures mandates
45 thematic and **13** country-specific

Standing invitations
 Extended by
128 States (to thematic mandates)

Reports
139 presented to the General Assembly/HRC
 (19 on country visits)

Communications
1,002 communications sent
 (to 149 States and 257 non-State actors)
651 replies received

Bringing human rights defenders together through the Uganda National Stakeholders' Forum

“Since 2011, UN Human Rights has been supporting the National Stakeholders’ Forum for the Universal Periodic Review,” said James Nkuubi, a lawyer, human rights defender (HRD) and outgoing Coordinator of the Forum. Mr. Nkuubi has been working to raise awareness about the Universal Periodic Review process in Uganda from the beginning.

The Uganda National Stakeholders’ Forum for the UPR process is an umbrella entity of over 300 national organizations that document, monitor and report on the implementation of UPR recommendations. Mr. Nkuubi notes that UN Human Rights has been instrumental in bringing HRDs on board through annual trainings that have been offered since 2016. Learners increase their knowledge about documenting and monitoring human rights violations, undertaking fact-finding and the importance of authenticity, all of which are crucial to the UPR process.

At a capacity-building session to commemorate International Human Rights Defenders Day, on 9 December, Mr. Nkuubi said, “UN Human Rights has expanded the principle of Leaving No One Behind and provides participants with practical information on engaging with the UPR process and the diplomatic community in Uganda.” This also includes a compilation of the UPR recommendations issued in relation to Uganda, which has been disseminated to relevant stakeholders throughout the country.

“UN Human Rights works with HRDs to identify and use the space they need to speak for themselves. In the past, we’ve



James Nkuubi moderates a discussion on civil society and government experiences during the second UPR cycle, in November 2021. © NCHRD-U

been sponsored to attend and deliver statements during the UPR process in Geneva. UN Human Rights’ training for government ministries, departments and agencies has also improved our interactions with them. They’ve become more

accepting of our advocacy and recommendations. The UPR sensitization in Uganda would not have been so widespread without the support of the UN Human Rights Office in Uganda,” Mr. Nkuubi concluded.

Highlights of pillar results Mechanisms (M)

The international human rights mechanisms, composed of the human rights treaty bodies and the Human Rights Council, with its special procedures and the Universal Periodic Review, are the backbone of UN Human Rights' work. Their analyses, monitoring and interactions with States and stakeholders

help to identify strengths, weaknesses, gaps and opportunities in relation to all rights. Through their actions and recommendations, they provide the basis for engagement with States and other actors and support duty-bearers to comply with their obligations and rights-holders to claim their rights. UN Human Rights

provides secretariat support to these mechanisms and supports States in honouring their obligations. Through their procedures and country visits, the international human rights mechanisms give a voice to vulnerable persons and groups at the national level.

PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

M1 – NATIONAL MECHANISMS for REPORTING and FOLLOW-UP

National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations.



RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS



In January, following consistent advocacy and technical advice by UN Human Rights, **Sudan** established its permanent **National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF)**. Since its establishment, UN Human Rights has been providing support through capacity-building and technical assistance to support its operationalization. Notably, the first national consultation on Sudan's UPR was launched in August, bringing together 65 civil society representatives from across the country. Sudan submitted its national report for the third UPR cycle in October.

In 2021, seven countries from the **Pacific** region underwent the **third UPR cycle**, namely, Australia, Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and the Solomon Islands. UN Human Rights provided support to governments, NHRIs and CSOs from Pacific Island Countries in their engagement with the UPR process, including in the preparation of their national reports. It also delivered workshops for CSOs to submit alternative reports, coordinated joint UNCT reports and organized mock UPR sessions for government delegations. All seven national reports were successfully submitted.

In **Chad**, UN Human Rights assisted the Government with the **submission of initial and periodic reports to the human rights treaty bodies**, in accordance with their respective reporting guidelines. UN Human Rights provided technical and financial support to the Government's Interministerial Committee, which is tasked with preparing and following-up on reports to regional and international human rights mechanisms. This led to the drafting and submission of the Government's initial report to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, in June, and the mid-term report on the implementation of the UPR recommendations, in May. This assistance also facilitated the drafting of an implementation plan for the UPR recommendations. UN Human Rights partnered with UNICEF to support the Government in drafting and submitting two initial reports on the implementation of OP-CRC-AC and OP-CRC-SC. This momentum will be maintained during 2022 to help the Government eliminate its backlog of overdue reports to the human rights treaty bodies.

In 2021, a comprehensive redesign of the **National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD)**, was initiated. First launched in 2019, the NRTD is a digital application that is made available to States to support their management of their human rights treaty obligations and engagement with the international human rights mechanisms. The recommendations from the human rights mechanisms are imported from the Universal Human Rights Index (UHRI) into the NRTD. The redesigned version of the NRTD will be launched in 2022.

M2 – ENGAGEMENT with human rights MECHANISMS

Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes.



In **Zimbabwe**, UN Human Rights cooperated with UNESCO, as the lead of the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD), to assist organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) through the provision of resources and technical expertise on the preparation and submission of the **first thematic consolidated UPR report on disability issues**. A total of four umbrella OPDs, representing a membership of over 55 organizations, contributed to the drafting of the submission. UN Human Rights also collaborated with UNESCO to deliver a briefing on the UPR for representatives of the Media Institute of Southern Africa-Zimbabwe and the Media Association of Zimbabwe. Following the delivery of technical expertise by UN Human Rights, two organizations submitted a thematic report to the UPR on the media and freedom of expression in Zimbabwe.

Enhanced **communication with and accessibility to the international human rights mechanisms** by civil society actors was ensured through the systematization of the NGO video and written statement process, improvement of the online submission platform and the dissemination of timely and targeted information to NGOs through informal exchanges, electronic broadcasts and online platforms. The mechanisms therefore became more accessible to NGO representatives from the field that would have been unable to travel to Geneva to deliver in-person statements, including prior to the pandemic.

In **Brazil**, UN Human Rights implemented a series of virtual dialogues with indigenous leaders, in partnership with the National Articulation of Indigenous Peoples and the Network of Cooperation in the Amazon. The objective of the dialogues was to strengthen their engagement with the international mechanisms. As a result, participant organizations submitted inputs for consideration in the development of CEDAW's General Recommendation on the rights of indigenous women and girls. UN Human Rights also supported members of the Lickantay indigenous peoples and people of African descent, in **Chile**, to prepare alternative reports to CERD.

UN Human Rights published its first regional thematic report on the right to freedom of association entitled *Freedom of association in the Middle East and North Africa: An overview of trends, challenges and good practices*. The report focuses on the right to freedom of association in the 10 countries being served by the Regional Office, including **Algeria, Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia** and the **United Arab Emirates**. Drawing on information emanating from the engagement of States with the international human rights mechanisms, the report identifies challenges, good practices and national updates on the right to freedom of association in all 10 countries. The report seeks to encourage States and civil society to work together and collaborate on human rights action and is complemented by a second report on freedom of expression published in late 2021. The reports will inform a number of events and consultations planned for 2022.

M3 – USE of MECHANISMS’ RECOMMENDATIONS

Policymakers, legislators and courts make increased use of the outcomes of the international and regional human rights mechanisms.



In **Uzbekistan**, following the creation of the parliamentary joint commission on human rights, UN Human Rights cooperated with UNDP in Uzbekistan and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) to co-organize a **parliamentary forum on the ratification of OP-CAT and CRPD**, in June, and the **implementation of the recommendations** issued by the international human rights mechanisms. In November and December, UN Human Rights worked closely with UNDP in Uzbekistan to deliver presentations to law enforcement officials on the prevention of torture and the provisions of OP-CAT. The series of hybrid lectures were organized as a part of an online human rights course developed by the National Human Rights Centre of Uzbekistan. The course is aimed at improving the understanding of police officers, penitentiary service staff and prosecutors about human rights and the international obligations of Uzbekistan on the prevention of torture. During the reporting period, the course was taken by close to 200 law enforcement officials.

With support and inputs from UN Human Rights, IOM, UNDP, UNHCR and UNICEF, the Government of **Montenegro** adopted the **new Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma and Egyptians in Montenegro 2021-2025**. The Strategy draws upon recommendations issued by the Universal Periodic Review, CRC, CEDAW, CERD and CRPD to combat discrimination and negative social attitudes, improve access to education, undertake measures to combat child marriage and other forms of violence against women and girls, trafficking and forced labour and improve access to health care and employment. Specific measures are included to strengthen standards and their implementation related to non-discrimination, an adequate standard of living, education, health, employment, housing, social protection, political participation and legal identity.

UN Human Rights cooperated with UNICEF and UNEP to release a joint statement and organize a virtual launch of the *Principles and policy guidance on children’s rights to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment in the ASEAN region*. The document is the result of an 18-month collaboration between the three UN agencies and child, youth and adult experts from the **ASEAN region**. It sets out fundamental principles for realizing the **right of the child to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment** and for putting the best interests of the child at the forefront of those efforts. It provides essential policy guidance for governments, civil society, businesses, the media and children to implement these principles. A child-friendly version for youth aged 14-18 years was also developed.

In **Ukraine**, as a result of advocacy, technical cooperation and recommendations provided by the Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU), the Parliament adopted a **law on the harmonization of criminal law** with standards and principles of international criminal law and international humanitarian law. As recommended by the HRMMU, this legislation aligns the provisions on criminal liability for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression with the Rome Statute and customary international law. It also includes crucial provisions on command responsibility, the non-applicability of statutory limitations for international crimes and universal jurisdiction for the prosecution of international crimes.

M4 – DEVELOPMENT of INTERNATIONAL LAW

International human rights mechanisms contribute to the elaboration of international law and jurisprudence, in particular in the context of emerging human rights concerns (frontier issues).



UN Human Rights supported the Committee on Migrant Workers in the development and launch of its **General Comment No. 5 on migrants’ rights to liberty and freedom from arbitrary detention**. The General Comment is intended to provide guidance to States regarding the rights of all migrant workers and members of their families against arbitrary detention. UN Human Rights further supported the development of a General Comment on land and economic, social and cultural rights (CESCR), a General Comment on sustainable development and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), a General Recommendation on the rights of indigenous women and girls (CEDAW) and a General Comment on the rights of persons with disabilities to work and employment (CRPD).

UN Human Rights supported the adoption of decisions by the human rights treaty bodies that developed **human rights standards in the area of climate change and environmental harm**. These included five decisions issued by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in cases filed by 16 child activists. In the decisions, the Committee noted that the failure of a State to reduce carbon emissions may result in violations of the rights of the child, including for those located outside of its territory, if the State has effective control over the sources of emissions that caused the foreseeable harm to the children. The Human Rights Committee found that **Paraguay’s failure to prevent and control the environmental harm** caused to an indigenous community due to the intensive use of pesticides by nearby commercial farms had violated the community’s rights and sense of “home.” It recommended that Paraguay complete the criminal and administrative proceedings against all parties responsible and make full reparation to the victims.

UN Human Rights updated an analytical paper on **normative standards in international law in relation to older persons**, which was originally issued in 2012. The updated UN Human Rights study, issued in March 2021, provides an analysis of protection gaps and the adequacy of the existing international legal framework for the promotion and protection of the human rights of older persons. The study provoked significant discussion among Member States, civil society and NHRIs and led to the adoption by the HRC of the first ever thematic resolution 48/3 on the human rights of older persons. The resolution mandates the High Commissioner to submit a report to the forty-ninth session on normative standards and obligations under international law in relation to the promotion and protection of the human rights of older persons and to organize a multi-stakeholder consultation to discuss the findings of the report in 2022.

M5 – EFFECTIVENESS of international human rights MECHANISMS

International human rights mechanisms are increasingly effective in promoting and protecting human rights.



Significant progress was made in **integrating human rights information**, including information generated by the international human rights mechanisms, **into the UN's Regional Monthly Review process**, notably through prevention assessments undertaken by the human rights treaty bodies and the inclusion of a standard human rights slide in the RMR briefing decks. This resulted in an increased awareness about the role of the international human rights mechanisms in opening up a space to engage with national authorities on key risk areas identified in the RMR that have limited entry points for the UN system. For instance, the RMRs on Djibouti and Eritrea identified specific entry points for UN engagement based on UPR recommendations that were accepted by the respective governments.

Despite the pandemic, the **accessibility of and participation in the UPR review process** was enhanced during 2021. Support provided by the Voluntary Fund for participation in the UPR enabled representatives of Member States, particularly Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) that would have been ineligible for travel assistance due to travel restrictions, to participate virtually in their reviews. By the thirty-ninth session, held in November, COVID-19-related restrictions had eased. In parallel with assistance for virtual participation, UN Human Rights provided travel assistance to delegates from some eligible States to facilitate in-person participation in their reviews. Accordingly, the UPR continued to see a 100 per cent participation rate by States under review.

At the end of 2020, UN Human Rights conducted an initial assessment of its digital technology needs in order to lay the foundation for a sustained **digital transformation**. The assessment mapped digital gaps and needs, as well as existing tools, in particular with regard to the international human rights mechanisms. In 2021, UN Human Rights embarked on a two-year project to develop and deploy fit-for-purpose digital tools, which will make the mechanisms more accessible to stakeholders and enhance their efficiency in everyday operations. While the new tools are under development, improvements are being made to existing tools. For example, the functionality and information retrieval of the treaty bodies database was streamlined, including in relation to the follow-up procedures and general comments, resulting in the increased visibility of the human rights treaty bodies. The Petitions database was upgraded with the introduction of new functionalities to streamline workflows and allow for a more efficient handling of individual communications. In addition, preparatory steps have been undertaken to further define key components of a new digital case management system and a submission portal.

“We need your support and hope to see our dreams coming true”

On 30 July 2005, businessman Masood Janjua was travelling by bus with one of his friends, Faisal Faraz, to Peshawar in north Pakistan, from the twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad.

Somewhere along the way, they disappeared.

Their families immediately began searching for them. Eventually, they learned that the two men had been forcibly disappeared by forces loyal to then President Pervez Musharraf.

Today, the families still don't have information on the whereabouts of their loved ones.

“Our three children were very young at the time. It would be impossible for anyone to understand what we've all gone through during these 16 years of torture and misery,” said Amina, Masood's wife, at the twenty-first session of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances, in Geneva, which began on 13 September. At each session, the Committee reserves a space for hearing the stories of victims of enforced disappearances. It uses these testimonies to identify options to support victims and their families and governments of concern.

Amina described the period of shock and anguish she experienced when her husband was disappeared. Their family had to take care of the children and Masood's business deteriorated.

Soon after, she connected with three other families of disappeared people to initiate a movement that held protests in front of the Parliament House, the Supreme Court

and the presidential residence. Together, the families transformed this movement into an association known as the Defence of Human Rights (DHR).

FEAR, UNCERTAINTY AND GRIEF

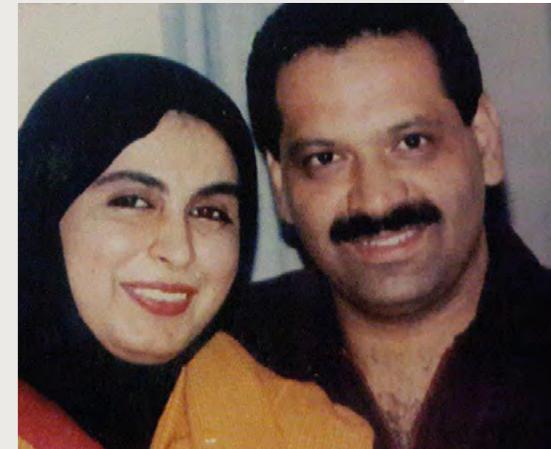
Sixteen years later, Amina is still searching for answers. At the same time, DHR has developed into a well-known organization that envisions “a world without enforced disappearances, injustices and where the disappeared are reunited with their loved ones.” Families of disappeared victims from around Pakistan have now joined the association.

As Amina told the Committee, enforced disappearances in Pakistan have become a “widespread social evil.” Victims include activists, HRDs, writers, poets, journalists, students and lawyers.

“Fear, uncertainty, grief, economic and emotional devastation have become a part of the daily life of the families of the disappeared,” she said.

Since its inception, DHR has registered 2,818 cases of disappeared Pakistanis. A total of 1,358 individuals have been traced by the organization and subsequently reunited with their families. Sadly, 77 disappeared people have reportedly lost their lives in custody.

Amina and her DHR colleagues have strongly advocated for the Government to criminalize enforced disappearance in the country. As a result, a bill will soon be brought before Pakistan's Parliament.



Amina and her husband before his disappearance. © OHCHR

While Amina is pleased with this progress, she insists that there is still a long way to go.

“Pakistan needs to ratify the Convention so that authorities can rely on the Committee to get the guidance they need to better address enforced disappearances, in law and in practice,” she said.

She urged the Committee to support this process. “We hope to see our dreams coming true that Masood and all the disappeared will be traced and that Pakistan will stop this practice once and for all,” she said.

Development (D)

Advancing sustainable development through human rights



2030 AGENDA



Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Data analysis on 4 SDG indicators (under OHCHR's custodianship, included in various SDGs reports, downloaded more than 36,000 times and featured in over 350 online articles in 43 countries and territories)

8 Countries piloted the SDG 16 Survey Initiative (which collects data on 13 SDG 16 indicators on thematic areas of governance, access to justice, discrimination, corruption, violence and trafficking in persons)

Over 3,000 people trained from 145 countries (from statistical offices, government ministries, NGOs, academia, and UN entities; on 20 SDG 16 indicators to address data availability and quality challenges)



High-level Political Forum

15 Voluntary National Review (VNR) processes supported (with guidance integrating human rights data and analysis - 41 VNRs submitted in 2021)



Right to development and SDGs

Over 100 persons completed the UN Human Rights e-course on right to development and the 2030 Agenda (from 100 countries)

HUMAN RIGHTS INTEGRATION



UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks

61 CCAs/Cooperation Frameworks processes supported (integration of human rights analysis and recommendations)



In the field, human rights mainstreaming support to

104 RCOs/UN Country Teams
382 Other UN partners
336 Government counterparts



Submissions for Universal Periodic Reviews (UPR) from

16 UN Country Teams (joint submissions)
57 UN entities

ADVANCING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Climate change, environment, toxics and human rights

118 UPR recommendations issued (104 of which were supported by the State under review)
30 special procedures communications (sent and made publicly available)



Preventing business-related human rights abuses

Over 3,000 participants in the 10th Forum on Business and Human Rights (over 180 speakers in 27 sessions, addressing climate change, HRDs, NHRIs, access to remedy, and the role of investors)

A landmark forum for environmental human rights defenders



Banner of the Asia-Pacific Environmental Human Rights Defenders Forum. © OHCHR

Advocating for a clean and healthy environment shouldn't be risky. But in Asia, risks abound. According to Global Witness, of the 227 environmental human rights defenders (EHRDs) who were reportedly killed in 2020, 18 per cent were from the Asia-Pacific region. Against this backdrop, the UN Human Rights Regional Office for South-East Asia collaborated with the UN Human Rights Regional Office for the Pacific, UNEP, the Asia Pacific Network for Environment Defenders and CSOs to co-organize the first regional forum dedicated to their protection. The three-day event, "Building safe spaces for dialogue and support among environmental human rights defenders," was held from 17 to 19 November and convened nearly 400 participants from 57 countries, online, to share their experiences and discuss key issues faced by women and vulnerable groups, including indigenous peoples and children. Discussions also considered how business interests are linked with human rights. Participants watched video messages from

the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the UN Special Rapporteurs on the situation of human rights defenders and on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

"This event was a significant milestone because it was the first dedicated space for EHRDs to come together and safely discuss, exchange and formulate recommendations for positive change in the region," said Romchat Wachirarattanakornkul, the UN Human Rights Focal Point in Bangkok for Human Rights, Climate Change and the Environment. "We hope these recommendations will become a foundation for raising awareness among policymakers, the private sector and other stakeholders to encourage policies and practices that recognize the vital role of EHRDs."

The Forum also provided a platform for peer-to-peer support. Slaitip Subhanka, co-founder of the Green South Foundation, which defends environmental rights in

southern Thailand, said the Forum had shown her that other women in the region are facing similar harassment when advocating for the environment. "As women, we are dealing with challenges posed by the State and private actors and because of our gender," Slaitip said. She added that much more needs to be done by all sectors of society to ensure a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

In order to disseminate the knowledge that was generated during the Forum to a wider audience, UN Human Rights and UNEP will issue a report in 2022 that will include a summary of the discussions, the final recommendations, regional statistics and inputs from civil society partner organizations. The recommendations will guide UN programming and advocacy at national and regional levels to continue supporting EHRDs. A follow-up forum on EHRDs will be held in 2022 to build on this momentum.



Slaitip Subhanka, co-founder of Green South Foundation, protests the construction of a deep seaport in Thailand's Satun province. © Slaitip Subhanka

Highlights of pillar results

Development (D)

UN Human Rights supports efforts to advance economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development. It helps to address human rights gaps in development and economic policies and

regulations. It takes steps to strengthen the accountability of duty-bearers and the participation of rights-holders, including those furthest behind. UN Human Rights promotes the achievement of rights-based

Sustainable Development Goals and the overall integration of human rights into the work of the UN Development System.

PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

D1 – BUSINESS and human rights

Judicial and non-judicial mechanisms hold business and other economic actors to account for rights abuses and provide remedies to victims.



RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS

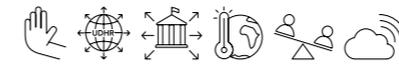


Building on the *report of the UN Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises* regarding the role of national human rights institutions in facilitating access to remedy for business-related human rights abuses, and in the context of the Responsible Business Conduct in Latin America and the Caribbean project, UN Human Rights and the NHRI of **Argentina** co-organized seven training sessions to strengthen the capacity of 23 local and provincial human rights institutions. Consequently, **a protocol of actions to deal with business-related human rights abuses**, including facilitating access to remedy, was developed and agreed upon by the participating local and provincial human rights institutions.

In June, after more than two years of preparatory work, the Cabinet in **Peru** approved the **first national action plan on business and human rights**. UN Human Rights began supporting the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights following the 2017 visit of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises. The national action plan proposed 99 strategic measures, including the revision of grievance mechanisms, the establishment of a national mechanism to monitor due diligence and measures to eradicate racial discrimination and protect indigenous peoples and human rights defenders.

D2 – GUIDING PRINCIPLES on Business and Human Rights

Business actors implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights effectively.



The Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, developed **guidance for multi-stakeholder initiatives to address trafficking in supply chains**. The guidance, which is divided into three chapters, includes one that is dedicated to the establishment of grievance mechanisms and was founded on the work and recommendations emanating from the UN Human Rights-led Accountability and Remedy Project.

UN Human Rights and the UN Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises organized the **Second UN Pacific Forum on Business and Human Rights**, which was held in a hybrid format, in November. It was attended by over 300 participants, including at regional hubs in Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu. The Forum highlighted key business and human rights issues and opportunities for the effective implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) in the region. It addressed the disproportionate impacts of climate change and how COVID-19 exacerbated pre-existing challenges in addressing the adverse human rights impacts of business activities relating to the extractive industries, fishing and infrastructure projects.

Within the framework of its collaboration with the World Economic Forum Partnership for Global LGBTI Equality (PGLIE), UN Human Rights disseminated the **Standards of Conduct for Business on Tackling Discrimination against LGBTI People**. It also co-developed a self-assessment tool with PGLIE and the UN Global Compact, which was launched in September, to enable companies to analyse their performance in the implementation of the Standards of Conduct.

In **Kenya**, the **National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights was approved** by the Cabinet, in February, five years after it was launched. While its official adoption is pending before the Parliament, much progress has been made. The National Action Plan (NAP) was tabled as Sessional Paper No. 3 of 2021. The Attorney General/Department of Justice appointed the implementing committee, which is composed of representatives from government ministries, departments, agencies and constitutional commissions, including the NHRI, civil society actors and private sector actors, to oversee its implementation from a sector-specific perspective. UN Human Rights collaborated with the Government and the NHRI and carried out sensitization forums on the NAP for government and businesses in preparation for its adoption and implementation.

D3 – LAND and HOUSING laws/policies

State authorities adopt and implement laws, policies and strategies on land and housing that increasingly comply with human rights.



To support the Government of Cambodia’s efforts to mitigate the adverse effects resulting from rapid urbanization and economic growth, UN Human Rights cooperated with UN-Habitat and the Resident Coordinator’s Office to implement a year-long project called “Sihanoukville for all: Promoting a smart, sustainable and inclusive city project.” The project aimed to assist authorities and UN agencies with the identification of smart city policies and programmes that capitalize on investments, while improving the livelihood of different populations, including vulnerable groups in Preah Sihanouk Province. An inclusive consultation process was undertaken with all relevant stakeholders. Challenges to human security, their root causes and future opportunities were identified and used to inform local and national authorities.

In Zimbabwe, following a series of evictions and demolitions in various parts of the country that resulted in the displacement and increased vulnerability of hundreds of people during the rainy season and in the midst of the pandemic, UN Human Rights led and supported the development of position papers that were submitted to the UNCT and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). The papers outline the human rights and protection impacts of evictions and demolitions in urban informal settlements and propose short- and long-term interventions by the UN, in collaboration with the Government. In the immediate term, through the RC’s intervention and advocacy efforts, the Government ceased evictions. With support from UN Human Rights and UN-Habitat, the UN continued to engage in discussions with the Ministry of Housing regarding a comprehensive assessment of the housing sector and the development of regulatory and policy frameworks on forced evictions and demolitions, with a view to providing a basis for medium- and long-term solutions to this problem. The Government is committed to addressing the mushrooming informal settlements and streamlining land and housing allocations, as evidenced by the National Development Strategy, which includes the delivery of housing as one of 11 priorities.

The Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context prepared a report entitled *Twenty years of promoting and protecting the right to adequate housing: Taking stock and moving forward (A/HRC/47/43)*. The report provides an assessment of the mandate’s achievements and contributions at the local, national and international level since its establishment. It also highlights the development of guidelines on forced evictions, security of tenure and the implementation of the right to adequate housing, outlines recommendations to enhance its working methods and identifies seven priorities for its future.

D4 – HEALTH POLICIES and human rights

Public health approaches, including sexual and reproductive health policies, comply with international human rights standards and provide non-discriminatory access, especially to children, adolescents, women and migrants.

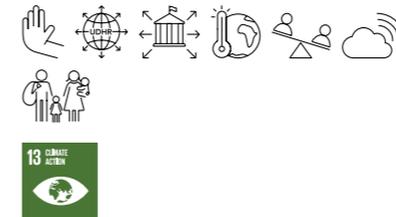


UN Human Rights continued to expand the global constituency for sexual and reproductive health and rights by engaging with health workers on their fundamental role in the realization of human rights. For example, in Uganda, UN Human Rights partnered with the Ministry of Health and UNAIDS to design and pilot a training for 20 health care workers to build their awareness and capacities to apply an HRBA to the provision of sexual and reproductive health and HIV-related services, while also identifying and eliminating stigma and discrimination affecting women living with HIV.

UN Human Rights and the Special Rapporteur on the right to food promoted the integration of human rights norms and principles into the work of the Committee for World Food Security, including its Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition. UN Human Rights actively engaged in the Food System Summit, bringing human rights concerns to the forefront of discussions around sustainable food systems and healthy diets. In collaboration with WHO, UN Human Rights stressed the potential role of the private sector in encouraging the public to make the shift towards sustainable and healthy diets, thereby contributing to the enjoyment of the right to food and right to health. In Jordan, UN Human Rights and the UNCT launched a policy brief with recommendations on promoting healthy diets in the national context.

D5 – ENVIRONMENT and CLIMATE policies

Environmental and climate policies and plans increasingly respect, protect and fulfil human rights, guaranteeing those affected with access to information, decision-making, public participation and remedies.



UN Human Rights continued to work closely with UNEP and other UN partners, as well as States, CSOs, indigenous peoples and other relevant stakeholders, to advocate for the global recognition and advancement of the human right to a healthy environment. This contributed to the adoption of HRC resolution 48/13, which recognizes that a clean, healthy and sustainable environment is a human right.

UN Human Rights continued to raise awareness about the linkages between human rights and the environment and built the capacity of stakeholders to address them. More specifically, UN Human Rights launched its first publication on climate change, *Frequently Asked Questions on Human Rights and Climate Change* and worked with the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) to develop and launch an e-learning course on human rights and climate change. It also issued new advocacy materials, which were jointly developed with UNEP and other partners, on human rights and biodiversity, human rights and hazardous substances, as well as human rights, the environment and gender equality.

D6 – HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACT assessment

Human rights assessments and impact analyses mitigate, prevent or redress the negative effects of economic, trade and development policies and projects.



Through the Surge Initiative, UN Human Rights implemented eight projects in the field aimed at building back better from the COVID-19 pandemic, including by undertaking more focused analysis on groups left behind, building disaggregated datasets and evidence to advise States, UNCTs, CSOs and other national partners and stakeholders on human rights-based socio-economic responses. For example, in Nepal, UN Human Rights identified and costed the minimum essential elements of the right to adequate health for three marginalized communities of women working in the informal sector, with an emphasis on sexual and reproductive health. In September, a High Commissioner’s report on the work of the Surge Initiative was submitted to ECOSOC, highlighting efforts undertaken in the context of COVID-19 response and recovery in 24 countries.

UN Human Rights undertook advocacy with the Asian Development Bank, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and the European Investment Bank with regard to their safeguard policies and issued recommendations to improve gender integration and address gender-based violence, including through the establishment and implementation of a self-standing gender equality standard. In 2021, the AIIB’s Environment and Social Framework made increased references to the consideration of gender equality.

D7 – HUMAN RIGHTS INTEGRATION in implementing the SDGs

States integrate human rights, including the right to development and the outcomes of international human rights mechanisms, as they implement the Sustainable Development Goals and other development and poverty eradication efforts. The UN supports them in these activities and integrates human rights into its own development work.



UN Human Rights substantially contributed to the UN’s support to States in the **implementation of the SDGs and other development efforts**. This was achieved through the integration of human rights into the UN’s development work and by placing human rights at the centre of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and COVID-19 response and recovery plans. In particular, UN Human Rights ensured that human rights were integrated into CCAs, UNSDCFs and COVID-19 response plans by providing technical support during the drafting process in a number of countries, including Albania, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Côte d’Ivoire, Ecuador, Egypt, the Gambia, India, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Niger, the Pacific (Fiji, Micronesia, Samoa), Pakistan, Peru, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Zambia. In addition, UN Human Rights supported UN Country Teams and Resident Coordinator’s Offices in applying an HRBA and an LNOB approach and using recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms for their programming. To this end, the Office delivered targeted capacity-building activities and participated in and supported UN regional and cross-regional platforms that are dedicated to development operations.

UN Human Rights worked closely with ILO to co-lead Outcome Group Six on Human Rights, one of the strategic priority areas of the **United Nations Pacific Strategy 2018-2022**. The Outcome Group hosted a retreat to facilitate discussions on the promotion and protection of civic space, human rights and COVID-19 and regarding preparations for Human Rights Day. A key achievement was **the pilot implementation of the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS)**, through a new Working Group on disability inclusion that was established by the Outcome Group. Activities in Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu included capacity-building, accessibility audits of UN premises and a baseline report on UN staff, identifying disability inclusion awareness and practices in procurement and hiring. To ensure the sustainable implementation of the UNDIS, partners agreed to cost share a dedicated Disability Inclusion Specialist, who will be recruited in 2022.

With the support of UN Human Rights, **European Union (EU) institutions continued to make progress in integrating human rights** into external development programming. In June, the EU Parliament and Council formally adopted the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument for 2021-2027. It obliges all countries that are bound by the Instrument to apply a human rights-based approach and assist partner countries in implementing their international human rights obligations. This approach must be guided by the principles of Leaving No One Behind, equality and non-discrimination.

In **Malawi**, under the leadership of the RC, UN Human Rights, UNDP and UNODC collaborated on a joint scoping mission on anti-corruption in early 2021. This resulted in a National Anti-Corruption Dialogue, which was held in November, and hosted by the Anti-Corruption Commission and the Ministry of Justice. The Dialogue brought together all key entities working against corruption and led to the development of an **action plan for the full implementation of the Malawi National Anti-Corruption Strategy**. UN Human Rights highlighted ways in which human rights could be further integrated into anti-corruption work and several of these suggestions were incorporated into the action plan, such as the engagement of NHRIs and CSOs; the development of strategies to ensure that diverse groups have access to accountability mechanisms, including persons with disabilities; and the prioritization of resources to advance development and human rights.

D8 – DISAGGREGATED human rights DATA

National institutions, assisted by communities, systematically collect, disaggregate and use data relevant for advancing human rights when they monitor and implement the SDGs.



UN Human Rights continued to strategically engage with a wide range of UN actors to ensure that meaningful contributions were made to key UN development policies and guidance. For example, OHCHR contributed to the revised *Management and Accountability Framework of the UN Development and Resident Coordinator System*, ensuring a clear framework for management and accountability within UNCTs, including on performance and mutual accountability for human rights, in line with the RC’s job description and the objectives of the *Secretary-General’s Call to Action for Human Rights*.

The *Sustainable Development Goals Report 2021* and other reports, such as the Secretary-General’s report on *Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals* and its statistical annex, include the latest **disaggregated data on the four SDG indicators under OHCHR’s custodianship**, namely, SDG 16.1.2 on conflict deaths; SDG 16.10.1 on killings and attacks against human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists; SDG 16.a.1 on NHRIs; and SDG 10.3.1/16.b.1 on the experience of discrimination and harassment.

With the support of UN Human Rights, NHRIs and National Statistical Offices in **Albania, Jordan, Mongolia, the Philippines and the Republic of Moldova** signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) in 2021 to establish formal agreements to **disaggregate data and integrate human rights into official development statistics**. Furthermore, in the Republic of Moldova, 18 representatives of the National Statistics Office, the People’s Advocate Office and the Equality Council, participated in a three-day workshop, “Human rights-based approach to data and indicators for SDG and human rights reporting in Moldova,” which was organized by UN Human Rights. A concrete action plan was agreed upon that includes development and piloting of the methodology for contextualizing human rights indicators and building the capacity of public servants to apply an HRBA to data. The action plan will be implemented in 2022 with support from OHCHR.

In **Kazakhstan**, UN Human Rights’ long-term work on **adopting indicators** resulted in the integration of human rights indicators into a government Plan of Priority Action on Human Rights and the 2020-2030 Legal Policy Concept Paper. In collaboration with the Bureau of National Statistics, UN Human Rights completed the work to link OHCHR’s illustrative indicators with national SDG indicators. The Plan of Priority Action on Human Rights provides for the gradual introduction of national human rights indicators. UN Human Rights will continue this work in 2022.

Support for resettled communities in Cambodia

“I don’t want others to be affected like I was,” said a community representative while welcoming the launch of an OHCHR study on the human rights situation of communities living in resettlement sites in Cambodia and a set of draft guidelines on evictions and resettlement, on 7 March.

The results of the study are based on research conducted by UN Human Rights in 2019 and 2020 with government representatives, NGOs and leaders of 37 communities that have been resettled in 17 different sites. It is one of the most in-depth quantitative and qualitative studies that has been undertaken on the impacts of evictions and resettlement in Cambodia.

According to the findings, there are significant gaps in the fulfilment of fundamental

human rights, including the right to adequate housing, access to health care and access to education.

“Evicted communities report that the places where they are resettled are not fit for purpose. They are frequently far from educational sites, work opportunities and health care facilities or are not connected to basic amenities, such as water and electricity. This makes it hard for communities to adjust and falls short of the human rights obligations of duty-bearers to guarantee the rights to education, health, water and sanitation and an adequate standard of living,” said Pradeep Wagle, UN Human Rights-Cambodia Representative.

UN Human Rights has advocated for adequate housing for many years, yet the

study underscores that many challenges remain. As noted by Chak Sopheap, Executive Director of the Cambodia Centre for Human Rights, “There is a clear interdependence between the right to adequate housing and the enjoyment of other human rights, including the right to education, the right to work and the right to the highest attainable standard of health.”

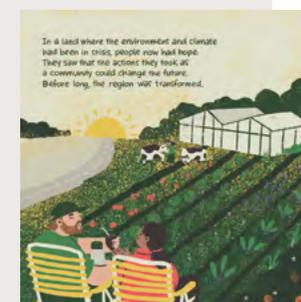
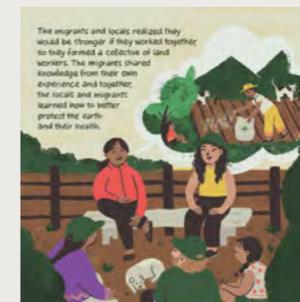
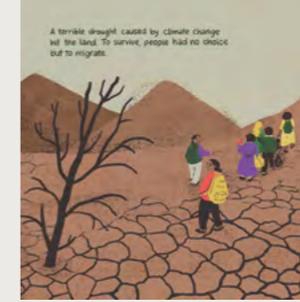
Women and indigenous peoples face particular challenges in each of these areas. For instance, despite the right of every child to education, one-fifth of households in Cambodia, half of which are indigenous peoples, keep their children out of school so that they can work. In addition, while every person has the right to food, which is an underlying determinant of health, roughly 25 per cent of households do not have access to sufficient food. Further, most households indicate that the responsibility for acquiring food falls on women, which puts them at a disadvantage as they are usually the first to sacrifice their food intake to their families.

UN Human Rights-Cambodia is hopeful that the Government will pay heed to the results of the study and draft further guidelines and implement stronger protections for potentially resettled communities. This can be achieved through consultations and the provision of care for those in vulnerable situations, particularly those facing intersectional forms of discrimination, such as certain groups of women, children and persons with disabilities.



An elderly woman looking at a resettlement site. © NGO CUFA

Photo story on climate change and migration



Many harmful narratives surrounding climate change and migration focus on the threat posed by climate change-induced migration. But these narratives can be divisive and trigger fear.

UN Human Rights is working to change the narrative on migration and climate change by promoting hope-based stories of migrants and communities that are working together to address the adverse impacts of climate change.

Magda Castría, a feminist illustrator and graphic designer from Argentina, is devoted to spreading hope to make the world a better place for all species. She produces editorial, animation, motion graphics and digital media projects that are focused on defending human rights and created a series of hope-based illustrations.

OHCHR believes that stories like these and celebrating the power of community can be instrumental in developing collective local solutions to climate change.

To find out more about how to help change the narrative on migration and migrant human rights, visit the [UN Human Rights Toolbox](#).



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Peace and Security (PS)

Preventing violations and strengthening protection of human rights, including in situations of conflict and insecurity



CONFLICT PREVENTION, EARLY WARNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY



Emergency deployments

13 staff deployed
(in 7 countries with deteriorating human rights situations)



Emergency Response Teams (ERTs)

6 teams established (in Central Africa, South Africa, West Africa, Central America, South America and South-East Asia. Three additional ERTs to be established in East Africa, Central Asia and Pacific in 2022)



Humanitarian-Development nexus

2 UN Humanitarian Country Teams supported
(in Chad and Niger to reach collective outcomes and the long-term realization of all human rights)



Investigations

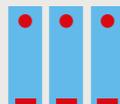
11 Investigative and accountability mandates supported
(8 independent investigations by commissions of inquiry and fact-finding missions to Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, the State of Palestine,* South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela and Yemen; and 3 OHCHR examination and accountability projects on Belarus, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Sri Lanka)

PEACE OPERATIONS



Role of human rights components

1 comprehensive study/strategic document
(analysing how to further strengthen the support they provide to the implementation of the mandates of UN peace operations)



Public reporting

14 reports by human rights components



Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP)

32 UNCTs,
13 UN peace operations
and **3** regional offices supported



Guidance and technical support

Human rights integrated into
26 DPPA-DPO-DOS policy and guidance documents for UN peace missions

* All references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with General Assembly resolution 67/19.

Victims of sexual torture seek justice in Uruguay

“That was the first time he raped me,” said Ana Amorós, now 72, about the day she was taken to her prison barracks by a colonel after she refused to answer his questions. Amorós is one of a group of 28 women who are former political prisoners pursuing justice for torture and sexual offences that were perpetrated by the military regime that controlled Uruguay between 1973 and 1985.

UN Human Rights has documented numerous human rights violations committed during the Uruguayan dictatorship, including torture, killings and enforced disappearances. Many of the victims were women.

The Uruguayan dictatorship banned all political parties and unions and anyone belonging to a rival group could be detained. Amorós was imprisoned for being a member of an anarchist group. She was stripped naked, tortured with a riding crop and raped. She was blindfolded, but could sense that there were men in the room.

“I always thought that...that if one day that happened, I would bite him,” Amorós said. “I would scratch him. I would hit him in the genitals. I thought I could defend myself. I did nothing. Nothing.”

After the regime fell in 1985, the 1986 Expiry Law was adopted, preventing victims from holding perpetrators accountable. The Law provided complete impunity to military, police personnel and civilians who had committed systematic human rights violations during the dictatorship. The Inter-American Court of Human Rights repealed the Law in 2011.

As a result, the Law could no longer be used as a shield to stop investigations of past crimes.

Twenty-five years later, victims were finally free to seek justice. In 2011, they filed a criminal complaint with Uruguay’s courts against more than 100 people for sexual violence and rape. UN Human Rights met with and listened to the women and raised awareness about the issue, including with the human rights treaty bodies.

In March 2021, the women finally had the opportunity to present their case to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. “This is a case of 28 courageous women who denounced the human rights violations they suffered for being women,” said Jan Jarab, UN Human Rights Regional Representative for South

America. “It’s a clear example of why a gender perspective is urgently needed in the investigation of such crimes, past and present.”

UN Human Rights provided the women with support during the public hearings and followed up with authorities. “Immediately after the hearing, there were signs of progress in the case. These were the first signs of activity in years. We need to ensure that the attention of the entire human rights community, not just UN Human Rights, remains focused on further developments,” he said.

Jarab notes that the case is a starting point for the Government to address other human rights violations that occurred during the dictatorship. He also hopes that victims of the dictatorship will be inspired to come forward.



Thousands of Uruguayans took part in the Marcha del Silencio, in Montevideo, Uruguay, which takes place every 20 May to remember the victims of the military dictatorship and to combat human rights violations. © EPA

Highlights of pillar results

Peace and Security (PS)

The United Nations Charter identified international peace and security as one of the founding pillars of the United Nations system. Situations of conflict and insecurity invariably lead to violations of human rights, which are among the root causes of conflict and insecurity. UN Human Rights has a global mandate to promote and protect human rights and

a specific responsibility to mainstream human rights throughout the work of the UN. When violence and conflict occur, the promotion and protection of human rights is not only essential for the protection of rights-holders, especially civilians, it is also essential to rebuilding peace in accordance with the rule of law and preventing reoccurrence. Human rights are a

powerful tool for conflict prevention and provide a sound basis for addressing issues of concern, which, if left unaddressed, can result in conflict. International, regional and national human rights mechanisms can support early warning and accountability and inform UN peace and security efforts.

PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

PS1 – PROTECTION of CIVILIANS, CONFLICT and PEACE

Parties to conflict and actors involved in peace operations increasingly comply with international human rights law and international humanitarian law and provide greater protection to civilians.



RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS



In **CAR**, UN Human Rights provided financial and technical support to civil society, early warning networks, local human rights forums and the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. The objective was to develop a **national capacity for monitoring and data collection of human rights violations and abuses**, contribute to early warning alerts on the protection of civilians and establish platforms for human rights dialogue at national and local levels. UN Human Rights supported 77 workshops and trainings on human rights and international humanitarian law, reaching 13,972 people, including 6,075 women, and undertook 30 field missions to NHRIs. This enabled the identification and establishment of focal points in field locations to provide early warning alerts on human rights violations and the protection of civilians.

In 2021, the MINUSMA Human Rights and Protection Division (HRPD) published two notes on trends of human rights violations and abuses that were committed in **Mali**, which documented violations and abuses of international human rights law or violations of international humanitarian law. The HRPD brought documented cases to the attention of relevant authorities and actors, along with recommendations on actions to address them. Other issues discussed included contemporary forms of slavery in the Kayes region, the lack of effectiveness of the formal judicial system in the northern regions and the consequential negative human rights impacts. Following these discussions, the Minister issued a **directive to Prosecutors at the Courts of Appeal**, in Mali, on 11 November, to undertake “all necessary measures” to bring to justice any persons accused or suspected of involvement in acts linked to descent-based slavery, within the framework of existing laws, especially the Penal Code. The Minister also noted that the protection of victims of slavery should be given utmost consideration during the judicial processing of each slavery-related case.

In **Yemen**, between January and September, UN Human Rights referred 208 victims to protection partners for assistance, including legal aid, medical assistance, access to shelter, non-food items, psychosocial support and financial support. From January to November, UN Human Rights documented a total of 1,420 human rights violations and 643 incidents, including 883 civilian casualties, 290 cases of arbitrary detention, six cases of enforced disappearance, 29 violations of the rights to freedom of opinion and expression, 24 cases of gender-based violence and 188 attacks against civilian objects.

PS2 – Counter-TERRORISM and preventing VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism comply with international law.



The **G5 Sahel Joint Force**’s response to allegations of sexual violence by the Chadian Battalion in Téra, Niger, in March and April, was in accordance with the requirements of the Compliance Framework. In cooperation with the NHRI of Niger, UN Human Rights quickly collected information on the allegations and shared it with the Project Team in Bamako. The G5 Sahel Team shared information about the allegations with the Force Commander and advised on a course of action. This included the establishment of an internal commission of inquiry; the deployment of a delegation that was led by the Commander of Sector Centre to instruct the troops in Téra and meet with departmental authorities and community leaders to reassure the local population; and the issuance of a press release confirming the reports of sexual violence and announcing a series of measures, including the opening of an investigation into the involvement of Force members and any subsequent disciplinary and legal action. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chad issued a press statement noting that immediate action had been taken to **investigate and hold Chadian soldiers accountable**.

Largely due to the strategic engagement of UN Human Rights during the seventh review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the Office significantly increased its engagement and normative leadership role in relation to counter-terrorism and human rights among Member States and within the UN counter-terrorism system. This resulted in the **inclusion of strengthened language on civic space, the rights of the child, women’s rights and gender equality**. OHCHR also informed the development of various thematic initiatives launched by UN entities, including strategies for prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration for terrorist suspects; model legal provisions on victims of terrorism; and the global framework for repatriation of third country nationals held in Iraq and in the Syrian Arab Republic. OHCHR was the lead author of the Secretary-General’s report on terrorism and human rights, which provides Member States with **authoritative guidance on an HRBA to counter-terrorism**.

PS3 – HUMAN RIGHTS protection in PREVENTION/RESPONSE

Strategies to prevent and respond to conflict consistently integrate human rights protection.



In **Libya**, technical support provided by UN Human Rights to the human rights component of the United Nations Support Mission led to the establishment of the **Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements (MARA)**. This is one of the structures set up by the Security Council through resolution 1960 (2010) to ensure the timely documentation of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV), to better coordinate UN responses and ultimately inform the actions of the Security Council.

In the context of the general elections that were held in **Honduras**, in November, UN Human Rights implemented a strategy that contributed to achieving an overall peaceful and participatory election. This was partially due to the deployment of teams, in cooperation with over 40 NGOs, security forces and the NHRI, to monitor the human rights situation on the ground and identify trends that informed early warning and advocacy actions. In addition, the Office provided technical assistance to electoral institutions and the Attorney General’s Office. This resulted in the nationwide deployment of more than 400 prosecutors to **prevent and prosecute electoral crimes**, including the use of excessive force by security agents.

UN Human Rights participated in the mandate renewal of 11 **peace operations to strengthen and preserve human rights language** in relevant resolutions and to **increase human rights impacts** across mission contexts. This was primarily accomplished by coordinating with human rights components and responsible departments and strengthening engagement with Security Council members and penholders. For instance, strong human rights language on the implementation of transitional justice mechanisms was included in Security Council resolution 2621 on MONUSCO's mandate, which was adopted on 20 December. Further, UN Human Rights reviewed and provided inputs to 26 guidance documents for UN peace missions, including on: conducting peacekeeping training needs assessments that were issued in October; planning and coordination considerations related to improvised explosive device threat mitigation in missions context that were issued in August; and standard operating procedures for the review and appraisal of performance of UN individual police officers that were issued in November.

UN Human Rights continued to work with EU stakeholders on the **integration of human rights into the EU's engagement on peace and security**. In 2021, political buy-in was secured in the key areas of tripartite engagement (African Union-UN-EU) on compliance with international humanitarian law and international human rights law and the integration of human rights actions into the UN-EU priorities for 2022-2024, which were developed under the UN-EU Partnership on conflict and crisis management. This political buy-in will be critical to future work. Engagement with non-traditional partners, including the EU Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) directorates at the European External Action Service (EEAS), the European Parliament's Subcommittee on Security and Defence (SEDE) and the European Commission's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), was established or strengthened. This engagement will be key to sustaining concrete policy and programmatic developments.

PS4 – Transitional JUSTICE and ACCOUNTABILITY

Justice mechanisms, including for transitional justice, provide increased accountability for conflict-related violations.



In **Colombia**, the Constitutional Court extended the mandate of the **Commission for the Clarification of Truth, Coexistence and Non-recurrence (CEV)** until August 2022 to enable the widespread dissemination of its final report, which will be published in June 2022. UN Human Rights contributed to strengthening the capacities of the CEV to ensure it incorporated international standards into its final recommendations, including in relation to security, justice, extrajudicial executions, education and culture, State presence, corruption, victims and land. UN Human Rights also increased the understanding of regional and national officials of the CEV about human rights violations, with a territorial perspective, by facilitating 35 technical assistance sessions on international norms and standards. In addition, UN Human Rights provided technical assistance to the CEV to facilitate the organization of regional truth-seeking dialogues and consultations with communities and victims. The CEV undertook 1,750 dialogues and consultations, including with individuals and groups. As a result, the views and perspectives of 4,554 people were heard.

In the **Central African Republic**, MINUSCA and UN Human Rights supported the Government in taking an important step towards **the operationalization of the Truth, Justice, Reparations and Reconciliation Commission (CVJRR)** with the appointment of 11 commissioners. A retreat was organized to begin drafting the CVJRR's internal rules of procedures. A second strategic retreat was held to focus on substantive matters to enable the CVJRR to implement its mandate, including operationalization, communications, investigations, public hearings, reparations, complementarity with the special criminal court and gender issues. The second retreat was co-facilitated and attended by commissioners and experts from the Gambia, Libya, Mali, Peru, Sierra Leone, Togo and Tunisia. A third retreat was held to finalize the CVJRR's internal regulations and organigram.

In **Maldives**, following UN Human Rights' engagement with the Attorney General's Office, the Supreme Court, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Maldives Police Service and the Maldives Correctional Service, an important milestone was reached on accountability with the **adoption of the Transitional Justice Act** and the formation of the Office of the Ombudsperson for Transitional Justice (OTJ). UN Human Rights is providing technical assistance and capacity-building, including on transitional justice and investigation methodologies to the OTJ and the Attorney General's Office.

In **Sudan**, UN Human Rights offered technical advice to the Ministry of Justice on the draft **law establishing the Transitional Justice Commission (TJC)**. During a series of eight working sessions, UN Human Rights assisted the Ministry in compiling the consultation outcomes and integrating relevant concerns and recommendations of the CSOs into the final draft. The technical advice focused on ensuring minimum guarantees for the independence and autonomy of the TJC, strong civil society representation and a minimum representation of at least 40 per cent women on its Board. The TJC legislation was adopted on 24 April and outlined the TJC's clear mandate to lead consultations on defining transitional justice approaches for the Sudan.

PS5 – INFORMATION and EARLY WARNING

Human rights information and analyses are integrated into early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policymaking, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflict.



With support from UN Human Rights, the UNCT adopted a **Prevention Strategy for Jordan**, in May, to preserve its stability and meet its commitments under the 2030 Agenda. The Prevention Strategy is aligned with the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights and seeks to strengthen the UNCT's initiatives on social and economic inclusion, particularly for youth and women. The Strategy includes 11 action points to accelerate preventive action. A number of practical steps were taken during the reporting period to implement the Strategy. For example, risk assessments related to the Common Country Analysis were updated and a Regional Monthly Review was conducted in October, which emphasized the importance of an HRBA to achieving stability and inclusion.

In **Nicaragua**, UN Human Rights' **early warning activities** focused international attention on the political repression that occurred in the context of the elections, including the detention of 39 HRDs, political opponents and journalists. In its report to the Human Rights Council and the oral updates it delivered in June, September and December, UN Human Rights warned that an increasing number of human rights violations were inhibiting the free exercise of civil and political rights during the electoral process. Following these reports, the international community responded with sanctions and statements issued by Member States and international organizations that condemned the Government's actions and demanded the liberation of imprisoned social and political leaders. Through its analysis and public statements, UN Human Rights served as an early warning voice for the international community on the deteriorating human rights situation in Nicaragua. It also prepared daily internal reports with a particular emphasis on the electoral process.

In Southern Africa, the Emergency Response Team (ERT) provided technical support to UNCTs in **Botswana, Eswatini and Zambia** in the development of their respective **Common Country Analyses and United Nations Sustainable Development Compliance Frameworks**. The ERT contributed to an LNOB analysis of Zambia's CCA, provided inputs on civil and political rights-related risks and concerns and developed a multidimensional risk analysis framework/matrix. Further, the ERT produced three human rights analytical updates on human rights concerns and key issues to watch, including during the electoral period, as well as on socio-economic risks due to COVID-19, which were widely disseminated by the Resident Coordinator to relevant stakeholders. The ERT produced two country risk assessment and timelines of events for Angola and Eswatini and nine media monitoring reports of the situation in Eswatini were produced for OHCHR's internal use. The ERT also contributed to the UN Operations and Crisis Centre's (UNOCC) enhanced monitoring before and after the elections in Zambia.

In 2021, UN Human Rights doubled the number of Emergency Response Teams (from three to six), which **strengthened the capacity** of some of its regional offices (in Bangkok, Dakar, Panama City, Pretoria, Santiago de Chile and Yaoundé) **to undertake early warning and analysis** and to incorporate a stronger prevention component into their support on SDG implementation and INOB. In 2022, OHCHR aims to establish additional ERTs in Addis Ababa, Bishkek and Suva.

UN Human Rights advocated for the access of humanitarian agencies to places of detention and prison facilities, called for the return of humanitarian agencies into the **Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)** and emphasized the importance of reversing the DPRK's isolation. In September, UN Human Rights organized a panel discussion on the human rights-humanitarian-development nexus at the Korean Global Forum for Peace, during which it presented its discussion paper entitled *Implications of the right to development for the DPRK and other Member States*. The Office was subsequently invited to deliver presentations about the human rights-humanitarian-development nexus at different forums, including those organized by humanitarian agencies. This enabled UN Human Rights to **advocate for the improved integration of human rights into humanitarian action** in the DPRK.

In **Honduras**, UN Human Rights conducted 190 field missions, including 92 onsite missions to verify the human rights situation and 98 missions to places of detention. This enabled the Office to **strengthen and adapt its monitoring system** to provide real-time information and an accurate analysis of the human rights situation in various locations. UN Human Rights also adopted and implemented innovative digital tools to register collected quantitative and qualitative information, which ensured that it was better prepared to promptly respond to and address human rights challenges.

PS6 – HUMAN RIGHTS DUE DILIGENCE POLICY

United Nations' support to national and regional security forces, law enforcement agencies and non-State actors integrates human rights and complies with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP).



In collaboration with the Asia Pacific Forum of NHRIs (APF), UN Human Rights developed and conducted a pilot training project to **strengthen the capacities of NHRIs in the region to protect human rights in the context of humanitarian action**. This is particularly important as the Asia-Pacific region is facing increasing risks of humanitarian crises due to disasters, climate change, disease and situations of violence. As national actors, NHRIs are uniquely placed to protect human rights through their mandates to, for example, address complaints and violations, provide advice to governments and strengthen participatory approaches and public information. The training content was delivered using a mobile phone app and was supplemented by live webinars.

UN Human Rights continued to raise awareness about and strengthen the **implementation of the HRDDP** in countries and regions where UN support to non-UN security forces significantly contributed to advancing the peace and security agenda. In 2021, UN Human Rights' technical cooperation resulted in the gradual establishment of "light" HRDDP mechanisms in missions that did not have them, including UNAMA, UNAMI and UNMIK. UN Human Rights also participated in DPPA/DPO-led assessments of MINUSMA's support to the G5 Sahel Joint Force and the UN's support options to the Joint Force, thereby ensuring a thorough review of the application of the HRDDP, in close coordination with DPPA/DPO and DOS.



Staff of the Legal Aid Service of Georgia participate in training on international standards on torture prevention, in Batumi, Georgia. © OHCHR

Non-discrimination (ND)

Enhancing equality and countering discrimination



LAWS, POLICIES AND PRACTICES



Combating discrimination in all its forms

680 participants from 50 countries in the 14th session of the **Forum on Minority Issues** (held in hybrid format for the first time, with a focus on conflict prevention and the protection of the human rights of minorities)



Acting upon complaints:

Women

151 communications (sent by the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls)

People of African descent

21 communications (sent by the Working Group of experts on people of African Descent)

CIVIL SOCIETY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



Preparation of the High Commissioner's Agenda Towards Transformative Change for Racial Justice and Equality

23 consultations held online with over **340** persons (over 65% women, mostly people of African descent)

Follow-up to the Agenda:

7 consultations with over **110** people (mostly people of African descent)

CAPACITY-BUILDING



Fellowship Programmes: Training provided to

18 people of African descent (12 women and 6 men, from 12 countries)

25 indigenous persons (13 women and 12 men, from 17 countries)

21 persons from minority groups (11 women and 10 men, from 14 countries)

CALL FOR EQUALITY AND TOLERANCE



Public campaigns:

Disability #WeThe15

(as part of a consortium of 20 international organizations)

2.5 billion impressions on Twitter

Over **225** landmarks turned purple on 19 August (opening of Paralympics)

9.5 million interactions on Instagram and Facebook

878 million views on TikTok

'I stand for Gender Equality' or 'I stand up to racism'

2,800 people from 133 countries (shared photos on social media in support)

Women's Day (8 March)

5 videos of women human rights leaders and video interview with the High Commissioner (80,000 views)

Instagram 'grid' of **9** illustrations on social justice, SGBV, participation, economy, health care and environment (over 20k likes)

#FightRacism Day (21 March)

#FightRacism posts across platforms (2.4 million views and 98k engagements)

Albinism Day (13 June)

Albinism Day posts (123k views and 3.8k engagements)

International Migrants Day (18 December)

Stories, photo essay, video message and podcast (over 25,000 views)

Upholding the rights of every child, including children with disabilities (Moldova)

"I want every child, including children with disabilities, to be happy and active members of our society, with all of their rights respected, protected and fulfilled. I also want to know that every parent that has a child with a disability is supported, has accepted the disability of their child as soon as possible and does not encounter discrimination."

Ludmila Adamciuc is the mother of a four-year-old girl with Down syndrome, and a vlogger and advocate for children with disabilities. She is the founder of an NGO, Prietenamea, that raises awareness and promotes the acceptance of persons with disabilities. She has built an impressive community of followers on social media (57,500 on Instagram, 5,000 friends on her personal Facebook page and 13,000 friends on the Prietenamea page).

Ludmila began advocating for the acceptance of children with disabilities in 2018, when her daughter was born. She was initially depressed and found limited information about the development of children with Down syndrome, supporting her child and accessing available services. Through research and with the support of her family, she accepted her daughter's disability and was inspired to offer similar support to other parents of children with disabilities. She dedicated herself to raising awareness and advocating for the social acceptance of children with disabilities and their families.

Ludmila began by posting pictures and videos on Facebook and Instagram that promoted acceptance and diversity. She then created a blog (<https://prietenamea.com/>) where she shared stories and lessons

learned. She also led a campaign that invited people to wear blue and yellow clothes and socks of different colours as symbols of acceptance of Down syndrome.

In June 2019, UN Human Rights invited Ludmila to join the Network of Parents of Children and Youth with Disabilities. Through the Network, Ludmila and 14 other parents are benefiting from UN Human Rights' support, which includes access to a psychological empowerment and training programme on human rights, which promotes a human rights-based approach to disability and advocacy.

Encouraged by these activities and UN Human Rights' mentoring, Ludmila decided to apply her knowledge and advocacy skills and formally registered "Prietenamea" in early 2021.

UN Human Rights immediately partnered with Ludmila's NGO in the context of World Down Syndrome Day to organize a campaign, #WeAreAllDifferent, that ran from 21 March to 21 April. The campaign promoted the equality of rights and acceptance of children and persons with Down syndrome and other disabilities. Videos and articles on equality and non-discrimination of persons with Down syndrome were featured and awareness-raising activities were delivered to all levels of educational institutions. Furthermore, from October to December, OHCHR offered guidance to Ludmila and Prietenamea to implement a "Friendship and acceptance month" campaign, which included awareness-raising stories for children and information sessions on equality and non-discrimination, access to education and psychological



Ludmila Adamciuc and her family. © Ludmila Adamciuc



Awareness-raising campaign promoting acceptance and diversity. © Ludmila Adamciuc

empowerment for parents. Both campaigns had a wide reach that included the participation of 528 children and youth from 20 educational institutions and resulted in more than 513,076 visualizations of videos, 1,904 shares, 19,770 likes, 15,000 read articles and the attendance of 3,100 participants in online sessions.

"I'm very thankful to UN Human Rights for the support provided since 2019. I feel empowered and I believe this will enable me to empower other parents."

Highlights of pillar results

Non-discrimination (ND)

Enhancing equality and non-discrimination for all is at the core of international human rights law. With a call to Leave No One Behind, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development created an ‘equality’ momentum. Taking advantage of this opportunity, UN Human Rights

seeks to remove the structural barriers that exacerbate and perpetuate discrimination, exclusion and inequalities. The Office supports efforts aimed at strengthening laws, policies, institutions, practices and attitudes conducive to equality and non-discrimination. It strives to increase

public support for diverse and inclusive societies and enhance coherent and rights-based UN responses to exclusion and discrimination. The SDGs provide a common reference for this work, including through linkages with economic, social and cultural rights.

PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

ND1 – NORMATIVE FRAMEWORKS to combat DISCRIMINATION

Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms and responsible authorities actively work to Leave No One Behind, including by addressing the root causes of inequality.



RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS



Through its active role in promoting equality, following up on Human Rights Council resolution 43/1 and combating discrimination against Roma people in the EU, UN Human Rights supported the implementation of multi-year strategies and action plans that were adopted in 2020 on a wide range of non-discrimination issues. In March, the **Council of the European Union adopted a recommendation on Roma equality, inclusion and participation**, which takes UN Human Rights’ advocacy into account and urges EU member states to adopt Roma National Strategies by the end of the year. By end of 2021, 11 countries had presented or adopted their plans. The recommendation also includes indicators that are modelled on UN Human Rights’ anti-discrimination indicators. In 2022, the European Commission and CSOs will jointly assess progress made in implementation at the national level. Finally, the EU **appointed the first EU Anti-Racism Coordinator in 2021** and the Commission **issued its first draft guidelines on National Action Plans against Racism (NAPARs)** for EU member states.

In May, UN Human Rights organized a **Middle East and North Africa** regional virtual symposium on the **compliance of national legislation with CRPD**. The symposium discussed the compliance with CRPD of national legislation in Arab countries, highlighted the current situation of persons with disabilities and provided recommendations and good practices for the fulfilment of the rights of persons with disabilities in the region. The symposium was attended by 128 activists, experts, academics, government officials, members of NHRIs and individuals, including 60 women, from Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, State of Palestine, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and the United States of America.

ND2 – JUSTICE SYSTEMS investigate DISCRIMINATION

Justice systems and related institutions increasingly monitor and investigate discrimination and provide redress to victims.



In July, the High Commissioner presented her report and a conference room paper to the Human Rights Council in which she outlines a **four-point agenda towards transformative change for racial justice and equality**. The report builds on decades of work undertaken by international and other human rights mechanisms, as well as a wide consultation process that focused on the lived experiences of people of African descent. Throughout the process, UN Human Rights strengthened advocacy to: address systemic racism and ensure the accountability of law enforcement officials for human rights violations against Africans and people of African descent; take action to ensure that the voices of people of African descent are heard and that their concerns are acted upon; and confront past legacies and deliver reparatory justice. The launch of the report was accompanied by a series of media and communications products to enhance the visibility of its findings. Subsequently, the Council **established an international independent expert mechanism to advance racial justice and equality in law enforcement** and requested that UN Human Rights enhance and broaden its monitoring in order to report on these issues and promote global action to bring about transformative change for racial justice and equality.

Following two years of collaboration and consultations, UN Human Rights and the Equal Rights Trust prepared a publication entitled **Protecting minority rights: A practical guide to developing comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation**. After its publication in 2022, the publication will serve as the leading guidance on anti-discrimination legislation and the right to equality.

ND3 – WOMEN’S PARTICIPATION and PROTECTION

Legal and social frameworks increasingly promote the autonomy and choices of women and girls and protect them from violence, including in the digital space.



In **North Macedonia**, the **Law on Prevention and Protection from Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GBV Law)** was adopted after more than two years of preparatory work. The adoption of this legislation serves as an important milestone in promoting the autonomy of women and girls and safeguarding their right to a dignified life that is free from fear and violence. UN Human Rights provided the drafting working group with expert advice to ensure the Law’s compliance with international human rights standards and the integration of all aspects related to prevention, protection and the reintegration of victims. The Law is aligned with the Council of Europe’s Istanbul Convention, CEDAW’s general recommendations and other international human rights standards.

In **Somalia**, UN Human Rights continued providing technical support to Somali counterparts to establish measures for equal opportunities and protection, secure redress for violations and build the capacities of formal justice institutions to **address sexual violence cases**. On 10 January, the UNSOM Human Rights and Protection Group (HRPG) convened a meeting, in Somaliland, with the Somaliland National Human Rights Commission (SLNHRC), as part of joint advocacy efforts against the Rape, Fornication and Other Related Offences Bill, which is contradictory to international and regional human rights standards. The Commission engaged with Somaliland ministries to jointly advocate for a common position on recommendations that were proposed by different stakeholders. Subsequently, a member of the Special Taskforce, which is headed by the SLNHRC, reported that assurances had been secured from the Somaliland Minister of Religion and Endowment and the Somaliland Upper House of Parliament (Guurti) that the Bill would be opposed and replaced with the Sexual Offences Bill of 2018.

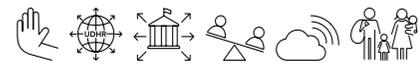
In the **State of Palestine**, UN Human Rights increased its monitoring of women’s rights in priority areas, including the **gendered impacts of the occupation** in terms of violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, women human rights defenders (WHRDs), women in detention and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). UN Human Rights continued to gather **disaggregated data on women in Israeli and Palestinian detention**. It carried out four visits to women in detention in Gaza and the West Bank and to a shelter in the West Bank. UN Human Rights engaged

with Palestinian security agencies and authorities in Gaza and the West Bank to follow up on cases of concern and identify wider patterns of discrimination against women, including discriminatory movement restrictions in Gaza. OHCHR also delivered trainings on a human rights-based approach for staff of gender units based in Palestinian ministries.

As part of its technical support to address **GBV in the Southern Africa region**, UN Human Rights strengthened its partnership with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Parliamentary Forum on the development of the **SADC Model Law on GBV**. The Model Law is a critical tool for triggering policy reform and the development or revision of substantive laws in the SADC Member States and SADC Parliamentary Forum-affiliated parliaments. It will also serve as a tool to inform, guide, improve and strengthen the implementation of national legislation and policies on GBV. As a member of the technical working group, the Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) supported the consultation process on the Model Law with various stakeholders, including women's rights organizations, law enforcement, GBV survivors, faith-based organizations, NHRIs, judicial actors, lawyers, youth organizations and UN agencies. The Model Law was adopted at the fiftieth Plenary Session of the SADC Parliamentary Forum, on 11 December.

ND4 – ERADICATING HARMFUL NORMS

Judicial institutions, media and other sectors increasingly recognize and challenge harmful gender stereotypes and gender norms with a view to their eradication.



UN Human Rights furthered the debate on ways to **promote and protect the rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations** through the presentation of a report to the Human Rights Council (A/HRC/48/32, mandated by resolution A/HRC/RES/45/28) and an interactive dialogue between the High Commissioner and the Human Rights Council.



ND5 – DIGITAL SPACE

Principles and practices effectively counter discrimination and hate speech in the digital space.



UN Human Rights continued to innovate its methodology and implement technology tools for **monitoring hate speech and incitement**, including in relation to online attacks against HRDs. After applying network, account and content analyses, UN Human Rights was better situated to identify online incidents and trends and apply the Rabat Plan of Action threshold test. This strengthened its evidence base and informed its work on protection cases and engagement with social media platforms and other stakeholders on freedom of expression and content moderation. For example, following its monitoring and advocacy with Twitter, the company removed content related to online attacks against an NGO that was providing support to migrant children in Israel.

UN Human Rights undertook advocacy with different **social media platforms** and encouraged them to increase their efforts to meet their human rights responsibilities under the UNGPs and apply the Rabat Plan of Action threshold test. In 2021, UN Human Rights collaborated with Facebook, Google, YouTube and Twitter, with a view to better **protecting minorities and human rights defenders** and responding to content that could constitute incitement to hostility, discrimination or violence. As a result, the Facebook Oversight Board applied the Rabat Plan of Action threshold test in several decisions.

ND6 – MIGRATION

The human rights of all migrants, particularly those in vulnerable situations, are protected.



In **Central America**, the monitoring of migrant human rights violations developed and evolved due to the efforts of UN Human Rights to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs and CSOs to confront the migration crisis. It also highlighted the actions that States need to undertake to meet their international obligations, particularly in relation to demographic groups with pre-existing vulnerabilities. UN Human Rights encouraged the integration of key standards into regional migration policies and programmes. It monitored and analysed regional migratory trends throughout 2021, which were published in an informative bulletin. The bulletin provided a **regional analysis of trends and human rights violations against migrants**. It also outlined a series of recommendations to inform decision makers and promoted the mainstreaming of human rights into public policies and governance of migration. In addition, evidence-based technical assistance was provided to authorities in the subregion.

The European Union Pact on Asylum and Migration, which was proposed by the European Commission in 2020, continued to be negotiated by the European Parliament and EU member states. Despite limited progress in negotiations, the EC took advantage of opportunities to move forward on various initiatives proposed in the Pact, such as the **EU Strategy on Voluntary Return and Reintegration and the EU Action Plan against Migrant Smuggling 2021-2025**. UN Human Rights advocated for the establishment of independent monitoring mechanisms in EU member states. Meanwhile, Frontex, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, continued to fulfil its responsibilities outlined in its 2019 Regulation, including the operationalization of the Standing Corps and the creation of **policies and procedures to safeguard human rights** in Frontex activities. As a member of the Frontex Consultation Forum on Fundamental Rights, UN Human Rights provided expertise in this regard. For instance, it participated in the recruitment of an independent fundamental rights officer, the training of newly recruited fundamental rights monitors, the development of a procedure to report alleged human rights violations and the adoption of a Frontex Fundamental Rights Strategy and Action Plan.

In **West Africa**, a joint project of OHCHR and UNODC, known as PROMIS, aimed to strengthen the capacities of West African States to develop a human rights-based response to the smuggling of migrants. OHCHR contributed to updating legal frameworks and increased protection capacities in the West African region to ensure the efficient **promotion and protection of the human rights of migrants** in their countries of origin and during their migratory movements. More specifically, PROMIS supported the elaboration and validation of laws related to the smuggling of migrants in the Gambia, in alignment with international human rights standards, and assisted the Ministry of Justice of Niger with the revision of Law No. 2015-36 on the smuggling of migrants. Furthermore, six grantees completed their projects after receiving financial and technical support over 18 months, which led to improved access to justice for 3,688 migrants in Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Niger and Senegal.

UN Human Rights actively supported the **Asia-Pacific Regional Review of Implementation of the Global Compact for Migration**, in March, and ensured that the discussions were founded on a human rights-based framework. OHCHR took a leadership role in engaging regional stakeholders in the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM). To this end, it co-hosted a region-wide consultation for more than 100 stakeholders. It briefed CSOs and other partners on the 2022 International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) and sought their views on future engagement with the regional network. The consultation was preceded by 12 small-group consultations that were composed of various stakeholders' groups, including NHRIs, the media, academia and parliamentarians.

ND7 – PUBLIC MOBILIZATION for INCLUSION

Public support increases for equal, inclusive and diverse societies, without discrimination.



 In the **State of Palestine**, UN Human Rights increased its work on the rights of persons with disabilities by providing technical assistance to government institutions, strengthening civil society engagement with the international human rights mechanisms and increasing **awareness-raising and advocacy campaigns on disability rights**. In February, UN Human Rights launched an awareness-raising campaign to disseminate COVID-19-related information in accessible formats for persons with disabilities and their families, including information on psychological and social support services that are provided by the Government and CSOs. The campaign was developed and implemented in cooperation with OPDs, the Ministry of Social Development and the Ministry of Health. The campaign registered more than 230,000 views on the social media channels of OHCHR, Palestinian Television, the Government and CSOs. On the occasion of International Day of Persons with Disabilities (3 December), OHCHR partnered with the Palestinian NGO Network (PNGO) to produce a video featuring the experiences of Ms. Rabab Nofal, an activist from Gaza, who speaks about the daily challenges, stigma and discrimination she faces as a woman living with a disability and the lack of available services in Gaza. The video has amassed more than 200,000 views.

In **Guatemala**, as a follow-up to the capacity-building process carried out by UN Human Rights in 2020, 12 new workshops were held for communications officers working for indigenous organizations (15 women, 11 men). The workshops focused on international human rights law, the design of communications campaigns, international human rights protection mechanisms, the preparation of press releases and access to information. In addition, UN Human Rights provided technical assistance to organizations of indigenous peoples to enable them to update their communications strategies and effectively implement specific **communications campaigns highlighting indigenous rights**, particularly regarding the implementation of judicial sentences related to the rights of indigenous peoples.

 Since early 2020, UN Human Rights has worked with the mediation process of the Public Affairs Committee (PAC) of Christian and Muslim leaders to address a long-standing dispute between Christian schools and Muslim communities in the **South of Malawi** wherein girls were denied access to education if they wore a hijab. Following these efforts, the PAC members concluded a Memorandum of Understanding that permits all Muslim girls attending Christian schools to wear a hijab in accordance with their personal choice. The MoU includes a specific commitment to **respecting the rights of students to education and freedom of religion, with a particular emphasis on the rights of the girl child**. The PAC members also made recommendations to the Ministry of Education to ensure that Muslim girls are not subject to discrimination on the basis of their religion. UN Human Rights used the international human rights framework to guide the dialogue and conflict resolution between the Christian and Muslim communities. The process received a high level of public attention, including through the media, and was closely followed by the President of Malawi.

ND8 – UN response to INEQUALITY and DISCRIMINATION

The UN system implements a coherent and human rights-based response to inequality and discrimination, including intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination.



UN Human Rights actively supported the co-facilitators of the consultation process on the operationalization of the Permanent Forum of People of African Descent, namely, Chad and Costa Rica, in hosting a series of intergovernmental discussions and engagements with civil society constituencies. This consultation process led to the General Assembly's adoption of resolution 75/314, in August, which formally **operationalizes the Permanent Forum for People of African Descent**. The Permanent Forum will serve as a consultative mechanism for people of African descent and other relevant stakeholders, as well as an advisory body to the Human Rights Council, in line with the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent. In December, five of the 10 members of the mechanism were elected by the General Assembly and the remaining five were appointed by the President of the HRC in the first quarter of 2022. UN Human Rights has been working towards the creation of a Permanent Forum since 2014, when it was mandated to do so by General Assembly resolution A/RES/69/16.

As part of the UN Network on Racial Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, UN Human Rights supported the development of the **UN Checklist to strengthen UN work at country level to combat racial discrimination and advance minority rights**, which was launched in March. It also contributed to the development and delivery of the first online training on addressing racial discrimination and strengthening the protection of minorities in UN programming processes. A total of 41 staff members from 13 UNCTs received the training over a four-week period.

“The blood we sacrificed was worth it” (South Africa)

Selinah Mnguni was 23 years old and three months pregnant when she was injured during the Sharpeville massacre on 21 March 1960. Selinah and thousands of other young people were attending a protest in peaceful defiance of the apartheid regime and the pass laws that were adopted to restrict and control the movement and employment of millions of Black South Africans.

Selinah was shot in her leg but survived. Many others were not so lucky. A total of 69 unarmed and non-violent protesters were gunned down by the South African police and nearly 200 more were injured. Protestors as young as 12 and 13 years of age were killed.

The Sharpeville massacre sparked mass protests by Black South Africans across the country, many of which were ruthlessly and violently crushed by the military and South African police. The moral outrage of the international community led the United Nations General Assembly to pronounce 21 March as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

The massacre was among a series of events around the world that inspired the development of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which entered into force on 4 January 1969. The Convention reaffirms the dignity and equality of all human beings and obliges States Parties to ensure that all appropriate measures are undertaken, including in policy and practice, to eliminate racial discrimination.

This year, the UN and UN Human Rights joined South Africans to mark the sixty-first anniversary of the Sharpeville massacre. “Youth standing up against racism” was the theme, aiming to foster a global culture of tolerance, equality and non-discrimination that calls on everyone to stand up against racial prejudice and intolerant attitudes. The campaign #FightRacism was launched to promote awareness about these critical issues.

The UN Human Rights Regional Office for Southern Africa produced a series of digital stories on the Sharpeville massacre and young people’s concerns about their human rights. It also contributed to the

headline story at the Anti-Racism Live Global Digital Experience, held on 21 March, which featured acclaimed artists, actors and prominent speakers from South Africa, including Thuli Madonsela, Zulaikha Patel and Zwai Bala.

Abigail Noko, the UN Human Rights Regional Representative, used the opportunity to call on decision makers to invite youth to participate in discussions on human rights and eliminating racial discrimination. “We need the voices of young people to break through the silence that locks in discrimination and oppression. We must listen to them, learn from them and work with them to build a better future,” she said.

Perseverance and determination are also needed to build on the lessons learned from the Sharpeville tragedy and to repair the injustices of the past. A robust human rights framework is the only way to provide a remedy for those injustices and to combat inequality and the underlying structural differences that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

At 84 years of age, Selinah is proud of her efforts to end apartheid. “I know that the democracy we have today was achieved in part because of our actions. The blood we sacrificed was worth it,” she says.



Selinah Mnguni, a Sharpeville massacre survivor. © OHCHR

A strengthened UN anti-racism human rights architecture for people of African descent

In 2021, significant international developments took place in the long-standing fight to end racism against people of African descent. Following the Council’s June 2020 adoption of a resolution in the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd, the High Commissioner presented a comprehensive report on systemic racism, human rights violations committed by law enforcement agencies against people of African descent and government responses to peaceful anti-racism protests.

Building on decades of work undertaken by the UN and other human rights mechanisms, written submissions and broad consultations centring on the experiences of people of African descent, the High Commissioner’s report seeks to contribute to accountability and redress for victims and outlines an agenda to facilitate transformative change for racial justice and equality. The agenda is based on four interconnected pillars:

- “STEP UP:” Stop denying and take steps to dismantle systemic racism.
- “PURSUE JUSTICE:” End impunity and foster trust.
- “LISTEN UP:” Ensure that people of African descent and those who stand up against racism are protected and heard and that their concerns are acted upon.
- “REDRESS:” Confront past legacies, undertake special measures and deliver reparatory justice.

The High Commissioner urged Member States to “show stronger political will to accelerate action for racial justice, redress and equality through specific, time-bound

commitments to achieve results.” The report underlines the need for “a transformative approach that tackles the interconnected areas that drive racism, and lead to repeated, wholly avoidable, tragedies like the death of George Floyd.”

The Human Rights Council and the General Assembly acknowledged the report with appreciation. CSOs and impacted family members welcomed the report and the American Civil Liberties Union and Mothers against Police Brutality described it as “historic.”

In July, the Council adopted a follow-up resolution, by consensus, to establish an international independent expert mechanism to advance racial justice and equality in law enforcement. The mechanism will have a three-year mandate. Its three members were appointed in December and their work is scheduled to begin in 2022. The resolution also calls on OHCHR to enhance and broaden monitoring to report on these issues and promote global action to promote racial justice and equality.



#FIGHTracism banner. © OHCHR

In August, the General Assembly adopted a resolution, also by consensus, operationalizing the Permanent Forum of People of African Descent, representing a milestone in the implementation of the Programme of Activities for the International Decade for People of African Descent. The Forum will serve as: a consultative mechanism for people of African descent and other relevant stakeholders; a platform for improving the safety and quality of life and livelihoods of people of African descent; and an advisory body to the Human Rights Council. In addition, the Forum is mandated “to consider the elaboration of a United Nations declaration on the promotion, protection and full respect of the human rights of people of African descent.” This stand-alone, 10-member expert body will begin its work in 2022.

Together, these actions mark a renewed opportunity to place racial equality and justice for people of African descent at the centre of international, regional and national processes and agendas.

Accountability (A)

Strengthening the rule of law and accountability for human rights violations



JUSTICE SYSTEMS, TRIALS AND PRISON CONDITIONS

Trials
611 court cases monitored

Places of detention
1,852 visits undertaken

Detainees
3,047 persons released (upon action from UN Human Rights, including 397 women, 2,487 men and 163 children)

Monitoring missions
4,612 human rights situations documented (43% in person and 57% remotely)

NON-JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS

Human rights mechanisms
85 opinions adopted by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (53 urgent appeals, 198 allegation letters and 8 other letters initiated or joined)

Paris Principles-compliant national human rights institutions (NHRIs)
128 countries with established/enhanced NHRIs (including 86 accredited with A status, 32 with B status)

99 communications sent by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (486 new cases transmitted to States, including 50 under its urgent action procedure)

Human rights-based approach to data and indicators
 operationalized in **11** countries (following agreements between NHRIs and national statistical offices and other government agencies)

216 communications sent by the Working Group on Business and Human Rights (including 172 joint allegations letters, and 44 other joint letters)

Strengthening prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based violence in Kenya

As monitoring efforts have demonstrated, cases of sexual and gender-based violence in Kenya consistently increase during election periods. UN Human Rights worked closely with UN Women to strengthen the prevention of and response to SGBV. The objective of their efforts was to empower community-based WHRDs and enhance their engagement with duty-bearers.

EQUIPPING HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

Caren Kiare Omanga is the founder and Chair of the Nyando Social Justice Centre, situated in western Kenya. “It’s one of the most dangerous jobs to do in Kenya. You need a hard heart. Cultural values in this region and human rights do not go together. We are empowering women, but according to many community elders, we are inciting women against men.” These challenges take a toll on HRDs, often translating into burnout.



Caren Kiare Omanga, Chair of the Nyando Social Justice Centre and WHRD. © OHCHR

ASSISTING SURVIVORS OF SGBV

Fatuma Wambui is the founder and Volunteer Coordinator of the Winam Social Justice Centre, with more than 15 years of experience in SGBV response work. As a survivor of domestic violence, Fatuma is motivated to protect other survivors from the same experiences she endured.

To combat these challenges, UN Human Rights and UN Women trained 38 HRDs in four target counties in western Kenya and Nairobi. Consequently, a total of 650 SGBV survivors received counselling and accessed legal aid in 2020-2021. UN Human Rights also facilitated the provision of psychosocial support to WHRDs to help prevent burnout when assisting survivors.

Fatuma, Goretti now assists other women by referring them to social justice centres.

“During the 2017 elections, I handled 19 cases of SGBV. They were reported to the Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA), but the perpetrators were the police. We are now heading to the next elections and none of these cases have been investigated. Survivors are still receiving psychosocial support. They are still being intimidated and not being believed. It can be such a long process,” notes Fatuma.

Goretti Ondola is a survivor who received justice after being supported by HRDs who were trained by UN Human Rights. For over 20 years, the family of Goretti’s late husband subjected her to psychological abuse, culminating in a brutal attack that led to her hospitalization. She reached out to the Nyando Social Justice Centre and, with Caren’s assistance, obtained land rights and a physical boundary that protects her and her son.

ENGAGEMENT WITH DUTY-BEARERS

UN Human Rights also works with rule of law and justice system actors to pursue accountability for human rights violations as an important element of prevention. For example, UN Human Rights supported a Tripartite Task Force, under the leadership of the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, to develop the Standard Operating Procedures on the Investigation and Prosecution of Serious Human Rights Violations Committed by Police Officers, which were launched on 8 June.



Fatuma Wambui, Volunteer Coordinator of the Winam Social Justice Centre, assisting clients/survivors of gender-based violence. © OHCHR

“The WHRDs at the Centre helped me get medical care and report the case to the police, which I was not comfortable doing,” says Goretti. Like Caren and

In addition, UN Human Rights is strengthening connections between HRDs, the IPOA and the justice system to ensure a survivor-centred approach is incorporated into any responses to SGBV perpetrated by police officers.

Highlights of pillar results

Accountability (A)

The legal protection of all human rights requires various actors to uphold their obligations to respect, protect and fulfil human rights. This includes States as the primary duty-bearers, as well as private actors, armed groups, other non-State actors and individuals who, under certain circumstances, can be held criminally accountable for their actions. To

enhance accountability and promote peaceful, prosperous and inclusive societies, UN Human Rights helps to build human rights-compliant institutional frameworks. It supports the adoption of regulations that domesticate international human rights law and promotes policies and practices that guard against transgressions (i.e., misuse of criminal

law, arbitrary detention, torture, gender-based violence and censorship). UN Human Rights also supports the establishment of independent, impartial and fair courts and non-judicial accountability mechanisms that address claims and grant remedies, including commissions of inquiry, fact-finding missions and other investigations.

PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

A1 – ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE and LAW ENFORCEMENT

Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.



RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS

Spotlights:  Disabilities  Women  Youth

During 2021, in accordance with a protocol created in cooperation with the Government, UN Human Rights visited 14 detention centres in **Venezuela** and interviewed 183 detainees, 33 of whom were women and 23 of whom were children. In March, UN Human Rights undertook its first visit to a pretrial detention centre in Caracas, managed by the Bolivarian National Police. Four more pretrial detention centres were visited in the following months. After each visit, UN Human Rights submitted a confidential report to authorities containing **recommendations to improve compliance with international detention standards and address urgent individual cases** regarding the rights to due process and health. Some of these recommendations were subsequently implemented, including the resumption of visits of relatives and lawyers, calls to family members and improved physical conditions, in particular related to hygiene. UN Human Rights also undertook advocacy with authorities regarding the individual cases of some detainees that required immediate solutions, including in relation to health care, judicial delays and the non-execution of judicial release orders. These efforts led to the **release of 85 persons**, 13 of whom were women.

In **Georgia**, UN Human Rights strengthened the capacity of the State Inspector Service and supported the advancement of policies, laws and practices that enhance independence of the Service, especially with regard to **investigations of alleged human rights violations committed by law enforcement agencies**. Following the findings of a study supported by UN Human Rights, a package of legislative changes was submitted to the Parliament of Georgia for endorsement. UN Human Rights also cooperated with the Ministry of Justice to establish a national mechanism for supporting the rehabilitation of victims of torture and other ill-treatment. UN Human Rights undertook a study on the existence of rehabilitation systems for victims of torture in different countries that was used as an advocacy tool to encourage the Government of Georgia to make a policy decision on the creation of such a mechanism.

UN Human Rights **strengthened the institutional capacity** of the **Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights** (IHCHR), particularly at the governorate level, by working on issues related to enforced disappearance, the prevention of torture, the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly. With support from UN Human Rights, the IHCHR organized a series of workshops throughout the year for personnel from the Ministry of Interior to enhance their capacities to protect human rights during

their operations. Despite concerns over its independent functioning, the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) accredited IHCHR with “A” status, in July.

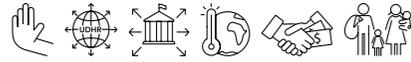
 In **Libya**, UN Human Rights mobilized national partners, in particular the Committee of Libyan Experts on Combating Violence Against Women, to conduct a **comprehensive review of the draft law on violence against women** to ensure its compliance with international human rights standards. Following a series of consultations, the draft law was presented by the Ministry of Women’s Affairs to 19 women Members of Parliament and other national partners. An advocacy campaign will be launched to support its endorsement. In addition, UN Human Rights conducted an assessment mission on the needs of women and children detained at the Mitiga Detention Centre in Tripoli. As a result of advocacy efforts, the Prosecutors Legal Review Committee, established by the Attorney General, reviewed and brought before the court the legal cases of 2,845 inmates, 2,150 of whom were subsequently released.

UN Human Rights led or participated in 10 Joint Investigation Teams (JITs), nine Joint Assessment Missions (JAMs) and 10 investigation or monitoring missions, primarily in the provinces of Ituri, North and South Kivu, Kasai, Kasai Central and Tanganyika in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, in collaboration with civilian and judicial military authorities, to **fight against impunity**. Seventeen mobile courts were supported to address emblematic cases. UN Human Rights also provided technical assistance to judicial authorities regarding the handling of cases of international crimes. A total of 175 convictions were recorded as serious human rights violations.

UN Human Rights contributed to the adoption by the **European Commission** of stronger language on rule of law backsliding through the submission of a comprehensive analysis during the Commission’s consultations on the **2021 rule of law report**. The submission was based on relevant findings issued by the international human rights mechanisms and UN Human Rights from 2018-2021 in relation to all 27 EU member states. It also highlighted engagements and common messaging with partner organizations, such as the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions. In the development of its forthcoming 2022 report, the European Commission expanded its methodology and referred to previous submissions and reactions to its second 2021 rule of law annual report. Its objective is to craft a more effective response to rule of law challenges that are taking place in the context of an increasingly polarized landscape.

A2 – ACCESS TO JUSTICE and REMEDIES

Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights.



UN Human Rights advocated for the establishment of a **mechanism to address the fate and whereabouts of missing persons in Syria** and provided support to their families through the High Commissioner's statements and speeches, outreach to Member States and the oral update to the Human Rights Council, in September. This contributed to the Third Committee of the General Assembly passing a resolution, in November, calling on the Secretary-General to conduct a study on how to bolster efforts to clarify the fate and whereabouts of missing persons in the Syrian Arab Republic.

On 25 May, Somalia's Minister of Defence adopted a **human rights policy for the Somali National Armed Forces (SNAF)**, which reaffirms the promotion and protection of human rights and urges their compliance to prevent all forms of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV). The document reflects Human Rights Due Diligence Policy measures, which were highlighted as critical to strengthening oversight and accountability in a risk assessment that was sent to the Ministry of Defence and the SNAF in 2016 and 2021, respectively.

In December 2020, 11 violent riots that took place at prisons in **Ecuador** resulted in 418 deaths, the destruction of facilities and the reported rape of a policewoman. In this context, under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator, UN Human Rights and UNODC undertook a baseline study and developed a proposal for comprehensive penitentiary reform that is founded on a human rights-based approach. UN Human Rights analysed the gathered information and prioritized two key initiatives to promote an HRBA in response to the crisis. First, a technical mission was undertaken to strengthen the capacities of the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) and advocate for the importance of its role. Second, expert advice was provided for the development of the new public policy on social rehabilitation, at the request of the Secretariat for Human Rights. As a result, the Head of the NHRI **reviewed the structure of the NPM, with a view to ensuring its independence.**

Following the publication of the findings of the joint UN Human Rights-Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) report on the human rights situation in Tigray, on 3 November, the Government of Ethiopia announced the **establishment of an Interministerial Taskforce to implement the recommendations of the joint OHCHR-EHRC report.** The Interministerial Taskforce established four committees dedicated to investigations, SGBV, refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) and resource mobilization. UN Human Rights and the EHRC were invited by Ethiopia's Ministry of Justice to provide capacity-building and technical advice to the Interministerial Taskforce and key government officials.

A3 – Investigation of GENDER-related CRIMES

Justice systems investigate and prosecute gender-related crimes more effectively.



As a member of the **Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict (ToE)**, UN Human Rights supported national authorities in the **investigation and prosecution of sexual violence crimes in conflict and post-conflict settings.** For instance, in the Central African Republic, the ToE deployed a specialist to provide mentoring and capacity support to national authorities. This resulted in the finalization of two field investigation reports regarding serious incidents in Kaga Bandoro and Bossangoa. The two cases involving 264 and 150 victims of CRSV, respectively, were referred to the Office of the Prosecutor in Bangui and Kaga Bandoro's High Court. UN Human Rights also led the development of a joint United Nations amicus curiae brief to the International Criminal Court in relation to the case of The Prosecutor v. Dominic Ongwen. Dominic Ongwen was found guilty of 61 crimes against humanity and war crimes, including sexual and gender-based crimes, which took place in Northern Uganda between July 2002 and December 2005. This case marked the first time that the crime of forced marriage was considered by the Court. On 6 May, he was sentenced to 25 years in prison.

In **Mexico**, UN Human Rights developed a **methodology for specialized prosecutors working on femicide cases** to ensure that the due diligence principle includes a gender and human rights perspective. In accordance with an agreement with the General Prosecutor of Mexico City, the methodology will be implemented in 2022.

In **South Sudan**, UN Human Rights assisted with the development and consolidation of the Joint Action Plan and provided technical support to the Joint Implementation Committee (JIC) of the Joint Action Plan of the Armed Forces on CRSV, which is composed of the South Sudan People's Defence Forces (SSPDF), the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army-in-Opposition (SPLM/A-IO) and the South Sudan Opposition Alliance (SSOA). The Committee was officially launched on 30 November. UN Human Rights provided technical assistance and facilitated a series of meetings to assist the JIC in developing approaches and strategies to fulfil its mandate to lead and oversee the implementation of the Joint Action Plan.

In **Kenya**, UN Human Rights initiated plans to engage WHRDs in Kisumu, Vihiga and Bungoma counties under Phase II of the "Let It Not Happen Again" joint project, which is being implemented in cooperation with UN Women, in order to strengthen the **prevention of and response to election-related sexual violence.** UN Human Rights trained 15 HRDs (11 women, four men) to enable them to provide facilitated access to medical and justice services by SGBV survivors and identify the delivery of services by duty-bearers to enhance effective prevention and response to gender-based violence. As a result of the training, the participating HRDs subsequently assisted 139 GBV survivors (135 women, four men) with reporting their cases to the police and accessing medical and psychosocial services. UN Human Rights also provided psychosocial services to HRDs to protect them from burnout when assisting GBV survivors.

A4 – ACCESS to INFORMATION

States undertake measures to ensure that their decision-making, policies and actions are more transparent and that the public has access to information for accountability purposes.



In collaboration with the human rights programme of the National Autonomous University of Mexico, UN Human Rights defined, contextualized and **validated a set of indicators for the Escazú Agreement**, which the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs adopted as the Agreement’s reporting framework. In addition, federal authorities validated and adopted a set of 108 indicators on water and sanitation for Mexico, which were developed by UN Human Rights in collaboration with the National Institute of Water Technologies.

A5 – UN ACTION on RULE of LAW

UN efforts with regard to the rule of law, justice, counter-terrorism and accountability put human rights at the core.



Due to UN Human Rights’ strategic advocacy for the **seventh review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy**, some of OHCHR’s inputs were incorporated into the review resolution (A/RES/75/291), which include: a reference to the UN Guidance Note on the promotion and protection of civic space; a call for the creation of an enabling environment for civil society; an explicit reference to OHCHR and the integration of the reports and recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the UPR; recognition of the differential impact of terrorism and counter-terrorism measures on women and girls; and an explicit reference to freedom of expression and association.

UN Human Rights remained involved in the development of the **Global Framework for UN Support on Syria/Iraq Third Country Returnees**, until its official launch, in September. UN Human Rights will continue to play an active role in its implementation, stressing the need for mainstreaming human rights principles and gender perspectives into every stage of the return process.

The UNCT in **Myanmar** demonstrated its responsiveness to human rights concerns by undertaking targeted actions, both internally and publicly. During the present crises, UN Human Rights provided support to the UNCT by **promoting coordinated, coherent and consistent human rights messaging and a condemnation of violence** used against peaceful protesters and mass detentions. Furthermore, as a result of the suspension of all programmes that were being delivered through the mechanisms of the Government, the UN reoriented its programmes to support locally-based solutions and mechanisms instead of State apparatuses that were controlled by the military. In implementing these engagement principles, the UN assessed human rights risks for their programmes and, where possible, repurposed their efforts in support of human rights protection. Furthermore, the UNCT undertook significant efforts to steer future programming towards meeting the needs of the most vulnerable through humanitarian and socio-economic responses.

Strategic litigation: A force for gender justice

A group of lawyers, academics, legal practitioners and activists across Latin America have united under the belief that strategic court cases can bring justice, reparations and healing to SGBV survivors.

“The Latin American Network for Gender-based Strategic Litigation (ReLeG) was established in 2021 to advocate for and strengthen accountability efforts for gender-based crimes in Latin America and provide a platform for advocates to disseminate and exchange good litigation practices across the region,” said Susana SáCouto, one of the group’s organizers.

“We saw that many organizations and victims’ advocates were working in isolation, unaware of similar cases being litigated in the region or of successful jurisprudential advances and strategies,” she said.

“Strong peer networks are indispensable to sharing lessons learned,” added Seoane, another organizer. “It is generally an advocacy process, not single interventions, that contributes to positive change. We hope this network will support participants in these initiatives.”

FROM A WORKSHOP TO A COALITION

It all began with a workshop in Bellagio, in 2017, during which advocates exchanged information, good practices and common challenges faced in their cases and projects. With the assistance of UN Human Rights, the group became more formalized. UN Human Rights sponsored a

roundtable discussion on strategic litigation of gender-based violence cases in Latin America. The subsequent report laid a foundation for the group’s advocacy work.

“ReLeG is a platform that reflects a diversity of experiences and backgrounds and can be used to disseminate and exchange good practices, academic research and expertise on specific GBV cases. More broadly, it can help users find creative solutions to advance gender justice and gender equality,” said Georgina Mendoza, a UN Human Rights Officer. “For UN Human Rights, it is important to support collective efforts that are focused on societal transformation.”

STRATEGIC LITIGATION MEANS STRUCTURAL CHANGE

“Strategic litigation includes bringing cases before judicial and quasi-judicial bodies that aim to have a lasting impact beyond addressing the harm suffered by those victims,” said Kravetz, a co-organizer of ReLeG.

One of the best examples of this was Guatemala’s groundbreaking 2016 Sepur Zarco court case, which dealt with CRSV against indigenous women during the country’s civil conflict. The trial resulted in the conviction of former military members, as well as transformative reparations that included monetary compensation, restitution and rehabilitation. The reparations sought to strengthen access to health and education in the communities of the litigants and supported the development



March against gender-based violence in Lima, Peru. © EPA-EFE

of cultural projects for the women of Sepur Zarco. The judgment was translated into the 24 Mayan languages.

A NETWORK OF JUDICIAL ADVOCACY FOR ALL SURVIVORS

The focus on SGBV for strategic litigation in Latin America is an attempt to end impunity for these crimes.

“We expect that this platform will facilitate our work as a coalition and increase our capacity to break the existing patterns of impunity regarding SGBV,” said Claudia Martin, a group organizer. “We believe that ensuring past perpetrators are held accountable for SGBV in conflict or situations of political repression is necessary to addressing new forms of gendered violence. Present day violence reproduces historical patterns of discrimination and is committed by States and private actors.”

Participation (P)

Enhancing participation and protecting civic space



PUBLIC MOBILIZATION

Global campaigns
10.5 million followers on social media
 (across all UN Human Rights platforms, 8.2% more than in 2020)

9,400 persons from over **160** countries expressed support (by sharing photos on social media with a filter inspired by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights)

374 video stories (including 175 video messages from the High Commissioner)

110 feature stories (UN Human Rights website and social media)

In the field
557 advocacy campaigns

2,226 press releases/statements
 Data coverage in **88** countries (215% increase compared to 41 in 2015, on global reporting on killings and enforced disappearances of HRDs, journalists and trade unions)

INFORMATION AND OUTREACH MATERIALS

Publications
6.99 million visits to online publications
 (13% increase from 2020)

Over **298,000** publications/advocacy materials distributed (to 85 countries)

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

With CSOs
1,285 women's rights organizations
615 youth-led organizations
581 organizations of persons with disabilities

ENGAGEMENT WITH UN HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

HRC and UPR Voluntary Trust Funds
3 delegates of **3** States supported to attend UPR reviews (out of a total of 41 States reviewed)

108 requests processed by the HRC Help Desk for Small States (during regular sessions of the HRC)

Intimidation and reprisals against those cooperating with the UN
 New cases/developments from **45** countries

Social Forum
 Over **500** participants attended online and in person (focusing on "good practices, success stories, lessons learned and challenges in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic")

"To defend water is to defend life itself" (Honduras)

"I don't understand how it is that we can be given awards abroad [for our work], while at home, in Honduras, we are persecuted [for it]," expressed a perplexed Juana Zúniga when talking about the backlash against her community.

In 2018, the Government granted a concession for the Rivers of San Pedro and of Guapinol, located in the Carlos Escaleras National Park, to the mining company, Inversiones Pinares. The concession was marked by irregularities, such as legislation that reduced the Park's core area by 200 hectares to allow the mining company to more fully exploit its mineral rights.

When the Guapinol and other nearby communities realized that the mining activities were polluting their main water supply, they filed a lawsuit against the Government.

"The right to water and to a healthy environment are social rights and the community is very clear about this. As citizens, we have the duty to defend the environment because we all need water; humans, flora and fauna," said Guapinol defender Kelvin Romero.

Since then, artists and human rights defenders have set up protest camps and participated in demonstrations, concerts and other events. Protests in 2018 were marred by acts of violence, which the Government blamed on protestors and community activists.

The Government's subsequent accusations of arson and damage to private property against 31 people resulted in the detention of 12 leaders of the movement, eight of

whom remain in pretrial detention. The prosecution asserts that the activists are part of a criminal group, not HRDs.

UN Human Rights staff members visited the defenders in prison in October 2020 and November 2021. During those visits, the HRDs shared concerns about safety for themselves and their families. A Guapinol defender was murdered in suspicious circumstances outside his home.

The trial against the HRDs has been postponed several times, denying them their right to justice. During the last hearing, in December, the prosecution introduced a new charge of aggravated damages. This charge is under review by the Court of Appeals.

As a result of these delays, the HRDs have been in pretrial detention for more than two years. The UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention issued an opinion that the detention is arbitrary and contrary to Honduras' human rights obligations. Furthermore, the HRDs have

been repeatedly denied their visitation rights, including to meet with their legal representatives. Four special rapporteurs have requested the Government to immediately release the defenders.

UN Human Rights conducted advocacy and provided legal support related to international human rights standards, including on HRDs, criminalization and excessive preventive detention to judicial and prosecutorial authorities. It also provided legal support to victims and their legal representatives.

Following widespread smear campaigns that attempted to delegitimize their work as HRDs, UN Human Rights offered public support, emphasizing their roles as HRDs who are fighting for the well-being of their community and their region.

"To defend water is to defend life itself. We are fighting for the survival of our way of life and that of our community as a whole," said Guapinol defender Arnold Alemán.



UN Human Rights Honduras Representative and team by the Guapinol River with families and community members. © OHCHR

Highlights of pillar results

Participation (P)

Meaningful, inclusive and safe participation of people and communities, including those who are most underrepresented, is key to realizing the human rights for all people and advancing peace and development. When civil society engages freely and actively in policy development and implementation, policies are more informed, effective, efficient and sustainable. CSOs are instrumental in providing

legal, medical, social and financial support to victims of human rights violations, yet they face major obstacles at all levels, including at the country level and within UN forums. Legal and policy restrictions, negative narratives, attacks and intimidation, both online and offline, affect their ability to debate and mobilize. While new technologies facilitate the expansion of civil society networks, they also create

new avenues for control of their speech and activities, often under the pretext of security. UN Human Rights is uniquely placed to monitor the situation of those who speak up, open doors for effective civil society engagement and advocate for approaches that preserve and expand civic space.

PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

P1 – ENABLING NORMATIVE FRAMEWORK for civil society

Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online. The environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.



RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS



In **Colombia**, during the national strike that began on 28 April, UN Human Rights observed that dialogue between authorities, protesters and other actors constituted the most effective tool and good practice to prevent, avoid or neutralize situations of violence, including in response to roadblocks. UN Human Rights participated in seven working groups to **promote dialogue between protesters and local authorities**, specifically in the district of Bogotá and the municipality of Cali. Furthermore, after participating in capacity-building activities that were facilitated by UN Human Rights, HRDs highlighted human rights standards during their interactions with local and national authorities. On 10 December, the Ministry of the Interior presented the “Public policy on guarantees and respect for the work of human rights defenders and social leadership.” Before its publication, UN Human Rights shared with the Ministry its observations and recommendations, some of which were taken into account, especially those related to the incorporation of an HRBA.

In the **Pacific region**, UN Human Rights actively engaged with women human rights defenders, in particular with those from rural and remote areas. **A report on the situation of HRDs** was finalized and launched, highlighting the situation of WHRDs in Fiji, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. The launch was preceded by a validation workshop of findings and recommendations, based on scoping missions conducted in seven countries. The report presents recommendations for action by national institutions, regional bodies and international organizations, as well as HRDs. In 2022, UN Human Rights will work on a protection strategy for WHRDs and continue its capacity-building work.

In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, UN Human Rights focused on assessing the situation regarding civic space, including freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association and the right to participate in public affairs. Contacts were established with CSOs to assess the challenges they face in different parts of the country. Additionally, preliminary research on hate speech was undertaken and UN Human Rights coordinated the elaboration of a **UN Plan of Action on hate speech**, which includes monitoring, advocacy and capacity-building.

UN Human Rights contributed to ensuring that human rights perspectives were integrated into global discourses about **effective ways to moderate online content while respecting freedom of expression**. For instance, on 14 July, a **press conference** highlighted related developments in a variety of countries, including Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, France, the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt)/Israel, Singapore, Tanzania and the United States of America. Issues covered were broadly picked up by the press and social media. For instance, one post on Internet shutdowns was viewed over 335,000 times on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

P2 – PROTECTION of CIVIL SOCIETY ACTORS

The UN system and international, regional and national mechanisms provide increased, timely and effective protection to civil society organizations and individuals, including from reprisals.



In **Guatemala**, UN Human Rights launched an **online educational platform** (www.participapromueveprotege.org), which seeks to strengthen the knowledge of State institutions and civil society actors on the promotion and protection of human rights. UN Human Rights also facilitated a six-week workshop about the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders for 20 officials (14 women, six men) from the Attorney General’s Office, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Energy and Mining, the National Civilian Police, the General Procurator’s Office and the judiciary. Through two virtual sessions, UN Human Rights strengthened the knowledge of 16 staff members (nine women, seven men) from the Presidential Commission on Human Rights (COPADEH) regarding the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders and the right to defend human rights. At the regional level, UN Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights worked closely to strengthen the capacities of 25 people (12 women, 13 men) from CSOs and State institutions from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua on the protection of HRDs.

In **Bangladesh**, through training and outreach, UN Human Rights **strengthened the knowledge of civil society actors about the international human rights mechanisms**. As a result, civil society increasingly used the recommendations issued by the special procedures, human rights treaty bodies and UPR in their advocacy. They also made greater use of UN tools to monitor and report on human rights violations.

In **South Sudan**, in engaging with NHRIs, UN Human Rights provided technical support to the South Sudan Human Rights Commission (SSHRC), human rights defenders and CSOs to undertake human rights field monitoring, investigations and reporting missions. In particular, the SSHRC was supported to develop a **human rights field investigation and monitoring toolkit** with a checklist. It carried out three field investigation missions to Yei, Malakal and Rumbek and drafted the mission reports with recommendations. The reports will be shared with the Government and used as an advocacy and engagement tool for addressing the identified human rights violations and abuses, as well as raising awareness about the need for accountability of identified perpetrators. UN Human Rights will continue to support the SSHRC by strengthening its monitoring and investigation capacities.

P3 – PUBLIC SUPPORT for CIVIC SPACE

Business, policymakers and the public at large increasingly value and support civic space.



On the occasion of the launch of its **Guidance on the protection of human rights defenders**, UN Human Rights supported the UN Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises in holding two regional dialogues in Latin America, in September. One dialogue gathered 150 HRDs to discuss collaborative strategies to counter the phenomenon of legal claims against HRDs working on the issue of business and human rights. The other dialogue brought together 400 representatives of business, CSOs, communities and governments to discuss the situation of HRDs working on business and human rights. The discussion pushed for new commitments from governments and the business sector to protect the work of HRDs. The Guidance is being **integrated into CSO advocacy and government policies for the protection of human rights defenders**, notably the protection mechanism for human rights defenders in Peru, the Attorney General of Peru's Protocol for the protection of human rights defenders and the Policy on protection of social leaders of the Ministry of Mines and Energy of Colombia.

P4 – ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS

Civil society assistance to victims of human rights violations is strengthened.



In **Azerbaijan**, UN Human Rights launched a new three-year project with the aim of protecting the human rights of vulnerable groups. Within the framework of this project, UN Human Rights will deliver **systematic capacity-building programmes** on a wide range of human rights topics and will ensure continued support for the engagement of national actors in international and national human rights advocacy. The project will also contribute to improved access to justice for vulnerable groups by advocating for the **establishment of a civil legal aid system** in the country and the extension of free legal aid to members of vulnerable groups and other persons affected by the pandemic. Furthermore, in cooperation with the Ombudsperson and the Bar Association, UN Human Rights provided **legal assistance to members of vulnerable groups** in Baku and other regions and promoted the pro bono culture among private legal professionals. This assistance was extended to the five regions of Azerbaijan and will be available on a permanent basis. Due to these efforts, 1,549 individuals (719 women, 830 men) from vulnerable groups benefited from legal assistance in 2021. The cases primarily focused on women's rights, housing rights, social security rights, labour rights and administrative law.

UN Human Rights engaged with **North Koreans living in the Republic of Korea (ROK)** and organized regular meetings with two core groups of North Korean civil society actors in the ROK. The meetings served as a platform for consistent interaction and engagement and facilitated the provision of **support on human rights issues, including through monitoring and documentation, victims' protection and engagement with the UN**. Eight field missions were undertaken to provinces outside of Seoul and visits were organized to the Hanawon Resettlement Support Centres to engage with DPRK escapees who maintain contacts inside the DPRK, enabling them to receive up-to-date information on the human rights situation.

In **Syria**, UN Human Rights provided technical and financial assistance and mentoring to organizations implementing **community-level HRBA projects** in government-held areas. Selected projects addressed issues such as social cohesion, women's rights and child protection. UN Human Rights organized a series of roundtables for CSOs on: the rights of the child and their protection; effective advocacy strategies, including social media; international human rights mechanisms and resolutions for the promotion, protection and advancement of women's rights; and risk assessment/analysis/security training. A total of 66 individuals (49 women, 17 men) participated in the roundtables. In 2022, UN Human Rights will build on this work by organizing a new round of sub-grants to support grassroots CSO programming.

P5 – CIVIC SPACE MONITORING

More systematic monitoring of the environment for civic space, including threats to it, takes place.



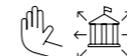
In **Honduras**, through its monitoring and reporting work, UN Human Rights brought **cases of human rights violations to the attention of relevant authorities** and advocated for them to be addressed. UN Human Rights also implemented **a monitoring and documentation protocol** to register and analyse attacks and grave violations against HRDs, journalists and demonstrators. UN Human Rights used the new system to register 362 victims of attacks during 2021, including 10 violent deaths. It also intervened in many of these cases and facilitated contact between victims or their families and the NHRI or the NPM and provided NGOs with support in bringing cases to the attention of the international human rights mechanisms.

In **Cambodia**, UN Human Rights **monitored the civic and democratic space** of at least 25 peaceful protests and gatherings. It also provided protection support and referrals in relation to 26 situations involving HRDs and CSOs and seven cases involving journalists. Further, UN Human Rights **monitored and provided protection support and referrals** in relation to 20 cases involving members and activists of the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP), including the killing of an activist in Phnom Penh and the deportation of five Cambodian political refugees affiliated with the CNRP from Thailand. Throughout the year, regular briefings were organized with CSOs to discuss protection concerns and civic and democratic space. Moreover, UN Human Rights facilitated four virtual meetings between the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, CSOs and at-risk HRDs.

Through the development of an internal toolbox and collaborative projects with universities to collect **real-time data on disruptions** (i.e., in Burkina Faso, Honduras, Sudan and Venezuela), UN Human Rights is taking steps to strengthen the monitoring and reporting of Internet shutdowns, with a view to raising awareness about adverse human rights impacts and how they can be prevented.

P6 – PEOPLE HAVE a VOICE

The voices of people affected by decisions, particularly victims and those who face discrimination, are more clearly heard.



In **Mexico**, UN Human Rights advocated for the **adoption and implementation of international human rights standards on the rights of indigenous peoples** before several ministries, institutions, companies and embassies. In the emblematic case of a series of agreements on community water management that were concluded between Zapotecan communities (Oaxaca) and federal authorities, UN Human Rights played a crucial role in promoting the inclusion of relevant international standards during the dialogue process. On 24 November, the President of Mexico signed a decree recognizing the rights of indigenous communities and ensuring their access to water.

In the **Pacific region**, UN Human Rights collaborated with UNFPA, ILO and UNICEF to re-activate the UN Youth Inter-Agency Working Group, which was established to address youth development in the Pacific region. It also co-organized the commemoration of International Youth Day, on 12 August, with an event in the Federated States of Micronesia and across the region, focusing on the need for **youth inclusion and participation in the development space**, contributing to the preparation of policy and strengthening youth structures and the use of digital space. Other issues included challenges related to climate change and the impacts of COVID-19 on food security. Youth priorities and recommendations shaped the outcome statement of the event, which was presented at the World Food Systems Summit, in September.

Following technical advice and advocacy by UN Human Rights and the special procedures, in collaboration with UN **Malawi** and development partners, the Government **revised the NGO Amendment Bill** so that it complies with international standards, including by guaranteeing the protection of the rights to freedom of association, assembly, expression and opinion. In early 2021, UN Human Rights submitted to the Government a detailed human rights analysis of the NGO Act and the NGO Amendment Bill 2020. The analysis was jointly supported by the UN and seven development partners and included comments made regarding previous amendment bills by UN Human Rights and the special procedures, with an emphasis on the need for a vibrant civic space that respects and promotes human rights. In March, the Government responded positively to the joint submission and indicated that it would reflect 80 per cent of the comments in its review of the regulatory system. The remaining comments will be considered during a comprehensive review of the NGO Act by the Malawi Human Rights Commission (MHRC), as recommended in the joint UN submission. At the end of the year, the NGO Amendment Bill was presented to the Parliament for debate but it was not yet tabled. It is anticipated that the Bill will be tabled in a session in early 2022.

P7 – Human rights RESPONSE to VIOLENCE

Public recognition increases that human rights and accountability make important contributions to effective responses to violence, including terrorism and violent extremism.



In **Tunisia**, under the Memorandum of Understanding between UN Human Rights and the Ministry of Religious Affairs, UN Human Rights supported the Ministry and the Union of Imams in organizing a series of three workshops dedicated to **freedom of expression and countering hate speech** for imams and professional worship staff from across the country. The workshops aimed at reinforcing the understanding of the imams about international standards on freedom of expression and the Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence. It also sought to enhance their ability to identify, prevent and/or counter hate speech, thereby contributing to the **promotion of pluralism and non-discrimination** within their communities.

UN Human Rights developed and implemented a Member State **engagement action plan on counter-terrorism and human rights**. UN Human Rights tracked and documented engagement with Member States and formulated key messages for specific occasions, such as meetings with Azerbaijan, Belgium, Egypt, India, Morocco, Norway, Pakistan, Sweden and the EU. These advocacy efforts enhanced Member States' awareness of OHCHR's work on counter-terrorism and human rights.

Online course inspires participation in decision-making and the promotion of the right to development

Srruthi is a 21-year-old activist who grew up facing economic hardship in Puducherry, a small union territory in India. Motivated by concerns about injustice and human rights violations and a desire to foster social change, she decided to get involved in shaping the decisions impacting her city and came across the e-learning module, “Operationalizing the right to development in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals.”

Jamila, a young British Palestinian woman who lives in East Jerusalem with her husband and three kids, lost her job at the UNRWA Field Legal Office due to political tensions. She was the primary breadwinner and could not find other work. As her family's financial difficulties continued, she enrolled in the same e-learning module.

The module was developed by UN Human Rights, in partnership with the University for Peace (UPEACE) in Costa Rica and the UN University's International Institute for Global Health in Malaysia and was launched in 2018. It is based on the contributions of 10 experts from around the world with a shared commitment to advancing the right to development by providing information in an understandable format, using case studies and concrete examples of how to implement this right.

“I understood what a participatory process was, how to create one and why it was so important for sustainable development...I also realized there was a gap in that respect in my own city,” said Srruthi. “This module provided interesting case

studies and knowledge that I could use in my own projects.”

“What captured my attention was a case study from Afghanistan where students were taught negotiation and conflict resolution skills and how that helped their community to share development resources,” said Jamila. “I was facing similar problems and conflicts where I was living and I thought that I could replicate some of the success stories I learned about,” she added.

Both women founded organizations to help realize the right to development and build the capacity of their communities to claim and defend their rights.

Jamila founded an NGO known as the Women, Youth & Kids Empowerment Initiative for Sustainable Peace & Development, to teach disadvantaged children living in East Jerusalem about their rights and how they are linked to

development issues. She established partnerships with two other organizations and now works with 11 volunteers and a network of technical experts and professionals from various countries.

Srruthi set up Polity Link, an NGO working with governments and CSOs to promote the involvement of young people in developing policies to tackle issues, such as inequality and sustainable development. More than 120 students and civil society activists are now taking part in Polity Link's activities on a biweekly basis. They are often contacted by the Puducherry local government to ensure that the voices of youth are taken into account in decision-making processes. Srruthi hopes to expand her work to other cities, primarily through capacity-building programmes that will highlight human rights and international cooperation for development.



Srruthi Lekha Raaja Elango (left) and Jamila Al-Abbasi (right). © OHCHR

Mongolia: New law to protect human rights defenders

The Mongolian Parliament recently adopted a new law for human rights defenders, making it the first country in Asia to provide a framework of protection for people who speak out on human rights concerns and violations.

The Law on the Legal Status of Human Rights Defenders entered into force on 1 July. It is the result of a years-long collective effort of UN Human Rights, CSOs and the Government, in cooperation with the UN presence in Mongolia. Under the Law, the critical voices and actions of HRDs are now legally protected and their rights are respected, promoted and fulfilled.

“This is a major achievement for Mongolia, signalling its clear commitment to human rights,” said the High Commissioner for Human Rights. “This Law will resonate within and beyond Mongolia’s borders.”

The High Commissioner added that as the eyes of the region will be watching the next steps, it will be important that the Law is implemented in compliance with international standards and overseen by an independent, effective and fully resourced mechanism.

For the last several years, UN Human Rights has been supporting Mongolia to implement the recommendations

emanating from the UPR process. As part of this process, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders provided a number of recommendations to the Government of Mongolia.

A MOVE TO A “SAFE AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT”

Historically, although HRDs in Mongolia live in a relatively safe environment, they face numerous obstacles, such as pressure, stigmatization and hate speech on social media related to their advocacy on media freedom, climate justice, disability rights, access to housing and discrimination against LGBTI persons.

In 2019, a [visit report](#) from the Special Rapporteur highlighted cases of discrimination, harassment and intimidation. Some HRDs were reported to have died in circumstances that were not properly investigated.

“The adoption of this Law is a welcome and critical move to create a safe and enabling environment for human rights defenders...and a progressive step towards full protection for their vital work,” stated the High Commissioner. “It will serve to acknowledge their crucial work, bring the perpetrators of attacks against them to justice and end impunity.”

UN Human Rights will continue to provide technical support to Mongolia as it implements the legislation.



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Women human rights defenders at a workshop during the soft launch of the OHCHR report on the situation of human rights defenders, in Suva, Fiji. © OHCHR



Management

Youth participants attended the OHCHR training for human rights defenders and peace builders as part of the Peacebuilding Fund project in Diego, Madagascar.
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This chapter provides an overview of the efforts of UN Human Rights to ensure its decision-making, planning, management and evaluation processes operate at the highest possible standard. It includes highlights of results achieved under the 10 UN Human Rights Organizational Effectiveness Action Plans (OEAPs).

Accountability and governance framework

Mandate

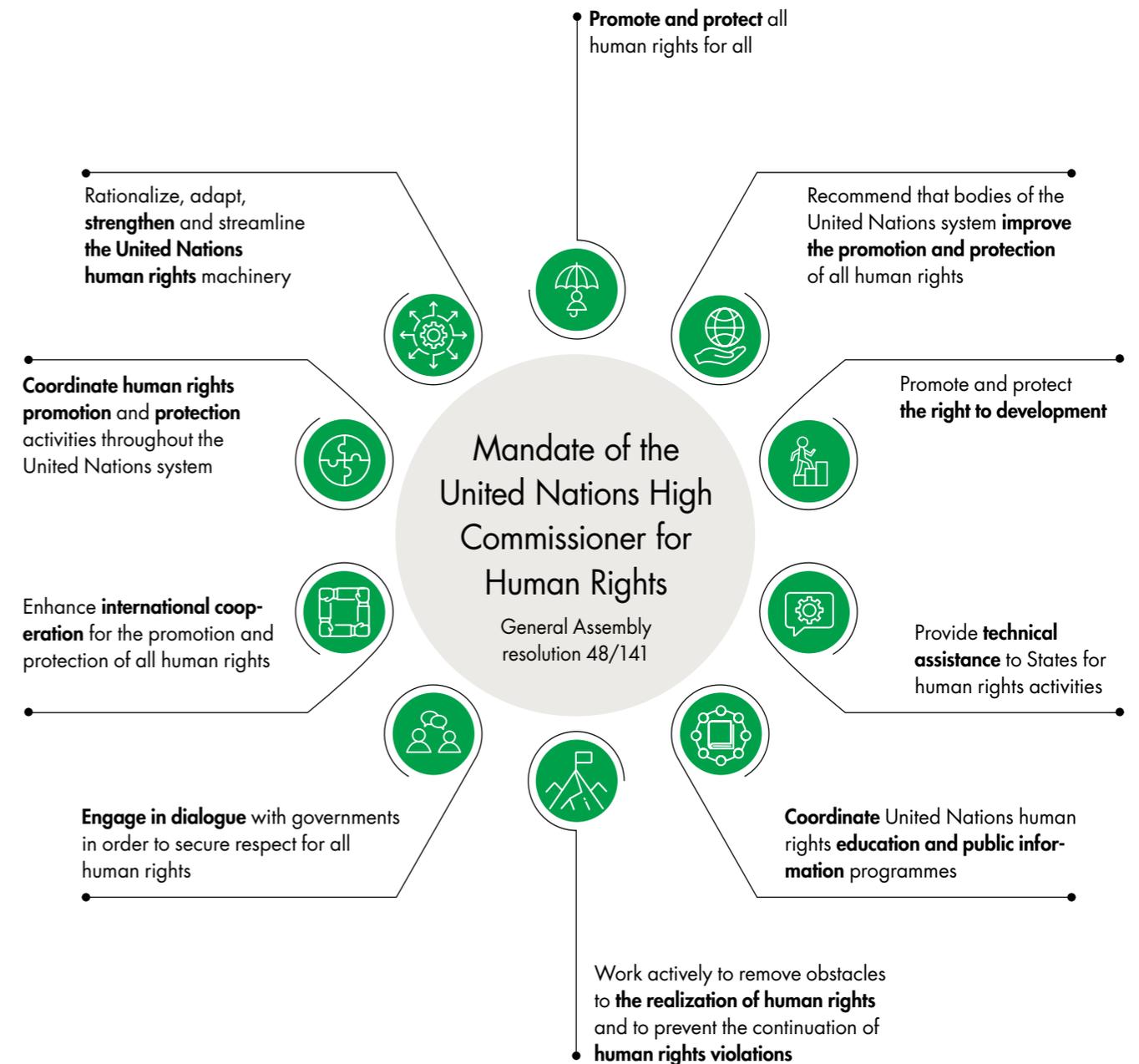
Mandated by General Assembly resolution 48/141, UN Human Rights is a department of the United Nations Secretariat. It does not have its own executive board, but it is directly accountable to the Secretary-General and the General Assembly.

The mandate of UN Human Rights is derived from multiple sources, including General Assembly resolution 48/141, the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and subsequent human rights instruments, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights and the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document.

UN Human Rights is mandated to prevent human rights violations, secure respect for all human rights, promote international cooperation to protect human rights, coordinate related activities throughout the United Nations and strengthen and streamline the UN system in the field

of human rights. In addition to these responsibilities, UN Human Rights leads efforts to integrate a human rights-based approach (HRBA) into all work that is carried out by UN entities.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights is the principal human rights official of the United Nations who is appointed by the General Assembly for a fixed term of four years, with the possibility of one renewal for a second term. UN Human Rights is led by the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, with the support of the Deputy High Commissioner, Nada Al-Nashif, and the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, Ilze Brands Kehris, who heads the New York Office.



Internal decision-making

Office-wide decision-making takes place through the Senior Management Team (SMT), which is chaired by the High Commissioner, and the Programme and Budget Review Board (PBRB), which is chaired by the Deputy High Commissioner. These two bodies meet regularly to make recommendations to the High Commissioner on policies, operating procedures and programme and resource allocations. The Policy Advisory Group (PAG) and the extended Policy Advisory Group (ePAG), which are also chaired by the Deputy High Commissioner, provide additional forums for senior managers to exchange views on policy, organizational change and management.

In 2021, two PAG meetings were held on the fourth cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). In addition, the 2021 Leadership Dialogue on the Accountability System in the United Nations Secretariat was held at the PAG meeting with all members of the Leadership Team, after which the outcome of the dialogue was communicated to the rest of the Office.

Three ePAG meetings with managers were organized, with a focus on human resources management matters (contract management, performance management, the Welcome Mat for new UN Human Rights staff members) and diversity and

inclusion. Two workshops on inclusive leadership were facilitated by the Senior Diversity and Inclusion Adviser for ePAG managers at headquarters and in the field. These ePAGs were well attended, sometimes reaching over 100 participants, and were facilitated by the newly adopted fully online modality.

The **Senior Management Team** met on seven occasions in 2021, including once as a combined SMT/PBRB meeting to make decisions on policy-related matters. The SMT endorsed the OHCHR Risk Register, the two-year extension of the OHCHR Management Plan (OMP) until 2023, the OHCHR Strategy in the Sahel, the revision of the OHCHR Publications Policy and the recommendations emanating from strategic visioning exercises in relation to the Brussels Office, the Doha Centre and the Organizational Effectiveness Action Plan on Diversity and Inclusion. The annual Strategic Leadership Retreat was cancelled due to the pandemic.

The **Programme and Budget Review Board** held 11 regular meetings during 2021, including one that was jointly held with the SMT, contributing to continued improvements in the internal governance of the office-wide programming, budget and finances. During the year, the PBRB reviewed 54 fundraising and fund

allocation proposals from headquarters and the field, representing a 20 per cent increase over 2020, but lower than the record high number of proposals received in 2018 and 2019. Most submissions were processed by the PBRB Secretariat through electronic reviews to optimize the efficient use of meeting time and enable timely decisions between monthly meetings. The lower number of proposals compared to 2018 and 2019 can be attributed to enhanced efforts to recover costs and proactively include all expected earmarked income at the planning stage to avoid budgetary increases throughout the year.

Results-based management

Planning

The OMP combines the High Commissioner's vision for the Office with a strong results-based framework. Its priorities and results are guided by the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights. It details OHCHR's priorities, expected results and strategies and is a tool to hold itself accountable to the people that it serves, to Member States and the entire UN system.

Although the OHCHR Management Plan usually covers a four-year period, the Office decided to extend the 2018-2021 OMP until 2023. The existing OMP is comprehensive and has proven to be an adaptable framework as UN Human Rights addresses the daunting human rights challenges being faced, including the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition to extending the current OMP, it has been updated to recalibrate, renew and introduce work areas to sharpen UN Human Rights' engagement on immediate opportunities and challenges. The six pillars that underpin global efforts to advance the enjoyment of all human rights by all have been maintained. Building on these pillars, additional shifts were defined for 2022 and 2023, along with specific spotlight populations. While efforts to combat all forms of discrimination will continue, these changes will also enable UN Human Rights to focus on specific groups and further uphold the guiding principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to Leave No One Behind (LNOB).

The extended OMP and focusing on today's most compelling human rights challenges

In 2022 and 2023, UN Human Rights will give more prominence to the following three areas of work:

- **Inequality:** The global pandemic has led to extraordinary challenges in our world. It has exposed a generation of underinvestment in public health systems, with devastating results for humanity, and has uncovered the many negative human rights impacts that result from growing inequality.
- **The situation of people of African descent:** The discrimination that accompanies inequalities affects all marginalized groups and people of African descent have long borne the harmful consequences of heightened discrimination and violence. Transformative change for racial justice and equality is set out in the High Commissioner's four-point agenda to end systemic racism and human rights violations by law enforcement agencies against Africans and people of African descent.
- **Leveraging data for human rights:** The focus on leveraging data will improve analysis and decision-making along the full spectrum of human rights. This expansion responds to the Secretary-General's vision for the United Nations to be a data-driven organization and to deliver optimal value for people and the planet.

Internally, UN Human Rights will place added emphasis on Diversity and Inclusion, Sustainable Environmental Management and the use of Digital Technologies.

Evaluation

In 2021, five evaluations were finalized and four were initiated. The UN Free & Equal campaign, the Indigenous and Minorities Fellowships Programme, the Colombia Country Programme, the Ethiopia Country Programme and the Iraq Accountability Project were finalized. Other evaluations are underway, including the Youth and Human Rights Project, the Asia-Pacific Regional Programme, the Democratic Republic of the Congo Country Programme and the Liberia Country Programme.

The reports of the completed evaluations have been uploaded to the evaluation portal of the Intranet. External evaluations were also posted in the evaluation section of the OHCHR website,² the evaluation module of the PMS, the UN Evaluation Group portal and the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) Knowledge Platform. These documents are accompanied by the respective management responses and actions plans for the implementation of their recommendations. The action plans have been submitted to the PBRB and their status will be monitored every six months through the Decision Tracking System.

The implementation of the recommendations emanating from the evaluation of RBM in OHCHR led to the preparation of the Office's Programming Manual. The Manual includes detailed evaluation guidance and the revision of the RBM training package, which now includes an evaluation module. Both tools will be launched in 2022.

Finally, gender and disability issues are being mainstreamed into the evaluations conducted in the Office and contributions have been provided to the reporting processes for the UN System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (SWAP) and the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS). OHCHR is the co-convenor of the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Working Group on gender, disability and human rights. The Working Group develops guidance on the integration of these cross-cutting issues for use in all OHCHR evaluations.

Risk management

In 2021, the SMT endorsed the OHCHR Risk Register, which identifies the most critical risks for OHCHR and the mitigation measures to reduce and manage these risks. The Register was prepared following an office-wide consultation process with all 16 branches. A total of 16 primary risks were identified for the organization, including four very high risks, four high risks and eight medium risks. During 2021, OHCHR prepared risk treatment and response plans for the four very high and four high levels of risk categories and began implementing the identified risk response measures. OHCHR recently completed an annual review of the Risk Register and will report on progress as a requirement of all departments of the Secretariat.

Organizational development

Organizational effectiveness results

UN Human Rights outlined nine interrelated Organizational Effectiveness Action Plans in the OHCHR Management Plan 2018-2021. During the process of extending the OMP, two more OEAPs were added, namely, the OEAP on Sustainable Environmental Management (SEM) and the OEAP on Digital Technology. An OEAP on Diversity and Inclusion will replace the OEAP on Diversity and Gender, with a focus on addressing racial discrimination and promoting

intersectional approaches to achieve gender equality and respect for diversity.

Organizational effectiveness results are the changes that UN Human Rights commits to achieving in order to improve its programme delivery and operational relevance and efficiency. The results were defined at the output level in the 2021 annual workplans. Reporting entities also report additional results under relevant OEAPs.

Organizational Effectiveness Action Plans (OEAPs)



² UN Human Rights, Evaluation in OHCHR, accessed on 3 May 2022, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/about-us/evaluation-ohchr>

Office-wide contribution to Organizational Effectiveness (OE) results

Approximately 90 per cent of programming entities reported on OE results at the end of the year, demonstrating a high level of office-wide engagement, both in the field and at headquarters.

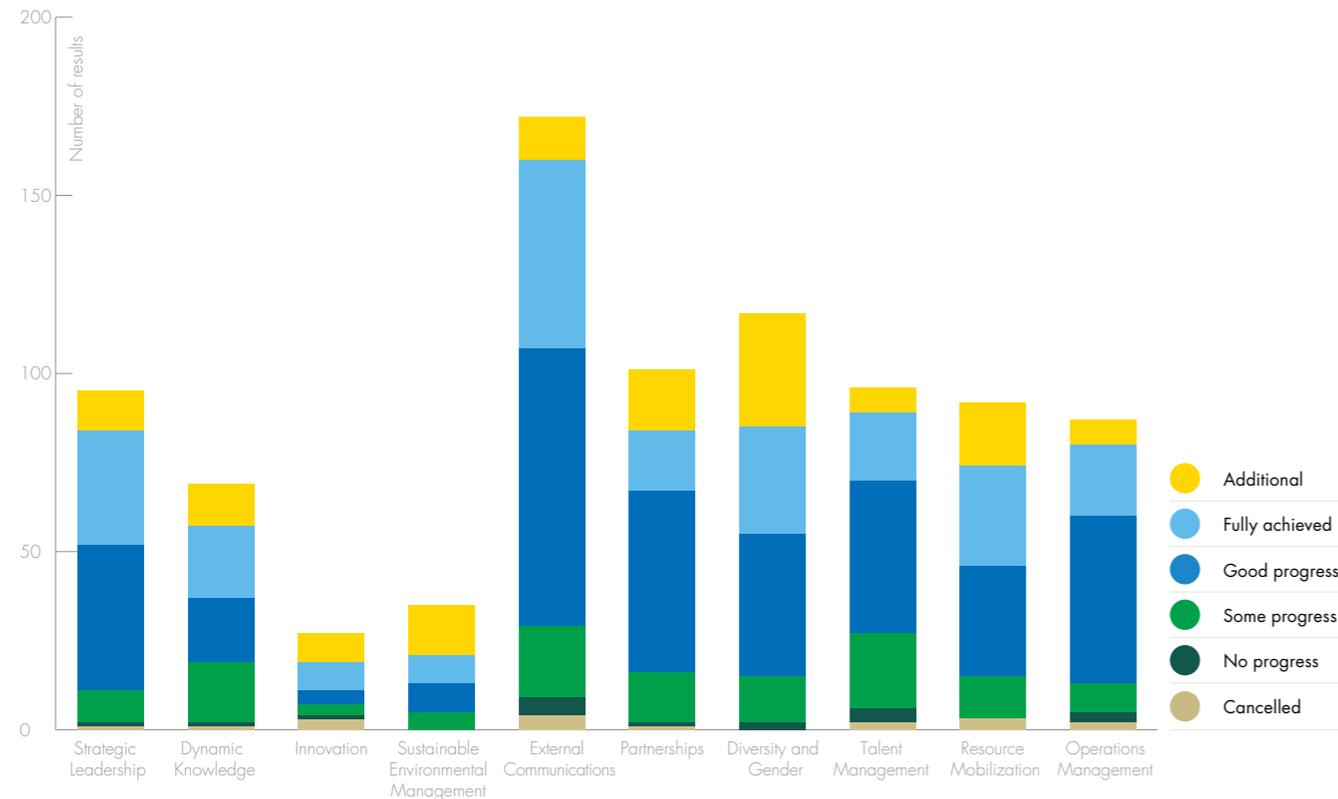
Level of progress towards OE results

Updates on the outputs planned for 2021 indicated an increase in results where good progress was made. Further, there was a 17 per cent increase in the number of outputs that were fully achieved.

All OE results identified a significant number of outputs that reported good progress (48 per cent in total). Overall progress is clear as 79 per cent of total outputs were rated as having achieved good progress or fully achieved.

In the following pages, we summarize progress made in the implementation of the 10 OEAPs and highlight key achievements from headquarters and the field during the year. More examples can be found on pages 466-476 of the online report.

Progress reported under each OEAP in 2021



Strategic Leadership and Direction

UN Human Rights leadership bodies are making timely, evidence-based strategic decisions in line with results-based management principles.

Despite the continued challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, steady progress was made to reach the results and targets set out in the OMP. Significant efforts went into providing leadership and operational guidance during the year. Through a comprehensive all staff survey process that began at the end of 2020 and was completed in 2021, UN Human Rights gained a more thorough understanding of its management and operational strengths, weaknesses and gap areas. Following the extension of the OMP, an office-wide consultation process, which included a consultation with Member States, was undertaken to update some of its areas of work. Regular all staff messages, general guidance and guidance related to the COVID-19 operational response were issued. Individual staff safety and security concerns related to COVID-19 were addressed in a timely manner, including arrangements for the return to office. Effective and efficient functioning of the governance bodies and focused discussions on strategic issues took place. All decisions were made available to the staff through the online Decision Tracking System. As noted above, UN Human Rights continued to work on mitigating risks, including through the development of risk treatment and response plans. UN Human Rights' policymaking, programming and evaluation functions continued to be supported through virtual methods of work.

HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2021

- The extended OMP was conceptualized and developed with a series of deep dives that were organized to recalibrate, renew and introduce areas of work to sharpen engagement on opportunities and challenges.
- An all staff survey was conducted on management and operations, complementing the Secretary-General's Staff Engagement Survey and the Secretary-General's dialogues. Workshops were conducted with organizational entities to follow up on action areas identified through the survey.
- Guidance was provided to staff on operational matters through the COVID-19 Crisis Response Team.
- Continuous functioning of internal governance bodies was made possible through virtual meetings, which enabled increased participation of colleagues in the field.
- Two strategic vision exercises were undertaken in the context of OHCHR's field deployment strategy to ensure the optimal leveraging of resources and responses to opportunities and challenges.
- Internal information was shared through weekly updates and a news podcast. An internal OHCHR TV Channel made its debut with various videos and interviews. These actions are part of ongoing efforts to keep staff better informed about ongoing work and provide information in new and alternative ways.

- The programme plan of the 2022 budget report was prepared and presented to Member States.
- Five evaluations were completed, which included the first evaluation of a campaign (UN Free & Equal campaign). Another four evaluations were initiated.
- In response to the 2019 RBM evaluation, the RBM manual and training package were developed. These will be launched in 2022.

Dynamic Knowledge

UN Human Rights' knowledge base is strategically used to shape programming, capacity, culture and structure.

Dynamic knowledge is critical to supporting UN Human Rights' strategic use of its knowledge base to strengthen human rights impacts. The OEAP on Dynamic Knowledge seeks to boost the capacity of UN Human Rights to leverage expertise, good practices and evidence-based knowledge for human rights results. In 2021, UN Human Rights analysed the adjustments it had made in response to the COVID-19 crisis and prioritized the availability of support for and engagement with partners. New methods of work were adopted, promising/good practices continued to be documented, knowledge-exchange with partners was encouraged and knowledge-sharing was strengthened through communities of practice and networks that held focused discussions on various human rights issues, such as the rights of persons with disabilities, human rights and elections and the work of human rights advisers in support of Resident Coordinators (RCs) and UN Country Teams (UNCTs). These efforts enabled UN Human Rights to scale-up successes whenever possible, based on existing knowledge and tools, with a view to sustaining peer-to-peer support, strengthening linkages between work streams and facilitating the effective and efficient use of data, information and knowledge assets.

In 2021, UN Human Rights provided valuable contributions to deal with the COVID-19 crisis and ensure that human rights remained at the centre of its response. Also during the year, UN Human Rights increased and expanded its capacity to conduct its operations online through remote working methods. Various technological platforms were used to host virtual consultations and discussions, exchanges were undertaken on available guidance documents, methodologies and tools, and knowledge-sharing and peer-to-peer support were fostered. UN Human Rights migrated to the un.org domain and added Office 365 to its toolkit, opening up more opportunities to strengthen collaboration and information-sharing across its thematic and geographic presences. This represents an important shift within UN Human Rights as it continues to strengthen its linkages and proximity to the UN Secretariat and the broader UN system.

HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2021

- New knowledge repositories on key human rights issues were created and made available to staff, containing a selection of public and internal OHCHR methodological and policy materials on human rights monitoring, fact-finding and investigations.
- The new OHCHR Welcome Mat was launched, ensuring consistent and standardized onboarding of new staff.
- New knowledge-sharing and collaboration tools, such as Teams, Yammer and SharePoint online, were increasingly used by staff.
- Staff capacities were enhanced to facilitate and contribute to online thematic knowledge-exchange events, including on civic space, the rights of minorities, hate speech, elections and the sharing of good practices by human rights advisers.
- The OHCHR Dynamic Knowledge Team was sustained as an integral member of the UN inter-agency knowledge management community.
- Partnerships with UNICEF, DCO, DPPA/DPO, IOM, UN Women and the World Bank were strengthened regarding the development of a toolkit to assess knowledge use and uptake. The toolkit is expected to be finalized and rolled out in 2022.

A new platform to welcome new staff and support staff mobility

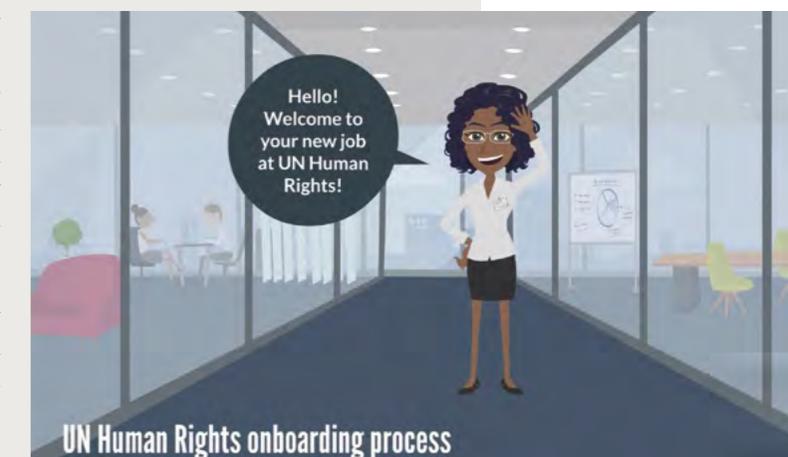


The new OHCHR Welcome Mat was developed to support new staff who are joining OHCHR and staff who are moving jobs within the Organization. The Welcome Mat was launched in 2021 and ensures consistent and standardized onboarding of new staff, provides entry-level knowledge about the Office and facilitates easy access to resources and platforms to enable them to quickly situate themselves and perform their jobs in an efficient and coherent manner from the start.

The Welcome Mat begins with video welcome messages from the High Commissioner, the Deputy High Commissioner and the ASG. Another video features welcome messages and tips from OHCHR staff around the world. Different characters and an animated video offer an introductory overview of the Intranet-based platform, which includes a resource guide on the United Nations and UN Human Rights. It also highlights several other sources of useful administrative and logistical information, as well as substantive and thematic resources for staff who are joining any of

OHCHR's presences. Other sections focus on "how we do our work" and provide direct and easy access to internal standard operating procedures, guidelines, administrative instructions and policies. New staff will find it easy to locate information on available trainings, including mandatory courses and learning development. The Welcome Mat simulates a "buddy system" to support the arrival and integration of new staff members into OHCHR teams and offers peer-to-peer support for on-the-job learning.

With the Welcome Mat, OHCHR can ensure that joining staff members will receive essential information to quickly understand their new operating environment and have access to the information they need to carry out their work, including networks, communities of practice and knowledge management repositories.



OHCHR's Welcome Mat onboarding platform.
© OHCHR



Across UN Human Rights, innovation is encouraged, supported and its results are implemented accordingly.

This OEAP promotes innovation in OHCHR through an internal system of incentives, namely, an annual innovation challenge and an innovation engine for the generation of ideas.

In 2021, UN Human Rights relaunched its annual innovation challenge with a series of webinars on innovation, internal communications to encourage participation and the release of tools and resources to move beyond the idea phase. A total of 10 proposals were submitted and a shortlist was prepared according to selection criteria. The shortlisted candidates will take part in a pitch event in 2022. A workshop was organized for shortlisted candidates and staff members from the field, in partnership with Impact Hub Geneva, on the application of design thinking methods to problem solving. The workshop employed a hands-on, learning-by-doing approach.

HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2021

- The Innovation Engine continued to support the implementation of innovative projects, including on enhanced monitoring of civic space online and the digitization of the Gender Accreditation Programme.
- Following a successful piloting experience, the Ditch UNfair Internships project to bring students from the Global South to Geneva through a University UNV (UUNV) contract was launched and expanded.
- Based on lessons learned from the COVID-19 Tracker that was created in 2020, OHCHR developed a vaccine-focused tracker to increase monitoring, with an emphasis on vulnerable populations.
- As part of the “digital transformation” of the Office, meeting spaces were equipped with state-of-the-art innovative technology to enable online and hybrid meetings. Online evaluations are being conducted.

From piloting to a full project: Launching of the Ditch UNfair Internships project

The UN Secretariat’s Internship Programme does not provide interns with a stipend during their time with the Organization. This perpetuates a lack of diversity in the Organization, as most interns have been nationals from Western European and Others Group (WEOG). A project proposal for “Ditch UNfair Internships” was submitted to OHCHR’s Innovation Challenge 2019 as a way to enable students from developing economies to gain entry-level work experience through financial support. The proposal won first place in the Innovation Challenge. With the seed funds, the proposal was brought to life through a UUNV pilot initiative, which provided two selected candidates with a basic stipend, including airfare and health insurance, for the duration of their stay with OHCHR in Geneva. The pilot initiative was scaled-up to a full project in 2021 when 10 UUNVs from the Global South arrived in Geneva to begin their internships. Through the project, OHCHR hopes to pave the way for more candidates from developing economies to gain UN experience, while simultaneously promoting a more diverse and inclusive work environment. A total of US\$225,275 was received for seven UUNVs in relation to five workplans that were identified during the 2022 work planning exercise. This signalled the institutionalization of the project into OHCHR.

Although the UUNVs are assigned to specific sections within OHCHR, they can undertake assignments in other parts of the Office to gain exposure to various types of human rights work. They also benefit from induction sessions, career counselling, on-the-job training and mentorship.

At the same time, staff members who supervise and work with the UUNVs have the opportunity to learn about different legal systems, human rights issues and cultural practices through collegial contact with nationals that are underrepresented in OHCHR’s workforce in Geneva.

By bringing youth from the Global South to Geneva, this initiative contributes to diversifying the geographic origins and age of OHCHR staff and enhances the Office’s credibility with rights-holders and duty-bearers. Moreover, it fosters a more dynamic and inclusive workplace that thrives on geographic, economic and age-based diversity and demonstrates OHCHR’s commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the anti-discrimination agenda.

The project was selected as a finalist for the Secretary-General Awards, under the “Diversity and Inclusion” category, out of a total of 120 proposals.

Sustainable Environmental Management

UN Human Rights is set on a path to integrate sustainable environmental management into operations and practices, catalysing efforts to build back better and strengthening partnerships and global standard-setting in this area, especially with regard to the right to a healthy environment and climate change.

In 2021, UN Human Rights enhanced its social and environmental commitments by beginning to implement its first OEAP on Sustainable Environmental Management (SEM), which was adopted in 2020. The OEAP outlines steps to increase OHCHR's environmental and social sustainability across its operations, including by empowering staff members as effective sustainability actors that do their part to support rights-based action for people and the planet. The OHCHR SEM Working Group (WG), established in 2020 to develop the OEAP, shifted its focus towards implementation by mainstreaming a human rights-based approach (HRBA) to SEM into OHCHR's substantive and operational activities. It also initiated work to develop an environmental management system that is consistent with the UN System Strategy for Sustainability Management 2020-2030.

As in previous years, UN Human Rights reported on the impacts of its operations at headquarters. To increase accuracy, the Office collected and reported specific data, rather than proxy figures, from New York and 10 of its field presences. To enhance the capacities of staff members to promote sustainability in their work, the WG developed an e-learning course on SEM and human rights and organized a series of three webinars on travel, procurement and the OEAP. Key partnerships for sustainability were strengthened, including with 2050Today, UNEP, the Environment Management Group and UN Volunteers.

HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2021

- 2020 carbon emissions (calculated in 2021) amounted to 3307 tCO₂eq, representing a 50 per cent reduction from 2019.
- Due to continued pandemic restrictions, emissions from air travel amounted to less than 15 per cent of OHCHR's 2019 levels.
- Nearly 180 staff members, including from more than 40 field offices, engaged with the SEM WG as members or focal points.
- An office-wide Sustainability Survey was conducted, collecting more than 600 responses and close to 5,000 comments.
- A Green Fund pilot project was set up to provide field offices with resources to green their operations. During the year, over 30 projects were implemented across 12 countries in four regions and 35 field presences expressed interest in greening their operations.
- An e-learning course on SEM and human rights was designed and piloted and will be launched in 2022.
- To enhance and expand data collection, a training course on environmental data collection was designed and launched.

Greening UN Human Rights facilities and operations

The Sustainable Environmental Management Group set up a Green Fund pilot project to finance small- to medium-sized initiatives to “green” UN Human Rights facilities and operations. The Green Fund provided an opportunity for all components of the Office to “walk the talk” by supporting sustainable, staff-driven action. The ideation of projects was undertaken through collaborative discussions between headquarters and field offices. Staff from more than 35 OHCHR presences participated in the discussions. A total of 30 projects were implemented in 2021 across 12 countries and four regions. The Fund and the projects it supported increased staff awareness and engagement in sustainability action, reduced the Office's carbon footprint, improved air quality, increased energy reliability and promoted a more conscious use of natural resources. These efforts also set an example for the communities where the Office operates and contributed to a cleaner, healthier and more sustainable environment. The supported projects included solar panels or supplies for existing solar installations, water filters, plants and fruit trees for gardens, sorting bins, portable solar chargers, sensors for water and energy efficiency and environmental audits to identify potential improvements.



Installation of solar panels at OHCHR in Panama and in Uganda. © OHCHR

External Communications

UN Human Rights' human rights impacts and messages are effectively communicated, helping to position it as a partner of choice for its key stakeholders.

Through its OEAP on External Communications, UN Human Rights seeks to effectively communicate its impact and messages, helping to cement its position as the standard-bearer of international human rights law and the partner of choice for key stakeholders.

In 2021, a key challenge for UN Human Rights was finding a balance between communicating on the human rights dimensions of the COVID-19 crisis and identifying the best way forward for recovery, while at the same time advancing on targets set out in its OMP. This led UN Human Rights to develop and distribute messages related to the OMP pillars, with a particular focus on discrimination, equality and sustainable development. UN Human Rights also leveraged several partnership opportunities to engage a larger audience in the promotion of the human rights agenda.

HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2021

- Interest in UN Human Rights' social media channels increased, as illustrated by a combined number of 10.5 million followers of the channels of headquarters and field presences, compared to 9.7 million followers in 2020.
- The Stand Up for Migrants campaign, including stories, podcasts, the High Commissioner's video message and a photo essay, amassed over 35,000 views.
- The High Commissioner's report and conference room paper outlining a four-point agenda towards transformative change for racial justice and equality was launched and promoted.
- Progress was made on the web transformation project, with over 5,000 pages reviewed, rewritten and reorganized. Almost 8,000 pages and 50,000 documents were tagged with a new comprehensive taxonomy, in addition to 115,000 pages that are available in Drupal.
- Audiovisual storytelling was further developed with the production of 374 video stories, including campaigns, human interest and feature stories, profiles of human rights defenders (HRDs) and video messages from OHCHR's senior leadership.
- Innovative partnerships were established to reach new audiences, including with #WeThe15, Wikimedia, Cheerity and the World Wide Web Foundation.

#WeThe15: A global human rights movement for persons with disabilities

UN Human Rights' charter membership with the #WeThe15 disability campaign demonstrates how partnerships between different agencies and NGOs can have a wider global reach.

Persons with disabilities make up 15 per cent of the world's population and #WeThe15 is a global human rights movement focused on changing the narrative around persons with disabilities. The movement is made up of organizations from the fields of sport, human rights, policy, communications, business, arts and entertainment that are uniting to change attitudes and create more opportunities for persons with disabilities.

The decade-long campaign was launched on 19 August 2021. On the same day, the Paralympics in Beijing were opened and Palais Wilson and 125 other iconic landmarks across the globe were lit up with purple lights. The colour purple is increasingly recognized as a symbol of disability. Other participating landmarks included New York's Empire State Building, Auckland's Sky Tower, Tokyo's Skytree and Rainbow Bridge, Geneva's Jet d'Eau, Moscow's Ostankino Tower, Rome's Coliseum, the London Eye and Niagara Falls between Canada and the USA.

It is estimated that coverage of the campaign and campaign assets reached 80 per cent of the global population.



Palais Wilson lit purple on the day of the launch of the campaign on 19 August 2021. © OHCHR

"We plan to build on the Paralympic Games in Beijing, Paris, Milan and Los Angeles, particularly in local communities, to make it clear that upholding and advancing the human rights of persons with disabilities is relevant, doable and necessary – for everyone's benefit," said High Commissioner Michelle Bachelet.

Over the next decade, #WeThe15 partner organizations will work with governments, businesses and the public to bring about change for the world's largest marginalized group.

Partnerships

UN Human Rights has broadened and diversified its institutional partners and maximized the mutually reinforcing human rights benefits of the exchange of expertise, reach and resources.

The OEAP on Partnerships outlines UN Human Rights' vision for a more coherent and systemized approach to partnership-building at global, regional and country levels. The OEAP lays out its ambitions to mobilize an expanded and diverse partnership portfolio to make human rights a reality for all and to pave the way towards their realization.

Within this framework, and despite the persistent challenges caused by the ongoing impacts of the pandemic, UN Human Rights enhanced multi-stakeholder partnerships to advance the OMP, including its shifts. From climate change to education, and in the context of engaging with the private sector, UN Human Rights joined forces with non-traditional actors to amplify advocacy efforts and rally support for HRDs. Through the direct engagement of the High Commissioner and more systematic engagement with regional organizations, partnerships were established or strengthened to enable for meaningful exchange and discussions on the direction of human rights in the context of COVID-19 recovery and beyond. This contributed to building and strengthening bridges between UN Human Rights and important constituencies, including tech companies, youth, CSOs, the UN system and the philanthropic community.

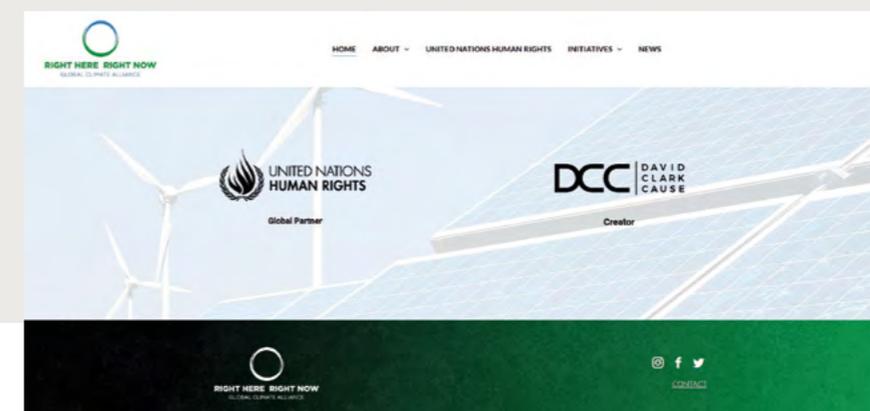
HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2021

- To expand the reach of OHCHR's work under the OMP, multi-stakeholder partnerships were enhanced with: Right Here, Right Now: A Global Climate Alliance focused on human rights; Human Rights of Youth, which works with and for youth in vulnerable situations, including conflict, violence and insecurity; Call for Code: Tech for Good, leading to the participation of over 500,000 changemakers in the call to develop technology to address the climate crisis; and #WikiForHumanRights, resulting in 27 community events and the production of 2,000 articles in more than 30 languages, with a focus on the right to a healthy environment.
- Partnerships were strengthened with key regional actors, such as the African Union and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, in relation to human rights data and analysis to inform early warning and prevention mechanisms and with the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights on the implementation of the Joint Action Mechanism to Contribute to the Protection of Human Rights Defenders in the Americas.
- Joint efforts were undertaken with UNOSAT for the provision of satellite imagery and analysis, thereby enabling remote-based monitoring and investigations. The UNOSAT team coordinates ad-hoc satellite imagery requests from OHCHR field presences and headquarters and serves as liaison with the independent investigative bodies.

Right Here, Right Now: A Global Climate Alliance centred on human rights

In 2021, UN Human Rights became the global partner of the Right Here, Right Now Global Climate Alliance, which was created to tackle climate change as a human rights crisis, as it has been declared to be by leading scientists and human rights advocates, including OHCHR. This initiative is one of the world's largest public-private climate partnership and is committed to working with policymakers, persons affected by climate change, NGOs, foundations, businesses, academics, artists, scientists and climate advocates to fight climate change and preserve our common future.

In 2021, the Right Here, Right Now Global Climate Alliance and UN Human Rights called for the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference in Glasgow (UNFCCC COP26) to scale-up efforts to address the threats of climate change from a human rights perspective. UN Human Rights and the Alliance focused on raising awareness about the risks faced by those most affected by climate change and supported inclusive rights-based climate action for people and the planet and a more sustainable future for all. The Cause Flash campaign that was launched as part of the initiative reached at least 210 million users during UNFCCC COP26 and has generated 650,991,874 conversations to date.



The Global Climate Alliance. © Right Here, Right Now

Diversity and Gender

Respect for diversity, gender equality and inclusion is at the centre of the organizational culture of UN Human Rights and is fully supported by appropriate organizational arrangements.

The OMP includes a strong commitment towards promoting gender equality and respect for diversity. The Plan has four gender-specific results and women were identified as one of three spotlight populations deserving particular attention in the overall results framework.

The OEAP on Diversity and Gender aims to ensure that respect for diversity, gender equality and inclusion is at the heart of the organizational culture of UN Human Rights. The OHCHR Gender Accreditation Programme, an innovative result of this transformative work, continued to be implemented in 2021. Building on the success of the OEAP on Gender and Diversity, OHCHR adopted a new OEAP on Diversity and Inclusion for 2022-2023 that includes additional indicators on geographical diversity, combating racism and revised indicators on gender and other aspects of diversity.

HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2021

- The OHCHR Gender Accreditation Programme continued to be rolled out in the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) and the Country Office in Colombia. Both offices have been accredited with the Programme's highest level of accreditation (level 3). Two new offices (Guatemala and Syria) have been selected for the third round of the Programme, starting in 2022.
- The Fellowship for LGBTI Human Rights Defenders continued to be implemented through the launch of the second round in 2021.
- More than 250 OHCHR staff and external stakeholders completed OHCHR's introductory electronic training course on the human rights of LGBTI persons.
- UN Human Rights' first Disability Rights Strategy, aimed at increasing the Office's performance under the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS), was developed and reviewed by the Senior Management Team, in December.
- In 2021, the percentage of women at the senior management level of P-5 increased from 43 to 46 per cent and at the D-1 level from 36 to 43 per cent.
- The new OEAP on Diversity and Inclusion was adopted.

Continuing the roll-out of the UN Human Rights Gender Accreditation Programme in Colombia and Ukraine



In 2021, UN Human Rights continued rolling out its Gender Accreditation Programme in the HRMMU and in its Country Office in Colombia. The roll-out of the Programme has been successful and demonstrated visible impacts and progress. Both offices significantly strengthened the integration of women's human rights and a gender perspective throughout all areas of their work and were accredited by an independent evaluator as successfully meeting all of the Programme's indicators and markers.

The Programme was piloted in 2019 at Offices in Cambodia and in the State of Palestine.* Their implemented changes guided their work on women's rights and gender throughout 2021.

The HRMMU integrated a strong focus on women's human rights and gender into their monitoring, reporting and advocacy work, which is outlined in its report on the *Impact of COVID-19 on human rights in Ukraine (December 2020)* and the *Thirty-second report on the human rights situation in Ukraine (September 2021)*. The Office continued to feature women's human rights and gender equality issues in their communications work, including through impactful campaigns, such as the *social media takeover* by young Ukrainian women human rights defenders (WHRDs). The HRMMU also provided sustained support to WHRDs in the context of the WHRD Network, which is organized in cooperation with UN Women. The Network facilitates their partnership and joint advocacy, organizing workshops and connecting WHRDs with strategic partners.

The Office in Colombia carried out several capacity-building activities to address the rights of rural women, the protection of WHRDs and the rights of LGBTI persons. Additionally, the Office promoted women's access to justice by delivering technical assistance to women's organizations on drafting reports regarding conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) for the Colombian Special Jurisdiction for Peace. The Office provided significant support to WHRDs, including by supporting the preparation of a brochure entitled *Colombian national protection routes for human rights defenders*, which includes WHRDs. The Office also incorporated a gender analysis into its monitoring and reporting work, advocacy initiatives and communications. This is reflected in its report *The 2021 National Strike: Lessons learned for the exercise of the right to peaceful protest in Colombia*.



ДЕНЬ З ПРАВОЗАХИСНИЦЕЮ

ГАННА РОЖКОВА

захисниця права активістів/-ок,
правозахисників/-ць, працівників/-ць ЗМІ,
Асоціація УМДПЛ

Acknowledging women human rights defenders through social media. © OHCHR

OHCHR Cambodia



OHCHR Occupied Palestinian Territory



Staff members of OHCHR Offices in Cambodia and the State of Palestine who participated in the Gender Accreditation Programme. © OHCHR

* All references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with General Assembly resolution 67/19.

Managing our Talent

UN Human Rights is actively unleashing the full potential of its staff with focused talent and career management that is accessible to all.

The investment in staff to unlock their full potential continued alongside the management challenges of the pandemic. Following the separation of human resources business partner services from UNOG, in July, UN Human Rights assumed full responsibility for administering all OHCHR contracted staff at headquarters and in field presences. The recruitment of additional human resources specialists facilitated the provision of uninterrupted services to meet the career lifecycle needs of the UN Human Rights workforce.

The allocation of additional resources supported the transition to faster, transparent, fair and more efficient recruitment processes. In addition, increased management and the oversight of candidate screening and testing assured greater quality control that included the provision of feedback to internal applicants upon request. The Office expedited recruitment and managed 298 job openings for regular appointments and 282 temporary job openings for non-regular appointments. In 2021, there were a total of 79 promotions out of 307 regular appointment selections, including job openings that were generated in 2020, representing an increase of 7.5 per cent over the previous year.

UN Human Rights continued to unlock the value of data in accordance with the Secretary-General's Data Strategy and

priorities for a gender-balanced, diverse and inclusive organization. An increased provision of data and associated analysis on gender parity and geographical representation informed senior leadership, supported workforce planning and fulfilled reporting requirements against prescribed targets and indicators.

HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2021

- Staff recruitment was expedited, oversight was improved and specialists helped to respond to a significant increase in contracting for non-staff personnel and the affiliated workforce.
- The equal representation of women in all staff categories and at all levels of the workforce was promoted and advanced.
- Communities of practice were established to improve the client interface and support provided to managers and administration specialists.
- To support the OHCHR Mental Health and Well-Being Action Plan, OHCHR's chartered psychologist was available to meet the psychological needs of staff. Over 200 team webinars were conducted on stress management, trauma, secondary trauma prevention, and 2,300 individual sessions were undertaken alongside multilingual psychological support.
- Coaching and learning opportunities were provided to staff and online thematic human rights briefings facilitated.
- A new approach to performance management was implemented. A dedicated Intranet page complemented office-wide presentations and engagement with communities of practice. Individual client support was offered to over 312 staff members and seven group briefings were conducted in English, French and Spanish across offices.

Resource Mobilization

Investment in and support for UN Human Rights has expanded and donors are expressing confidence in the value delivered by these investments.

UN Human Rights continued to invest in and support the resource mobilization function across the Office, resulting in increased donor confidence in the value of these investments. Despite the challenging context caused by COVID-19, OHCHR successfully met its extrabudgetary target. In fact, voluntary contributions in 2021 reached a new high, totalling US\$227.7 million.

During the year, the Office developed its first Resource Mobilization and Partnerships Strategy (RMPS). The Strategy provides a road map to secure the resources it needs to achieve the strategic outcomes of the expanded OMP, support the priority issues that continue to emerge and address the growing challenges in OHCHR's fields of operation.

The Office continued to invest in resource mobilization staff capacity and competencies to maximize the impact of its resource mobilization efforts. This was facilitated through the deployment of additional capacity to two regional offices to strengthen resource mobilization in the field. Investing in human resources, staff capacities and competencies is essential to ensuring that OHCHR is able to provide the support that is needed at global, regional and country levels.

Information-sharing on donors and contributions across OHCHR was enhanced with the roll-out of a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) platform to selected field offices.

HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2021

- UN Human Rights' 2021 extrabudgetary income increased by more than US\$3.4 million, compared to 2020, reaching a record high of US\$227.7 million.
- Unearmarked contributions increased by US\$22 million, compared to 2020.
- US\$20.5 million was received from UN pooled funds, including the UN Peacebuilding Fund.
- US\$2.3 million was received in support of the digital transformation of UN Human Rights.
- 92 results-based fundraising proposals, including on specific spotlight populations (youth, women and persons with disabilities), and 226 narrative and financial reports were submitted to donors.
- The Office signed 120 funding agreements.
- The number of donors increased from 78 in 2020 to 89 in 2021.
- Dialogue with donor countries was enhanced through eight consultations and 17 briefings.
- The Office's first Resource Mobilization and Partnerships Strategy was developed and subsequently approved by senior management.
- Capacity was strengthened in two regional presences by deploying two donor and external relations officers.

Harnessing digital potential for human rights

UN Human Rights' vision is to be innovative and effective as it promotes and protects all human rights for all. To meet that goal, OHCHR needs to transform how it works to capture the value offered by digital technologies.

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the urgency of the Office's need to digitally transform. In 2021, OHCHR made a concerted effort to harness digital technologies in order to create new and improved ways of delivering services and to apply digital solutions that will enhance the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of its work.

OHCHR took steps to ensure that it built a robust one-office digital approach, with mutually reinforcing platforms that are aligned for long-term digital sustainability. An office-wide concept was developed, with concrete outputs articulating how the Office's digital vision will be realized. The concept was shared with Member States through a virtual briefing led by the Deputy High Commissioner, in June.

Through the concept note that highlighted the added value of the Office's digital transformation as a way to ensure the fulfilment of its mandate to promote and protect human rights, including virtually, an additional US\$2.3 million was secured to support the digital transformation of the Office. There are positive indications that further contributions may be received in 2022.



Operations Management

UN Human Rights managers are enabling the most efficient and responsible use of all available resources, supported by the effective deployment of relevant technologies.

This OEAP aims to facilitate and expedite the implementation of mandates through the effective and efficient use of financial, human and physical resources, aided by the use of pertinent IT tools.

Results to date demonstrate that UN Human Rights has undertaken significant efforts to manage its operations in accordance with modern principles. For instance, the Office completed its first comprehensive Risk Assessment during the reporting period. Moreover, in response to the pandemic, UN Human Rights successfully streamlined its work and implemented remote working. This demonstrated the capacity of the Office to be flexible and responsive in a crisis, in accordance with the principles of Business Continuity that it has promoted for several years. With a renewed focus on field presences to ensure their full compliance with relevant regulations, rules and instructions and to enhance accountability, the Field Administrative Manual was updated. Human Resources worked diligently to ensure that the Office was people-centred and culturally diverse and that human talent was nurtured. Relevant IT tools were purchased and updated, within budgetary limits, and the rules of the Office of Information and Communications Technology on the use of non-standard software and hardware were implemented.

HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS IN 2021

- Development of a digital transformation strategy and the adoption of an OEAP on Digital Technology.
- Full implementation of the new Umoja Grants Management Module, enabling greater control and transparency in the processing of grants.
- Efficiencies were optimized through the provision of all human resources services of OHCHR staff by the Human Resources Management Section (HRMS).
- The migration of all email accounts from the @ohchr.org to @un.org tenant was completed in 2021 and new collaborative solutions were adopted along with Office 365, thereby enhancing operational efficiencies.



Funding

UN Human Rights accompanied the march on the seventh anniversary of the disappearance of the 43 students from Ayotzinapa, Mexico. © OHCHR

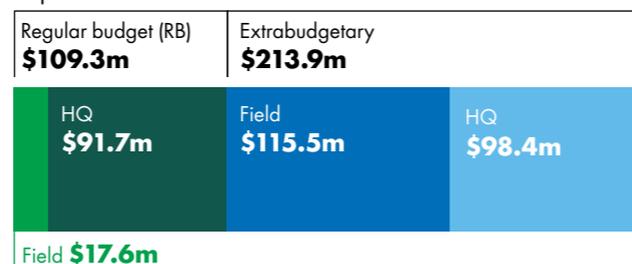
Funding overview in 2021

Income and expenditure

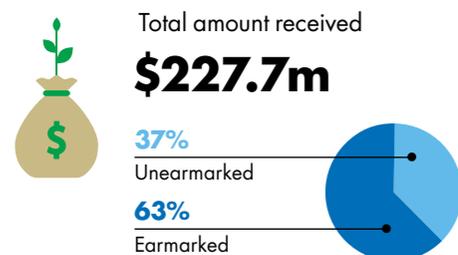
Income



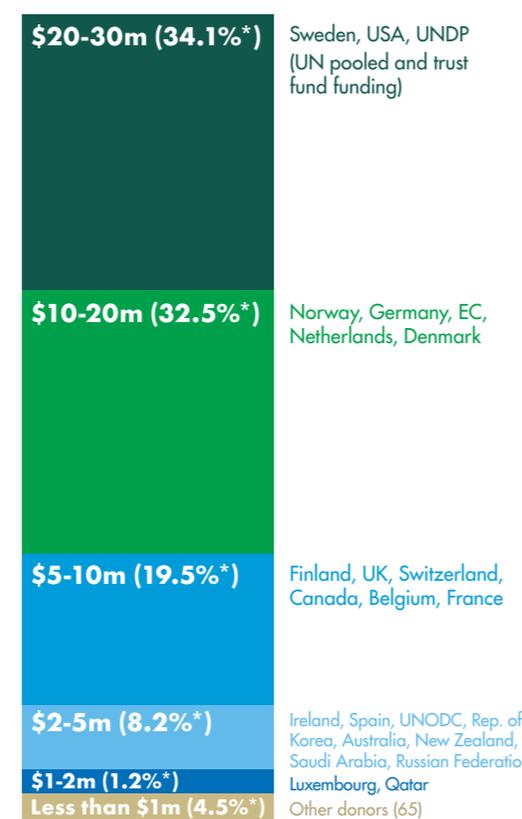
Expenditure



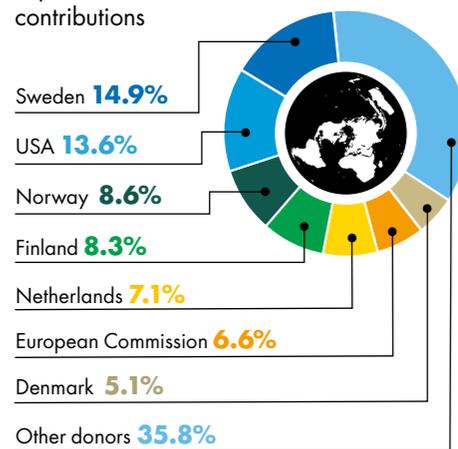
Voluntary contributions



Breakdown of donors by brackets of contributions



Top sources of unearmarked contributions



Donors



Breakdown of donors by geographic group



* Of total amount of voluntary contributions.

This chapter presents an overview of UN Human Rights funding in 2021 and of funding trends since 2013.

Continuous improvements in the level, flexibility, timeliness and predictability of voluntary contributions and the diversification of the donor base are essential to ensuring that UN Human Rights has the resources it needs to achieve the goals set out in the OHCHR Management Plan (OMP) 2018-2021, which was extended to 2023.³

Income

UN Human Rights is partially funded through assessed contributions from Member States to the United Nations regular budget and partially through voluntary contributions (extrabudgetary funding) from donors, the majority of which are Member States.

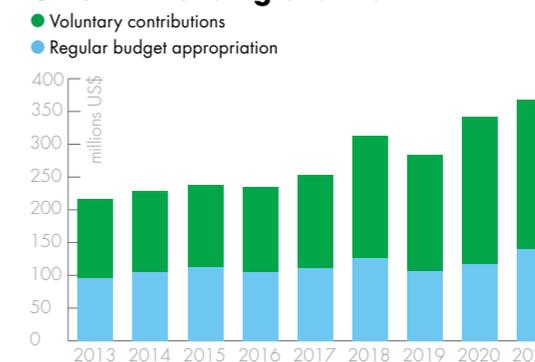
In 2021, the fourth year of the OMP 2018-2021, which has been extended for two years, UN Human Rights' total income was US\$359.3 million. Of this total, 63 per cent came from voluntary contributions and 37 per cent came from the United Nations regular budget.

operations, out of 52.3 per cent of the total regular budget resources directed to the three UN system pillars, the UN regular budget allocates 7 per cent to the human rights pillar (including humanitarian affairs); the other two pillars being development and peace and security. As a matter of principle, the UN regular budget should finance all activities that are mandated by the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs, including by the Human Rights Council. The regular budget allocation, however, does not keep pace with the ongoing growth in the number and scope of the General Assembly human rights mandates.

REGULAR BUDGET APPROPRIATION

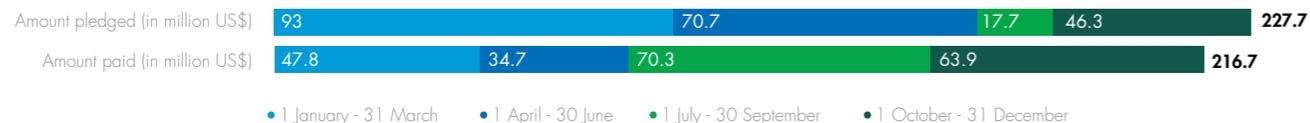
In 2021, the approved regular budget appropriation for UN Human Rights, as a department of the United Nations Secretariat, was US\$131.6 million, of which US\$129.3 million for human rights alone. While this is an increase compared to 2020 levels of US\$116.8 million, it represents approximately 4 per cent of the total UN regular budget. More specifically, excluding funds it apportions to the human rights components of peacekeeping

OHCHR - Funding overview



³ OHCHR's Senior Management Team decided to extend the OMP 2018-2021 in 2021 for two years until 2023.

2021 - Trend in pledges and payments



In addition, during 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted 65 resolutions with programme budget implications. These new mandates were presented to the General Assembly at the end of the year in the summary of all resolutions adopted by the Council.

to date in absolute terms. While this trend, and all contributions, are gratefully appreciated, the level of earmarking remains high and makes it difficult for the Office to efficiently implement the OMP. It means reduced flexibility, higher transactional costs and constraints on the effective response to emerging needs.

In line with the Funding Compact that was established in 2019 between Member States and UN Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) members, including UN Human Rights, to better align funding with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the contributions received by UN Human Rights through the inter-agency pooled funds and trust funds reached a record US\$20.5 million in 2021. This result reflected the enhanced engagement with the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office, through the Peacebuilding Fund, and the growing demand for Human Rights Advisers in the UN Country Teams, which are funded

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

In terms of extrabudgetary support, a total of US\$227.7 million was raised in voluntary contributions during the reporting period. This represents an increase of 1.5 per cent compared to the 2020 total of US\$224.3 million. It is the highest annual amount that UN Human Rights has received to date. Nevertheless, the total amount of extrabudgetary contributions falls far short of the US\$385 million in extrabudgetary requirements that were outlined in the 2021 Annual Appeal. These extrabudgetary requirements are the funds that UN Human Rights requires, in addition to its regular budget allocation, in order to positively respond to all of the requests for assistance that it receives in a given year. Furthermore, over 60 per cent of the voluntary contributions were received during the latter half of 2021.

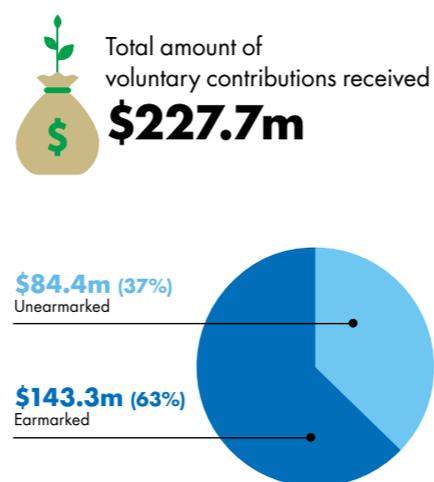
In 2021, UN Human Rights received 37 per cent of unearmarked funds, corresponding to an amount of US\$84.4 million. This is the highest level of unearmarked voluntary contributions received

DONOR BASE

In 2021, UN Human Rights received funding from a total of 89 donors. This represents an increase in the number of donors compared to 79 in 2020. Further, the donor base became more diversified with a significant increase in the number of non-state donors, such as private sector and multilateral donors, from 18 in 2020 to 30 in 2021. While sustained efforts to broaden the donor base are yielding results, the overwhelming majority of voluntary contributions are still from Member States. In 2021, 59 Member States provided a total of US\$184 million, representing 81 per cent of all contributions received. Of the 59 Member States that contributed in 2021, 43 had contributed in 2020. In addition, 30 out of 59 contributing Member States increased their support compared to 2020 and 41 provided unearmarked funding.

Multilateral organizations, including the European Commission and UN partners, contributed an additional US\$41 million, or 18 per cent, of all contributions.

Earmarked versus unearmarked funding 2021

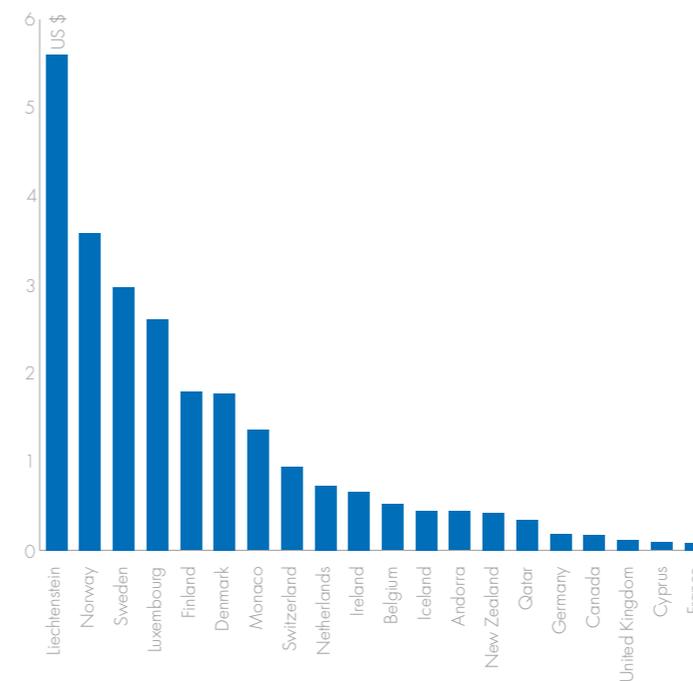


through the UNSDG Human Rights Mainstreaming (UNSDG-HRM) Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF).

UN Human Rights began 2021 with only US\$56.1 million of predictable and sustainable income in pledged contributions that were annual instalments of multi-year funding agreements. The Funding Compact also calls for Member States to increase their multiyear commitments. In 2021, UN Human Rights had such agreements with 20 donors, including 14 Member States (Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Qatar, Sweden,

Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), the European Commission and five other donors (Education Above All, Silatech, UNODC, Wellspring Philanthropic Fund and the World Bank). Furthermore, only nine donors pledged through new multi-year agreements. As of the beginning of January 2022, only US\$47.2 million from 23 donors had been registered as part of multi-year agreements.

Voluntary contributions from top 20 donors to UN Human Rights per capita in 2021



Source: Based on 2021 voluntary contributions from OHCHR's donors (Member States) and 2020 population figures from the UN World Population Prospects.

UN POOLED AND TRUST FUNDS FUNDING RECEIVED BY UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN 2021 THROUGH UNDP

DONOR	US\$
Conflict-Related Sexual Violence	443,756
Joint Programmes (DRC, Georgia, Guatemala)	1,582,163
Joint SDGs Fund (South Africa)	66,498
Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (South Africa)	135,000
Moldova 2030 SDGs Partnership	264,745
Peacebuilding Fund (Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Chad, DRC, El Salvador, Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Ukraine)	7,346,506
Spotlight Initiative Fund (Liberia)	291,164
UNDG-Human Rights Mainstreaming Trust Fund	9,536,569
UNDP (Georgia, Uganda)	324,834
UNPRPD - Disability Fund (DRC, Georgia, Guatemala, Moldova)	520,152
Total	20,511,387

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OHCHR IN 2021

DONOR	TOTAL IN US\$	% UNEARMARKED	DONOR	TOTAL IN US\$	% UNEARMARKED
1 Sweden	30,330,354	41%	25 China	800,000	0%
2 United States of America	26,737,641	43%	26 OCHA	765,285	0%
3 UNDP (UN pooled and trust funds funding)	20,511,387	0%	27 Microsoft	600,000	0%
4 Norway	19,779,429	37%	28 Italy	536,986	0%
5 Germany	16,187,311	38%	29 UNESCO	491,926	0%
6 European Commission	15,432,434	36%	30 India	400,000	0%
7 Netherlands	12,501,816	48%	31 UN Women	388,756	0%
8 Denmark	10,317,378	42%	32 Portugal	387,021	70%
9 Finland	9,940,337	71%	33 World Bank	380,291	0%
10 United Kingdom	8,288,310	49%	34 Counterpart International	300,000	0%
11 Switzerland	8,234,733	24%	35 Morocco	300,000	100%
12 Canada	6,510,026	60%	- UNOCT	273,857	0%
13 Belgium	6,020,282	49%	37 Japan	258,340	0%
14 France	5,304,878	60%	38 11th Hour Project/The Schmidt Family Found.	250,000	0%
15 Ireland	3,334,777	71%	39 Liechtenstein	214,823	13%
16 Spain*	2,883,807	36%	40 Call for Code	204,830	73%
17 UNODC	2,117,899	0%	41 Ford Foundation	200,000	0%
18 Republic of Korea	2,114,000	30%	42 Mexico	197,721	51%
19 Australia	2,092,079	0%	43 Czech Republic	168,856	56%
20 New Zealand	2,051,984	100%	44 Iceland	154,476	100%
21 Saudi Arabia	2,004,111	0%	45 UNHCR	140,000	0%
22 Russian Federation	2,000,000	0%	46 UNTFHS	133,807	0%
23 Luxembourg	1,674,827	14%	47 IOM	123,753	0%
24 Qatar	1,020,000	0%	48 Thailand	120,000	17%

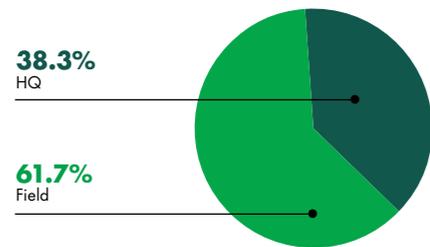
DONOR	TOTAL IN US\$	% UNEARMARKED	DONOR	TOTAL IN US\$	% UNEARMARKED
49 Austria	118,906	0%	- Malaysia	30,000	100%
50 Cyprus	114,679	60%	- Uruguay	30,000	87%
51 Education Above All	101,509	0%	75 Azerbaijan	26,000	0%
52 IBM	100,000	100%	76 Silatech	25,377	0%
- Philippines	100,000	0%	77 David Clark Cause, Inc.	20,000	100%
- Right Here, Right Now	100,000	0%	- Indonesia	20,000	0%
- Uzbekistan	100,000	0%	79 Hungary	18,360	0%
- Wellspring Philanthropic Fund	100,000	0%	80 Malta	17,202	0%
57 Estonia	90,090	37%	81 Singapore	15,000	0%
58 Open Society Foundations	79,981	0%	- Twitter, Inc.	15,000	0%
59 UNFPA	77,531	0%	83 Montenegro	11,947	100%
60 Lithuania	76,657	47%	84 Latvia	11,261	100%
61 Poland	74,900	0%	85 Slovakia	11,025	100%
62 OIF	70,391	0%	86 Cisco Systems, Inc.	10,000	0%
63 UNOPS	62,000	0%	87 Costa Rica	9,946	100%
64 Monaco	54,174	67%	88 Brazil	9,779	0%
65 Facebook	50,000	0%	89 Nicaragua	2,500	100%
66 Greece	46,893	75%	Individual donors/ miscellaneous	548,238	4%
67 UN EOSG	46,683	0%	Total	227,734,491	37%
68 Andorra	34,150	0%			
69 Slovenia	33,784	89%			
70 Armenia	30,000	100%			
- Bulgaria	30,000	50%			
- Kazakhstan	30,000	100%			

* Includes a contribution of EUR 20,000 from the Basque Government and a contribution of EUR 290,000 from the Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation.

Expenditure

On the expenditure side, approximately 61.7 per cent of all extrabudgetary funding was used to support work in the field, which receives minimal support from the regular budget. The remainder of the voluntary funding was distributed between other areas of UN Human Rights' work and often supplemented the limited resources made available from the regular budget.

Extrabudgetary expenditure



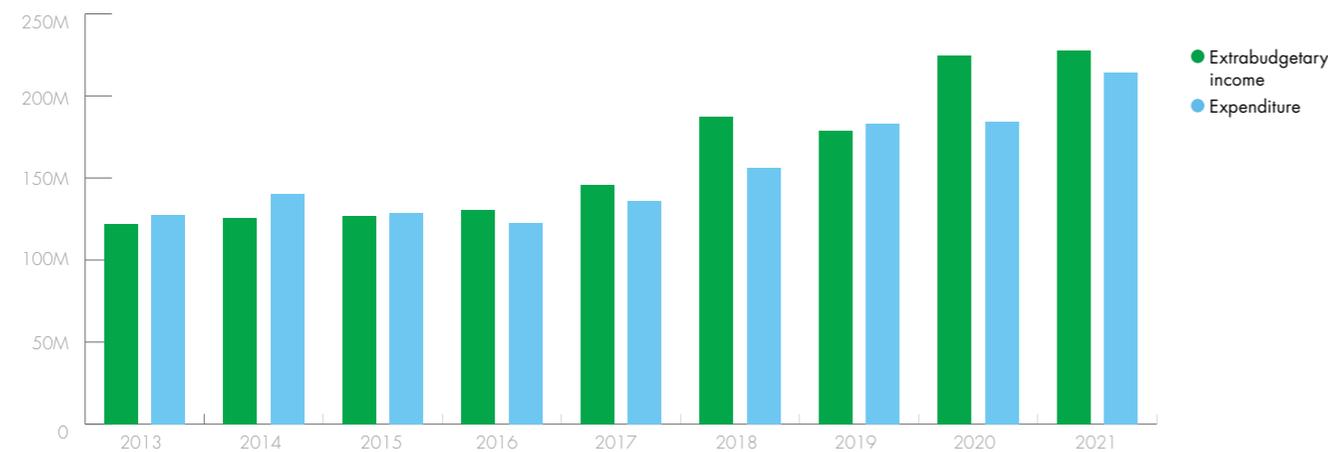
In 2021, 54.2 per cent of total expenditures (US\$323.2m), including both regular budget and voluntary contributions, were devoted to fieldwork and headquarters support for the field, particularly for capacity-strengthening projects and for human rights monitoring, which were predominantly financed through voluntary contributions. Approximately 10.8 per cent of total expenditures were spent on thematic research, human rights mainstreaming, the development of policy and the provision of guidance and tools; 6.5 per cent were spent supporting the human rights treaty bodies, including policymaking organs; and 10.7 per cent were spent in support of the Human Rights Council and its special procedures. The remainder was devoted to programme support (4.9 per cent), executive direction and management, resource mobilization and outreach activities (8.9 per cent) and the trust funds and miscellaneous activities (4 per cent).

EXPENDITURE COMPARED TO INCOME

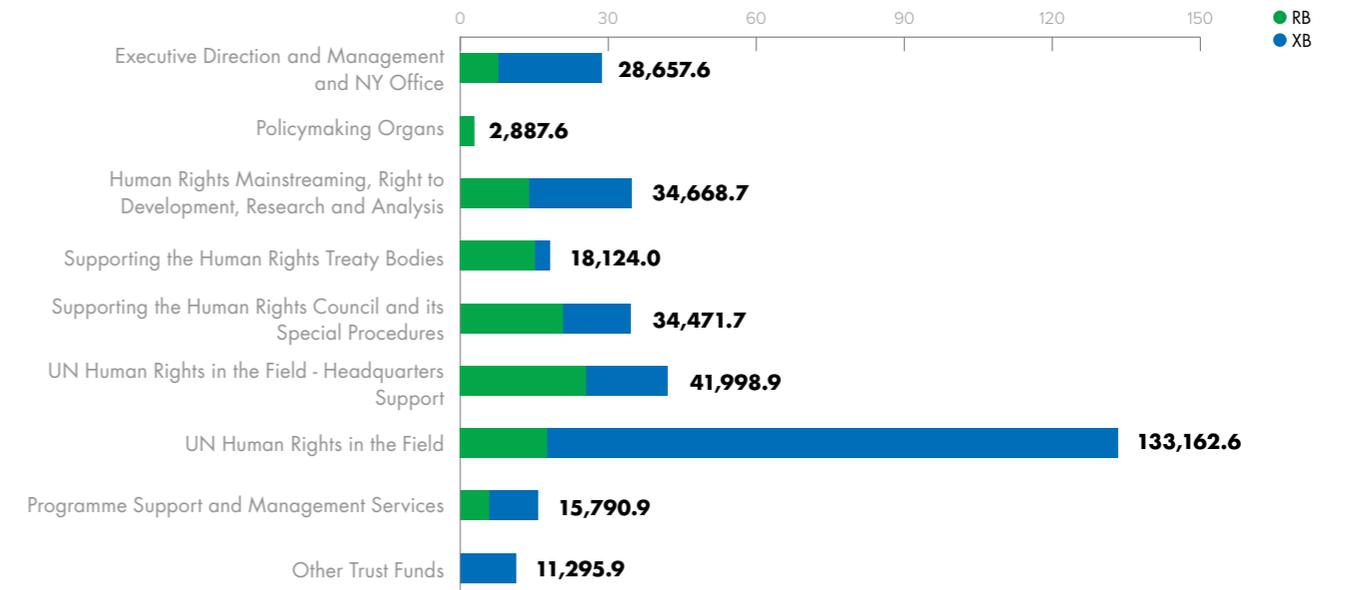
Total expenditures in 2021, including both regular budget and voluntary contributions, reached US\$323.2 million (compared to US\$292 million in 2020, US\$293.8 million in 2019, US\$274.1 million in 2018, US\$246.7 million in 2017, US\$223.3 million in 2016 and US\$225.9 million in 2015).

Looking exclusively at extrabudgetary income and expenditure, loss on exchange from contributions brought the total available income in 2021 to US\$226.6 million.

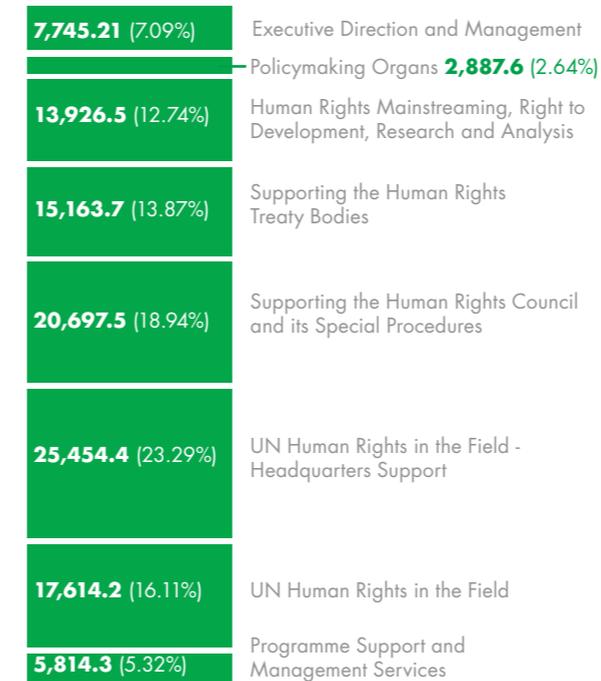
Extrabudgetary income versus expenditure 2013-2021 (in millions US\$)



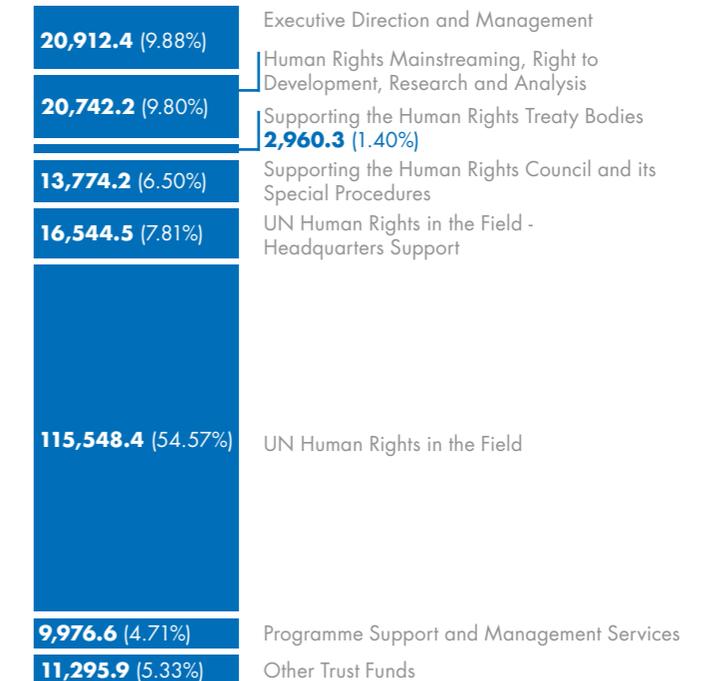
Combined Regular Budget (RB) and Extrabudgetary Income (XB) expenditure by main activity in 2021 (in thousands US\$)



RB expenditure by main activity in 2021 (in thousands US\$)



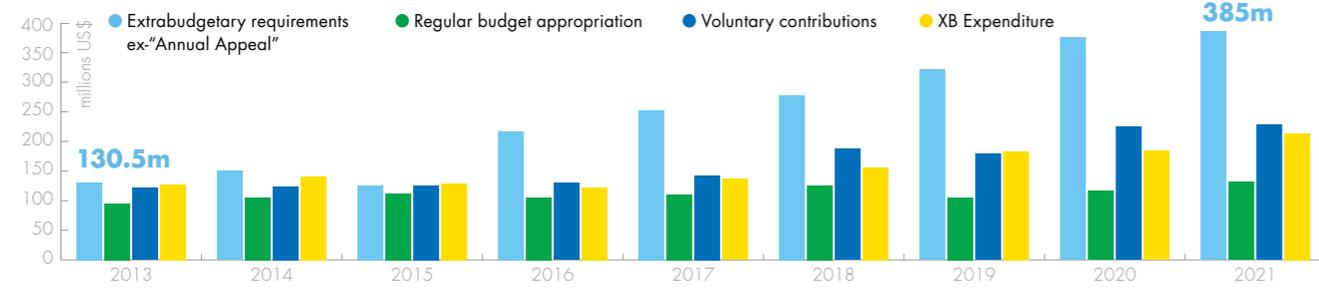
XB expenditure by main activity in 2021 (in thousands US\$)



Funding trends 2013-2021

Funding needs, income and expenditure

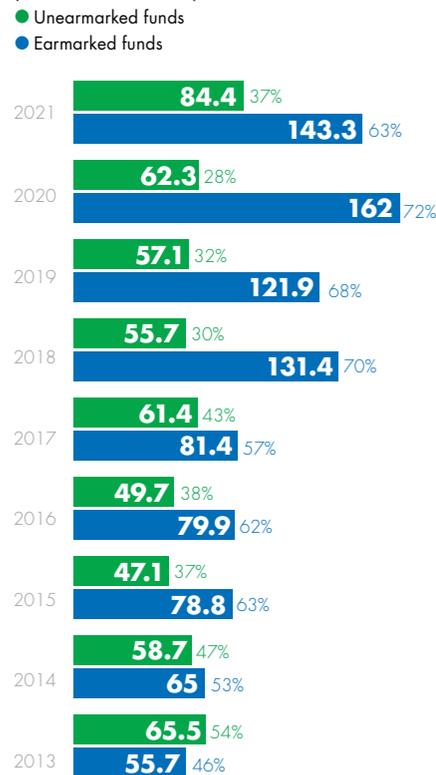
Extrabudgetary requirements, RB, XB income and expenditure evolution 2013-2021 (in millions of US\$)



Until 2015, the extrabudgetary requirements (Annual Appeal) consisted of mere cost plans based on projected income. As of 2016, UN Human Rights introduced a new approach attempting to show the Office's true requirements, i.e., a needs-based budget of all the funds the Office would need if it was to respond to all requests of assistance it received and that could realistically be implemented within a single year.

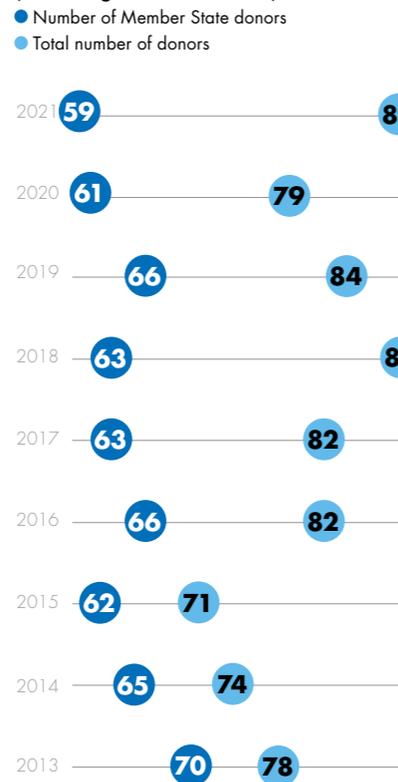
Flexibility of funding

Earmarked versus unearmarked funding (in millions of US\$)

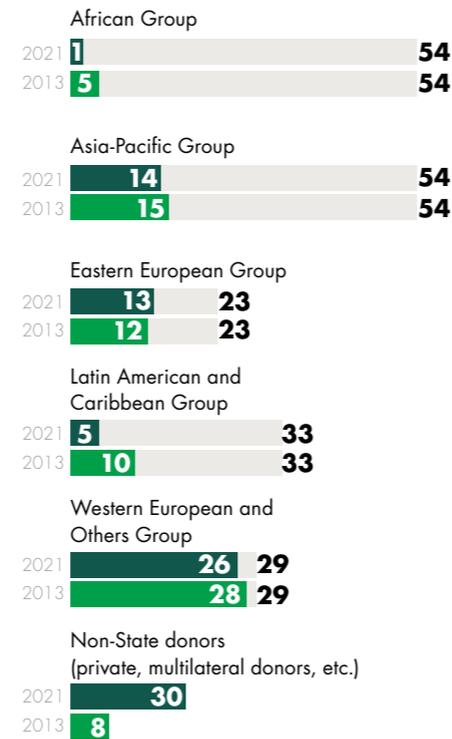


Donors

Number of donors (including Member States)



Breakdown of donors by geographic group



REGULAR BUDGET ALLOCATIONS AND VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

In 2021, 36.6 per cent of the UN Human Rights income was derived from the United Nations regular budget. The cash amount of the regular budget funding that is allocated to UN Human Rights has gradually increased since 2005, when the World Summit committed to a doubling of the regular resources available for UN Human Rights over a period of five years, and when it established the Human Rights Council, which since its inception has been active in creating new human rights mandates with regular budget implications.

In 2021, the Office received US\$131.6 million in regular budget allocations compared to US\$116.8 million in 2020, representing an increase of 13 per cent. The approved regular budget appropriation for UN Human Rights was US\$248.4 million in 2019-2020, US\$201.6 million in 2018-2019, US\$215.5 million in 2016-2017, US\$206.9 million in 2014-2015, and US\$177.3 million in 2012-2013.

The level of voluntary contributions to UN Human Rights has increased substantially since 2013, with a total of US\$227.7 million raised in 2021, representing the highest amount ever received by the Office. In 2020, UN Human Rights received US\$224.3 million, the second highest amount, followed by the third highest amount of US\$187.1 million received in 2018, and US\$179 million in 2019. In 2017, US\$142.8 million was received in voluntary contributions, followed by US\$129.6 million in 2016, US\$125.9 million in 2015, US\$123.7 million in 2014 and US\$121.2 million in 2013.

Over the last years, approximately 40 per cent of the funding for UN Human

Rights came from the United Nations regular budget (36.6 per cent in 2021, 34.2 per cent in 2020, 37.1 per cent in 2019, 40.2 per cent in 2018, 44 per cent in 2017, 45 per cent in 2016, 46 per cent in 2015 and 2014, and 44 per cent in 2013). Consequently, approximately 60 per cent came from voluntary contributions (63.4 per cent in 2021, 65.8 per cent in 2020, 62.9 per cent in 2019, 59.8 per cent in 2018, 56 per cent in 2017, 55 per cent in 2016, 54 per cent in 2015 and 2014, and 56 per cent in 2013).

Over the past few years, the increase in the share of the United Nations regular budget for UN Human Rights activities came from additional resources that were allocated to cover the treaty body strengthening process and additional mandates, including commissions of inquiry established by the Human Rights Council.

NUMBER AND TYPOLOGY OF DONORS

In 2021, the number of Member States that contributed to UN Human Rights decreased by two, down to 59. The overall number of donors increased by 10, amounting to a total of 89 donors compared to 79 donors in 2020. During 2013-2021, the number of contributing Member States fluctuated between its lowest (59) in 2021 and its highest (70) in 2013. The total number of donors that contributed to UN Human Rights was lowest in 2015 (71) and highest (89) in 2018 and 2021.

Among the 59 Member States who contributed in 2021, seven renewed their support after at least one year of financial inactivity. Another nine Member States left the list of donors, despite the High Commissioner's repeated appeals to

broaden UN Human Rights’ donor base. Over the last four years, only 46 Member States provided a contribution every year and 33 others contributed at least once in the same four-year period.

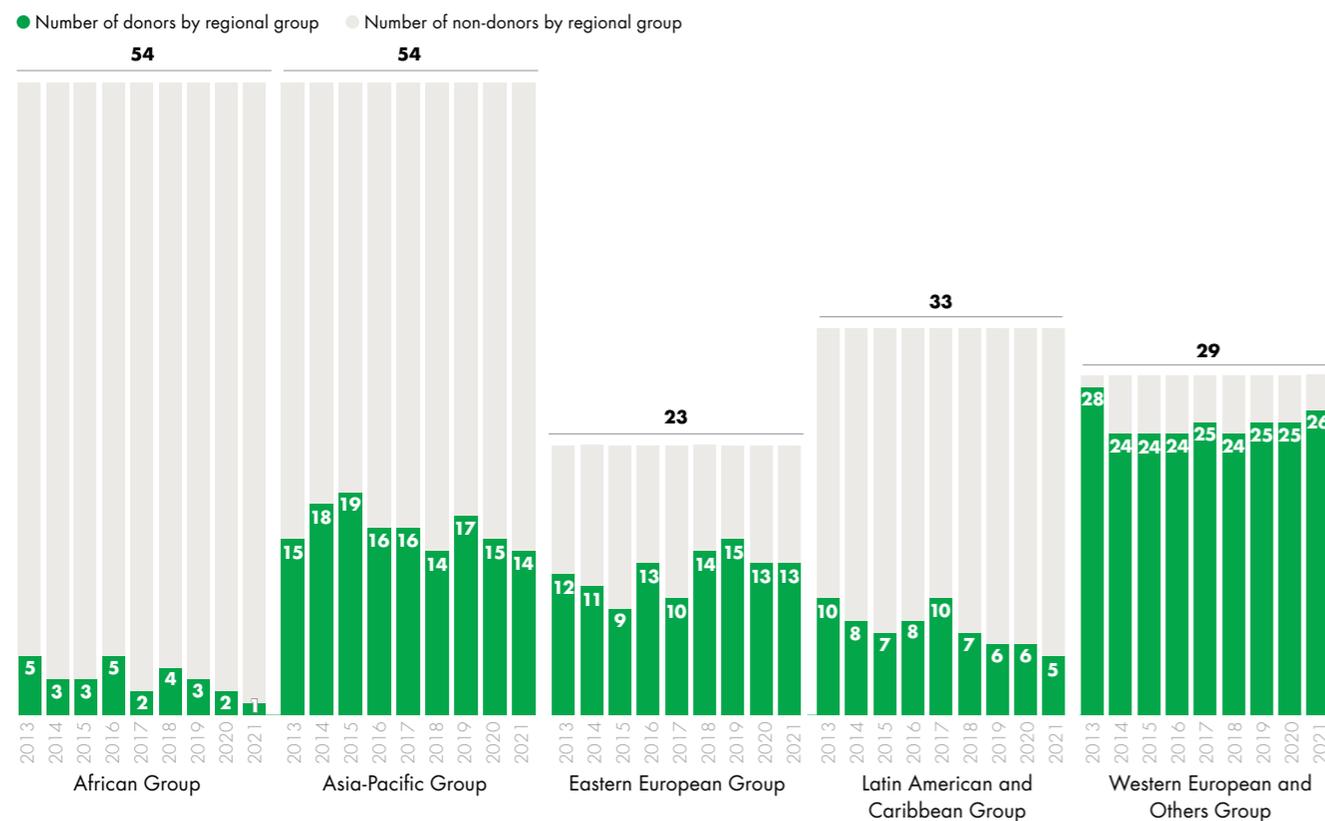
Of the 59 Member States that contributed in 2021, 26 were members of the Western European and Others Group (out of 29 Member States comprising the group); 14 were from the Asia-Pacific Group (out of 54 Member States comprising the group); 13 were from the Eastern European Group (out of 23 Member States comprising the group); five were from the Latin American

and Caribbean Group (out of 33 Member States comprising the group); and one was from the African Group (out of 54 Member States comprising the group).

During 2013-2021, the number of donors per regional group fluctuated between 24 and 28 for the Western European and Others Group, between 14 and 19 for the Asia-Pacific Group, between nine and 15 for the Eastern European Group, between five and 10 for the Latin American and Caribbean Group and between one and five for the African Group.

The number of non-State donors, composed of multilateral organizations, the private sector and the UN system, has reached its highest to date at 30 in 2021. It had gradually increased from six in 2012 to a total of 26 in 2018, the second highest level to date, down to 18 in 2019, and 17 in 2020, before reaching 30 in 2021.

UN Human Rights donor base in 2013-2021, broken down by regional group



EARMARKED VS UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS

In 2021, UN Human Rights received US\$84.4 million in unearmarked funds from 41 donors. In absolute terms, UN Human Rights raised the highest amount of unearmarked funds since 2002. However, the level of earmarking remains high at 63 per cent and unearmarked contributions represent 37 per cent of the overall voluntary contributions received in 2021, a nine per cent increase from 28 per cent in 2020, and a return to the same level of 2015. During 2013-2021, the percentage of unearmarked funding has fluctuated between 28 per cent (at its lowest in 2020) and 54 per cent (at its highest in 2013).

Some of the increase in earmarking can be attributed to the receipt of more locally sourced funding for fieldwork and contributions from non-traditional budget lines that can only be accessed as earmarked funds (such as humanitarian and development budget lines). Other contributions that were previously unearmarked are now provided as more circumscribed funding.

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

A number of Member States, namely Colombia, Qatar and Senegal, host UN Human Rights offices and provide in-kind support by covering some costs, such as the rent of premises, utilities and vehicles. These contributions are credited to their assessed contributions to the United Nations regular budget.

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2021

MEMBER STATE	NATURE OF IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION	ESTIMATED FAIR VALUE US\$
Colombia	Rental of premises	296,506
	Provision of armoured vehicle and running costs	56,032
Qatar	Rental of premises and running costs	153,011
Senegal	Rental of premises	109,233

JUNIOR PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS AND UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS

Some Member States provided UN Human Rights with additional, indirect financial support by contributing to the United Nations Junior Professional Officers (JPO) Programme, which is administered by the Department of

Economic and Social Affairs, in New York. In 2021, a total of 46 JPOs (31 women, 15 men) were working at UN Human Rights who were supported by 15 Governments. As of 31 December, 26 JPOs (17 women, nine men) were working at UN Human Rights who were supported by the Governments of Belgium, China, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway,

the Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sweden and Switzerland (see table below). Non-nationals amounted to four out of 26 in 2020. In terms of location, 18 JPOs were deployed at headquarters (16 in Geneva and two in New York) and eight in the field (three in Africa region, three in Middle East and North Africa region, one in Americas region, and one in Asia-Pacific region).

In addition, UN Human Rights benefited from indirect financial support through the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) Programme, which is administered by UNDP. In 2021, a total of 184 UNVs (116 women, 68 men) supported by 52 Member States served with UN Human Rights. Of these, 50 per cent were national UNVs, and 19 UNVs were fully funded by the Governments of the Czech Republic,

Finland, France, Norway, Republic of Korea, Spain, Switzerland and Sweden (see table below).

JUNIOR PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS 2017-2021

SPONSOR	NATIONAL JPOs (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2017	NATIONAL JPOs (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2018	NATIONAL JPOs (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2019	NATIONAL JPOs (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2020	NATIONAL JPOs (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2021
Belgium		1	1	1	(+1)
People's Republic of China					1
Denmark	10	8	4	4(+1)	1(+1)
Finland	1	1	1	2	1
Germany	2		1	1	
Hungary		1	1	1	1
Iceland					1
Italy	3	3	1	3	1
Japan	2	3	2	1	1
Netherlands	2	3 (+2)	3(+5)	3(+4)	2(+2)
Norway	2	1	2	2	2
Republic of Korea	2	2	2	1	1
Saudi Arabia	1	1		1	1
Sweden	2	2	3	2	3
Switzerland	6 (+1)	3 (+1)	5(+1)	4(+1)	6
Spain	1	1			
United States of America	1				
Total	36	33	32	32	26

UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS 2017-2021 (fully funded by Member States)

SPONSOR	UNVs NATIONALS OF THE DONOR COUNTRY (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2017	UNVs NATIONALS OF THE DONOR COUNTRY (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2018	UNVs NATIONALS OF THE DONOR COUNTRY (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2019	UNVs NATIONALS OF THE DONOR COUNTRY (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2020	UNVs NATIONALS OF THE DONOR COUNTRY (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2021
Czech Republic					1
Finland	1	1	1	1	2
France	1	1		1	2
Germany	1 (+1)	1 (+1)	1	1	
Ireland	1	1		1	
Luxembourg	(+1)	(+1)			
Italy					2
Norway	1	1			1
Republic of Korea	2	2	4	2	1
Spain					1
Sweden	1	1	3	2	3 (+1)
Switzerland	7	7	9 (+1)	7 (+2)	5
Total	17	17	19	17	19

Funds administered by UN Human Rights

Voluntary contributions in support of UN Human Rights are channelled and managed through nine trust funds and three special funds that are not trust funds as defined by the UN Financial Regulations and Rules.

Additional financial information related to these funds can be found in the extrabudgetary income and expenditure report for 2021 (on pages 144.)

UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

In 1993, the United Nations Trust Fund for the Support of the Activities of the High Commissioner for Human Rights was established by the Secretary-General to supplement regular budgetary resources as a general funding pool. It is the largest fund administered by UN Human Rights, through which 78.7 per cent of all extra-budgetary funds, including unearmarked funds, were managed in 2021. Detailed information on the implemented activities and the voluntary contributions managed through the Trust Fund is shared in this report.

UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights (VFTC) was established by the Secretary-General in 1987. It is the second largest fund administered by UN Human Rights. It provides financial support for technical cooperation aimed at building a strong human rights framework, including effective national and regional institutions, legal frameworks and infrastructures.

Since 1993, a Board of Trustees, which is appointed by the Secretary-General, has provided administrative and operational guidance. In recent years, its role has evolved to include the provision of advice on policy orientation, strategies on technical cooperation at a broader programme level and a global vision of the work of the Fund. In 2013, the Secretary-General entrusted the Board to also serve as a Board of Trustees for the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review. In 2021, the Board was composed of Mr. Morten Kjaerum (Denmark) (Chairperson); Ms. Azita Berar Awad (Iran); Ms. Valeriya Lutkovska (Ukraine);

Mr. Santiago Corcuera-Cabezut (Mexico) and Ms. Nozipho January-Bardill (South Africa).

As of 31 December, the Fund had received a total of US\$22,989,945 in contributions, which added to the balance from 2020, providing the increased predictability of resources for greater stability of the programmes the Board has been advocating for. In 2021, the total expenditure of the Fund amounted to US\$21,934,474. The balance between contributions and expenditures as of 31 December 2021 continued reflecting, as was the case in 2020, the late receipt of some large contributions, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on a number of planned activities and the need to secure an adequate level of reserves to ensure continuity of work into 2022. The increasing contributions from Member States to support technical cooperation, in particular to support the deployment of human rights advisers under the United Nations Sustainable Development Group Strategy is very much welcomed by the Board.

In 2021, the Fund provided resources for technical cooperation programmes designed to build strong human rights frameworks at the national level in 64 regions, countries and territories (from 53 in 2020), through 54 human rights

advisers and human rights mainstreaming projects in:

Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Republic of the Congo, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, the Republic of Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar (based in Bangkok), Nepal, Nigeria, the Republic of North Macedonia, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Rwanda, Samoa, Serbia, Sierra Leone, South Caucasus (Georgia), Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Zambia and Zimbabwe; six human rights components of peace missions in Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Haiti, Libya, Somalia and Sudan (Darfur); and four country and stand-alone offices in Chad, Mauritania, Mexico and the State of Palestine.⁴

⁴ All references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with General Assembly resolution 67/19.



Board of Trustees participate at the Police Training in Chad in November 2021. © OHCHR

The Fund enabled the expansion of in-country human rights expertise, in particular through the joint UNSDG framework for the deployment of human rights advisers, and by responding to increased demands for UN Human Rights to have an in-country presence. The increased funding has allowed allocations to expand support to, for example, the country offices in Chad, Niger and the opening of the newest country office in Burkina Faso as well as the work on inequalities.

With the support of the Fund, UN Human Rights facilitated national efforts to incorporate international human rights standards into national laws, policies and practices, with a particular emphasis on the human rights dimensions of the global health crisis and providing support for policies and practices aimed at addressing inequalities. In addition, UN Human Rights stressed the importance of supporting the implementation of and follow-up to the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and the development of online mechanisms to supplement these efforts.

In light of the multiple impacts of the pandemic on the progress made in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), UN Human Rights continued to enhance its technical cooperation and advisory services to support the efforts of Member States to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Fund enabled the Office to provide ongoing support across all regions in the establishment and strengthening of national structures, institutions and capacities and to ensure their adherence to international human rights standards. Furthermore, UN Human Rights focused on supporting activities to strengthen the administration of justice, in particular to facilitate access for individuals and groups facing discrimination and exclusion, as well as delivering capacity-building initiatives to combat inequality and promote gender equality and empowerment and women's rights.

UN VOLUNTARY FUND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2021

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
Denmark	4,496,547	VFTC
Finland	2,439,024	VFTC
India	200,000	VFTC
Luxembourg	450,450	VFTC
Philippines	50,000	VFTC
Spain	112,613	VFTC
Thailand	100,000	VFTC
United States of America	1,150,000	VFTC
(a) Total contributions earmarked to VFTC	8,998,635	
Australia	499,643	Activities in the Asia-Pacific region (allocated to Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and Timor-Leste)
	271,950	The Philippines (UN Joint Programme)
Canada	90,909	Sri Lanka
France	146,341	Chad
	73,171	Mauritania
	88,548	Bosnia
	159,872	Burkina Faso
Germany	44,998	Mexico (support to OHCHR's work on disappearances)
	236,128	OHCHR's work in the State of Palestine*
IOM	113,161	Haiti (response to the needs of vulnerable Haitian migrants and displaced persons)
	10,592	Mauritania
Italy	227,015	Afghanistan
Lithuania	22,523	Georgia
Malta	17,202	Libya
	359,626	Haiti
	719,252	OHCHR's work in the Sahel region (Chad)
Norway	119,875	OHCHR's work in the Sahel region (Niger)
	299,688	OHCHR's work in the Sahel region (Mauritania)
	503,476	OHCHR's work in the State of Palestine*

OIF	7,132	Chad (workshop to strengthen the capacities of NHRIs)
Republic of Korea	50,000	The Philippines (UN Joint Programme)
	500,000	Russian Federation (consolidating the Human Rights Master's Programme)
Russian Federation	50,000	Russian Federation (activities of the Federal and Regional Ombudspersons for human rights in the Russian Federation)
	40,000	Russian Federation (regional seminars on business and human rights)
Saudi Arabia	200,000	OHCHR's work in the State of Palestine*
UNDP	8,418,566	Deployment of human rights advisers
	267,500	Support to human rights advisers
UNFPA	51,531	Mexico (to implement the Extraordinary Forensic Identification Mechanism)
UNHCR - Mozambique	140,000	Mozambique (Human Rights mainstreaming and support to the Protection Cluster in Cabo Delgado)
	167,644	Kenya (Addressing violence against women by strengthening access to justice - Phase II)
UN Women	93,632	Kenya (Amplifying women's voices in the prevention of violence against women in elections in Bungoma and Vihiga Counties)
United Kingdom	1,335	OHCHR's work in the State of Palestine* (COVID-19 information available to persons with disabilities)
(b) Total contributions earmarked to specific projects	13,991,310	
Unearmarked funds allocated to VFTC		Unearmarked
(c) Total unearmarked funds	0	
Total (a) + (b) + (c)	22,989,945	
Expenditure	21,934,474	

* Reference to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND FOR A HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION PROGRAMME IN CAMBODIA

In 1992, the United Nations Trust Fund for a Human Rights Education Programme in Cambodia was established by the Secretary-General. The original aim of the Trust Fund was to contribute to the development and implementation of a human rights education programme that would promote the understanding of and respect for human rights in Cambodia. Since then, it has been used to implement all of the activities of the Office in Cambodia. In 2021, the Trust Fund received US\$1,950,794 in voluntary contributions. For more information, see pages 307-310 of the online report.

UN TRUST FUND FOR A HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION PROGRAMME IN CAMBODIA

Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2021

Donor	US\$
Australia*	71,378
Germany	225,225
Japan	18,181
Republic of Korea	50,000
Sweden	1,535,010
UNDP	25,000
UNFPA	26,000
Total	1,950,794
Expenditure	1,572,733

* Allocated from a contribution earmarked for activities in the Asia-Pacific region.

UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW MECHANISM

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Participation in the Universal Periodic Review Mechanism was established by the Secretary-General in 2008, pursuant to Human Rights Council (HRC) resolution 6/17. The Voluntary Fund facilitates the participation of developing States, particularly Least Developed Countries (LDCs), in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process. Under its terms of reference, the Voluntary Fund enables funding for a delegate to present the national report from her/his country and participate in the interactive dialogue at the Working Group session during which the delegate's country is being considered. The delegate also attends the HRC's plenary session when the UPR outcome is adopted.

As of 31 December, the Fund had received a total of US\$103,706 in pledges and contributions compared to US\$0 in 2020 and US\$147,167 in 2019. In 2021, the total expenditure of the Fund amounted to US\$230,276, compared to US\$190,047 in 2020 and US\$309,562 in 2019.

Despite the continuing pandemic and associated restrictions in 2021, the UPR continued to see a 100 per cent participation rate by States under review, either in person or virtually, including with the participation of more women delegates from LDC/SIDS. The adjustments that enabled the Council to work in a hybrid mode benefited LDC and SIDS, which had the opportunity to attend their respective UPR reviews virtually or in person. As travel restrictions eased, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and the United Republic of Tanzania were able to receive travel grants and attend in person

reviews at the thirty-ninth session, in Geneva, in November.

The terms of reference of the Fund also allow the financing of briefings prior to the sessions of the Working Group on the UPR to assist countries in the preparatory process. In October 2021, together with the International Organization of La Francophonie (OIF), OHCHR organized a workshop on strengthening the role of parliamentarians from OIF Member States in the UPR process. A total of 18 parliamentarians travelled to Geneva and participated in the workshop in-person, while four attended virtually.

UN VOLUNTARY FUND FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE UPR

Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2021

Donor	US\$
OIF	53,706
Saudi Arabia	50,000
Total	103,706
Expenditure	230,276

UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review was established in 2008, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 6/17 and further strengthened by resolution 16/21 in 2011. This financial mechanism was created to provide a source of financial and technical assistance to help countries, in particular, Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), to implement the recommendations emanating from the UPR, with the consent of and in consultation with the countries concerned.

As established in its terms of reference, the Fund provides support to a wide range of activities, including: the co-funding of programmes and projects aimed at implementing the UPR outcomes; the development of national capacity and expertise for the implementation of the UPR outcomes; the integration of UPR outcomes into United Nations common country programming documents, and coordination of United Nations, multilateral and bilateral action in support of the UPR outcomes; and the exchange of information and sharing of best practices, including through the organization of regional and subregional meetings, seminars, consultations and other interactions. Policy guidance on the operationalization of the Fund is provided by the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund, composed of the members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights.

As of 31 December, the Fund had received a total of US\$212,195 in pledges and contributions compared to US\$346,597 in 2020. In 2021, the total expenditure of the Fund amounted to US\$559,197 compared to US\$512,511 in 2020.

In 2021, the Fund approved financial and technical assistance for projects in 23 countries in Africa, the Americas, Asia Pacific, Europe and Central Asia and the Middle East. Project implementation continued to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to a delayed implementation of some of them.

UN VOLUNTARY FUND FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UPR

Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2021

Donor	US\$
France	12,195
India	100,000
Kazakhstan	15,000
Philippines	25,000
Republic of Korea	50,000
Singapore	10,000
Total	212,195
Expenditure	559,197

VOLUNTARY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TRUST FUND TO SUPPORT THE PARTICIPATION OF LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES IN THE WORK OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

The Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the work of the Human Rights Council was established under HRC resolution 19/26 in 2012. The Fund became operational in 2014. The objective of the Fund is to enhance the institutional and human rights capacities of LDCs and SIDS through targeted training courses and travel assistance for delegates attending regular Council sessions of the HRC and the fellowship programmes. The Fund also provides training sessions for government officials in accordance with the HRC mandate under resolution 19/26.

Throughout the pandemic, the Trust Fund participated in multiple webinars organized by a variety of stakeholders (Member States, NGOs/think tanks, IGOs) to ensure that LDCs/SIDS continue to receive adequate support and that No One is Left Behind. The Trust Fund also increased its presence on social media platforms, in particular on Twitter. Regular updates on HRC discussions have been sent to former and selected delegates of the Trust Fund.

In February 2021, the Trust Fund Secretariat organized two virtual induction courses in anticipation of the forty-sixth session of the HRC. A total of 71 government officials (38 women, 33 men) from 26 LDCs/SIDS (14 in Africa, eight in Asia-Pacific, four in the Caribbean) participated in the three-hour

induction sessions. The majority of participants (68 per cent) were based in capitals, 21 per cent in Geneva and 11 per cent in North America and Europe. Representatives of six countries without a permanent mission in Geneva also attended. Two sessions were held to accommodate different time zones. The courses were conducted via the Kudo platform, with simultaneous interpretation in English and French. According to the polls conducted at the end of the sessions, 90 per cent of the participants indicated that the course had met or exceeded their expectations.

In March 2021, the Council decided to convene a high-level panel discussion during the high-level segment of its forty-ninth session (A/HRC/DEC/46/115). It requested that OHCHR, through the Trust Fund, secure the participation in the session of Member States without a permanent mission in Geneva, to facilitate the universal participation of all Member States. It also requested OHCHR to prepare a summary report on the panel discussion to be submitted to the Human Rights Council at its fiftieth session. The Decision was co-sponsored by 160 Member States, making it the most sponsored HRC resolution/decision in its history.

The Fund developed an e-learning course on the HRC and its mechanisms in 2016 to complement the in-person induction courses. As of 31 December 2021, a total of 6,368 persons including 2,498 women had completed the e-learning course. Of those who completed the training, 1,784 were from LDCs/SIDS. Completion has sharply increased in the years since it was first introduced: from 92 in 2016 to 4,083 in 2021.

In 2021, the Trust Fund received US\$469,083 in voluntary contributions

compared to US\$377,988 in 2020. Twelve countries contributed to the Trust Fund in 2021. Only three contributed in 2015.

VOLUNTARY FUND FOR PARTICIPATION OF LDCs AND SIDS IN THE WORK OF THE HRC

Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2021

Donor	US\$
Australia	3,569
France	73,171
Germany	23,256
India	50,000
Italy	24,213
Luxembourg	23,209
Netherlands	55,991
Poland	24,967
Portugal	68,254
Singapore	5,000
Switzerland	10,000
United Kingdom	107,455
Total	469,083
Expenditure	449,032

UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples was established by General Assembly resolution 40/131, in 1985, to provide indigenous peoples with the opportunity to raise issues faced by their communities in UN mechanisms, meetings and processes.

The Fund provides support to indigenous peoples' representatives to participate in the sessions of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PFII), the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP), the sessions of the Human Rights Council (HRC), including its Universal Periodic Review (UPR), and the human rights treaty bodies. With the recent expansion of the Fund's mandate in 2019, it now enables indigenous peoples' participation in the Forum on Business and Human Rights (FBHR) and meetings of the Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC).

In addition, the Fund also acts as a mechanism to assist in building the expertise of indigenous representatives. It aims to build the capacities of indigenous peoples to ensure their meaningful and effective participation in UN meetings and processes.

During 2021, due to COVID-19 and related restrictions, the Fund was unable to provide support to indigenous peoples' representatives to enable their travel and participation in UN meetings. Given this background, attention was focused instead on capacity-building efforts by offering several online trainings and awareness-raising activities in collaboration with partner UN agencies and entities, civil society organizations and independent UN experts.

In 2021, four online trainings were conducted in English, French, Spanish and Russian, in preparation to the fourteenth Session of the UN EMRIP in July 2021, with the participation of over 400 indigenous representatives from Asia and the Pacific, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Arctic and the Russian Federation. Three side events were organized on the situation of indigenous children in Asia and the Pacific, Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean, and two internal consultations were undertaken with the Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing and the Special Rapporteur on the rights to water and sanitation. Moreover, on 9 August 2021, a celebration on the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, was hosted by OHCHR Regional Office in Central Africa.

In 2021, the Fund received a total of US\$ 51,091 in voluntary contributions compared to US\$ 543,572 in 2020. The total expenditure of the Fund amounted to US\$ 255,716 in 2021 compared to US\$ 102,150 in 2020.

UN VOLUNTARY FUND FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2021

Donor	US\$
Australia	3,569
Estonia	22,523
Philippines	25,000
Total	51,091
Expenditure	255,716

Adjusting the Indigenous and Minorities Fellowship Programme to adapt to COVID-19: The stories of three participants



Alice Matthew, Senior Indigenous Fellow. © OHCHR

I am Alice, and I belong to the indigenous Dusun Tagahas from Sabah, Malaysian Borneo. I participated in the Indigenous Fellowship Programme in 2018 and was then recruited as Senior Indigenous Fellow in 2021-2022. I was among the three senior indigenous and minority fellows hosted at the OHCHR Regional Office for Southeast Asia.

During my Senior Fellowship, I was assigned to work with the Climate Change team. My tasks included the identification of inputs from the indigenous peoples' perspectives on key human rights issues (business and human rights, land and environment, climate change, land rights, Forest, parks and community forest laws and the impact on indigenous peoples, and key human rights issues in the region linked to COVID-19), monitoring and documenting trends and highlighting good practices.

One of my takeaways from this fellowship is the strategic role that fellows can play in building bridges and reliable connections between OHCHR and the affected communities at the grassroots level that may not have access to the UN and international human rights mechanisms. My year with the Climate Change Team strengthened the work relationship, raised visibility of indigenous peoples in the UN system and opened up opportunities to build more alliances. In a way, my experience also highlighted the need to amplify diversity and include more indigenous peoples within the system.



Mikhael Benjamin, former Minority Fellow. © OHCHR

Mikhael is a national of Iraq from the Assyrian-Christian community, who are an ethno-religious minority and indigenous peoples in the country. He has devoted his life to advocating for the rights of his community. He was selected to participate in the Minority Fellowship Programme in 2010.

After the programme, Mikhael undertook various projects on minority rights, implemented across the country and abroad. He participated in several sessions of the Council and Forum on Minority Issues, as co-founder of the Alliance of Iraqi Minorities (AIM). Today, AIM is a large network of 23 NGOs working for Iraqi minorities throughout Iraq.

In 2014, Mikhael's advocated against land grabbing in Assyrian areas and with his organization submitted a report to the UN committee which monitors Iraq's compliance with the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. As a result, the Committee in its concluding observations recommended that the Government put an end to the illegal expropriation of Assyrian lands. Mikhael's organization has also successfully advocated for the adoption in Kurdistan of a law for the protection of minority rights and is working with both Kurdistan and central governments to develop a school curriculum, inclusive of minorities.

As a former Minority Fellow, Mikhael was selected in 2020 to participate in the OHCHR Senior Minorities Fellowship Programme. He was deployed in Erbil with the Human Rights Office of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI). Mikhael supported UNAMI's focus on minority groups, through monitoring, raising awareness about international human rights standards, and outreach to civil society actors. He also contributed to research, analysis and reporting

on a number of draft laws concerning minority rights to be discussed at the Iraqi Parliament.

Mikhael stresses that the turning point in his career of activism was participating in the Minority Fellowship Programme in Geneva in 2010, which has shaped his subsequent advocacy work and ten years later led to his deployment as Senior Minority Fellow in Erbil.

My fellowship was very timely as it took place during the COVID-19 pandemic, and I could help indigenous peoples and minorities who were the most impacted. I organized community and field visits to Baka indigenous communities and Mbororo pastoralists. Awareness-raising on COVID-19 was my key task. I undertook an organizational mapping of indigenous organizations and researched on government led initiatives to raise awareness about the pandemic. As a result, a database of indigenous communities and their organizations is now available, which the Regional Office is using to coordinate, share information and monitor the situation of indigenous peoples in the region.

During my fellowship, I also advocated with government ministries to consider indigenous peoples in their annual planning. As a result, a National Development Participatory Programme has been developed, in which the role and activities to be carried by indigenous peoples are outlined.

Being coached by human rights experts as mentors from OHCHR has been greatly empowering. I recently enrolled into a Ph.D. Programme where I will conduct research on strengthening the management of natural resources by indigenous Mbororo pastoralists in Cameroon through conflict resolution, with the objective of finding a common ground at the community level to solve these conflicts. The OHCHR Indigenous Fellowship Programme is a life changing initiative. At the community level, it's transformative!



Isa Adamu, former Senior indigenous Fellow. © OHCHR

I am Isa Adamu, an Mbororo pastoralist and one of the indigenous peoples in Cameroon. I grew up looking after our livestock and cattle rearing is our main traditional livelihood. My parents did not have the opportunity to go to school and I was among the first to do so in my community. I used to walk several kilometres to go to school. Seeing the impact of marginalization and exclusion in my community at an early age motivated me to study and I am now one of the few Mbororo lawyers in my community.

I founded the Mbororo Student Association while at the Faculty of Law at the University of Yaoundé and subsequently worked with MBOSCUDA (The Mbororo Social and Cultural Association), the largest indigenous organization in Cameroon. In 2015, I was selected to participate in the OHCHR Indigenous Fellowship Programme. In 2020-2021, I was recruited as Senior Fellow and had the opportunity to participate in an on-the-job training at the OHCHR Regional Office for Central Africa.

UNITED NATIONS HUMANITARIAN FUNDS

UN Human Rights provides joint secretariat support to two grant-making funds, namely the Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery and the Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture. Together, they are known as the UN Human Rights Humanitarian Funds. They were established by the General Assembly with the purpose of providing direct assistance and rehabilitation to individuals whose rights have been violated in the context of contemporary forms of slavery and torture, respectively. This assistance translates into yearly grants that are primarily awarded to civil society organizations that provide humanitarian, medical, psychological, social and legal assistance to victims. They are financed through voluntary contributions and are formally administered by the Secretary-General, who acts on the advice of Boards of Trustees. In 2021, the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery received a total of US\$ 1,510,218 in contributions, compared to US\$ 848,240 in 2020. In 2021, the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture received a total of US\$ 10,564,313 in contributions, compared to US\$ 10,446,987 in 2020.

UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY TRUST FUND ON CONTEMPORARY FORMS OF SLAVERY

The UN Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery was established by General Assembly resolution 46/122, in 1991, with the mandate of providing direct assistance to victims of contemporary forms of slavery. It awards annual grants to civil society organizations, including rehabilitation centres, trade unions, shelters for victims and legal redress programmes. Contemporary forms of slavery are brought to light on a regular basis, including serfdom, forced labour, bonded labour, traditional slavery, trafficking in persons and in human organs, sexual slavery, the worst forms of child labour, early and forced marriage, inherited widows, the sale of wives and other forms of slavery.

The UN Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery grew from US\$614,115 in contributions in 2018 to reach the milestone of more than US\$ 1.5 million in contributions for the first time in its history in 2021, the year of its thirtieth anniversary.

In total, the UN Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery awarded 37 direct assistance grants, in 30 countries in all of the world's regions, to assist more than 17,000 survivors of slavery. During its twenty-sixth session (22-26 November), the Slavery Fund's Board of Trustees recommended 43 annual grants for civil society organizations to assist over 29,000 slavery survivors in 33 countries in 2022.

On 2 December, on International Day for the Abolition of Slavery, the Fund released a communications toolkit on a Trello Board that hosts audiovisual materials in English, French and Spanish.

UN VOLUNTARY TRUST FUND ON CONTEMPORARY FORMS OF SLAVERY

Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2021

Donor	US\$
Andorra	22,523
Australia	135,617
Germany	518,620
Greece	11,723
Luxembourg	17,442
Portugal	11,604
Qatar	40,000
Republic of Korea	50,000
Saudi Arabia	85,000
Spain	22,523
United Kingdom	595,166
Total	1,510,218
Expenditure	846,797

UN Fund and NGOs: Fighting contemporary forms of slavery for 30 years

“In 2012, I was rescued,” said Marinaldo Soares, a survivor of forced labour from Brazil. “Friends of mine who were also working in slavery-like conditions reported the abuse and, thanks to them, we were rescued and received assistance. My rights were recognized and through my experience I learned how to protect the rights of others.”

“We are still fighting against slavery. We don't want people to experience what we did.”

Soares was rescued by the Mobile Inspection Working Group thanks to a complaint received by the Carmen Bascarán Centre for the Defence of Life and Human Rights, based in the State of Maranhão, Brazil. The Centre assists efforts towards eradicating forced labour and assisting victims of human trafficking and slavery, with the support of the UN Slavery Fund. The Centre's approach focuses on labour rights and community outreach, aiming to prevent vulnerable individuals from falling victim to exploitative practices.

Four years after he was rescued, Soares went on to win the 2016 National Human Rights Award in Brazil, in the ‘Combating Slavery’ category.

“To prevent people from being pushed into slavery, we need to inform them about their rights and ensure these rights are protected,” Soares said. “We need to invest in vulnerable communities for their development - people still fall prey to slavery because they are hungry and have nothing in their community. We also need to improve public policies for survivors.”

Soares recounted his story during an online webinar organized by UN Human Rights

and the University of Nottingham, to mark the thirtieth anniversary of the UN Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery.

Grassroots organizations advocating for change

During the webinar, several grantees of the Fund were invited to describe the role they play in supporting survivors, and to share good practices that better protect victims and prevent slavery.

Different and Equal is an Albanian-based NGO that provides shelter and comprehensive reintegration assistance to victims of trafficking. Mariana Meshi, Executive Director, said that although her country has legal and policy instruments for the protection of victims of trafficking, her organization advocates for a specific and more comprehensive anti-slavery law.

“Fragmentation of legislation with provisions scattered in different acts makes it very difficult to implement an effective policy for the protection of victims of trafficking,” she said.

In Singapore, the Humanitarian Organization for Migration Economics (HOME) runs a shelter for migrant domestic workers and provides them with humanitarian and legal assistance. Jaya Anil Kumar, Research and Advocacy Manager at HOME, explained that domestic migrant workers are excluded from the Employment Act, the primary labour legislation in Singapore, and their work permits are tied to their employers.

“Work permit conditions stipulate that employers 'shall control and supervise'



Thirtieth anniversary banner © OHCHR

their foreign employees. The Singapore Government further imposes financial burdens on employers to ensure they undertake this obligation,” Kumar said.

People on the move facing increasing challenges

Often, governments provide only temporary solutions for the displaced that do not sufficiently take their needs into account, thus increasing the risk of them being drawn into slavery, said Tomoya Obokata, UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, who presented a report on the nexus between displacement and contemporary slavery to the Human Rights Council in September. Access to the formal job market is one critical issue surrounding this, he added.

“States should grant access to decent work in law and practice to displaced persons,” Obokata said. “In this way, they could also contribute to the local economy and become self-reliant and less vulnerable to contemporary forms of slavery.”

UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR THE VICTIMS OF TORTURE

The UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, established by General Assembly resolution 36/151 in 1981, is mandated to provide direct assistance to victims of torture and their families. The Fund awards annual and emergency grants to civil society organizations, including to support rehabilitation centres, grassroots organizations and legal aid programmes.

The Torture Fund grew from US\$ 9,375,555 in contributions in 2018 to US\$10,564,313 in 2021, the year of its fortieth anniversary. Grants increased from 173 in 2018, to 177 in 2021. In total, the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture awarded 171 annual direct assistance grants, six capacity-building grants and seven emergency grants, in 79 countries in all regions of the world, to assist more than 47,000 survivors of torture and their family members. During its fifty-fourth session (4-8 October), which took place virtually, the Torture Fund's Board of Trustees recommended 181 annual direct assistance grants and 7 capacity-building grants for civil society organizations to assist over 46,000 torture survivors in 92 countries in 2022.

A Group of Friends for the Torture Fund, comprised of 16 Member States, was established in 2019, and the Slavery Fund is advancing on a similar initiative. Coordination was strengthened with other UN anti-torture and anti-slavery mechanisms, notably through joint public statements and participation in international commemorative events on 26 June and 2 December, which increased the cohesion of UN efforts to combat these practices. Eminent experts and survivors have joined the respective Board of Trustees, thereby reinforcing the victim-centred approach. They have also contributed to increasing the Fund's visibility, notably during the joint anniversary campaigns, including activities and audiovisual and social media assets to highlight the stories of survivors who are assisted by the Funds on their path to recovery and redress.

UN VOLUNTARY FUND FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE

Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2021

Donor	US\$
Andorra	11,628
Austria	17,836
Canada	47,657
Czech Republic	9,381
Denmark	802,955
France	121,951
Germany	521,975
India	50,000
Ireland	157,343
Italy	30,266
Liechtenstein	80,559
Luxembourg	17,442
Mexico	10,000
Norway	359,626
Portugal	5,974
Portugal	5,631
Qatar	30,000
Saudi Arabia	80,000
Switzerland	200,000
United States of America	8,000,000
private donors	4,091
Total	10,564,313
Expenditure	8,958,694

“A victim of torture is one too many,” says UN expert

“A victim of torture is one too many,” said Nils Melzer, UN Special Rapporteur on Torture at a special webinar held to mark the fortieth anniversary of the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (the Fund) and the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. “It’s a man-made disaster that we can end here and now if we so decide.”

As thousands of people around the world continue to be subjected to torture every day, the webinar discussed the urgency in fostering an open and secure civic space for victims in order for them to obtain accountability, reparation and rehabilitation. The panel was organized by the UN Human Rights Office, in coordination with the American University, Washington College of Law, Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law.

Thomas McCarthy, the first Secretary of the Fund, noted the Fund's historic beginning. Before the Fund's inception, he explained, the UN Trust Fund for Chile was created in the late 1970s to provide support to victims whose human rights had been violated by detention or imprisonment in that country. The General Assembly recognized that torture was occurring worldwide, so they expanded the mandate to have a global reach and established the Fund, he said.

Civil society organizations play a crucial role in protecting torture victims, even while working in constrained environments, explained Ilze Brands Kehris, the UN Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights. Many challenges include harassment and threats, criminalization of activities leading to arrests and lawsuits, and less access to funding. These

roadblocks continue to increase, especially online, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

One of the first grantees of the Fund in 1984, the Comité para la Defensa de la Salud, la Ética y los Derechos Humanos (COSDESEDH) in Argentina, currently provides medical, psychological, legal and social services to 465 torture victims, said Dr. Norberto Liwski, President of CODESEDH. He stressed the importance of offering victims and their families comprehensive care to overcome post-traumatic stress.

“These areas must have interdisciplinary teams duly and rigorously trained in ethical values and sustained professional intervention from the perspective of human rights,” Liwski said.

While the Fund enables victims to recover from trauma, there are preventative monitoring measures found in the Optional Protocol to help prevent torture from taking place such as making unannounced visits to places where someone is under continuous supervision, control and not free to leave, according to Suzanne Jabbour, Chair of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (SPT).

For those organizations in fear of reprisals, the UN Committee against Torture and other treaty bodies adopted guidelines in 2015 on the handling of allegations of reprisals against individuals and organizations cooperating with the treaty bodies.

“In the past years, we have observed cases of reprisals against organizations that provided information to the Committee, either during the reporting procedure, during the individual complaints



Activists during a rally marking the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture in Islamabad, Pakistan, on 26 June 2021. © EPA-EFE/ SOHAIL SHAHZAD

procedure or during the enquiry procedure,” said Claude Heller, Chair, of the Committee against Torture.

Civil society face many challenges in their work. The Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (HRFT) is an organization helping to rehabilitate victims where there is an increase in the systematic and widespread practices of torture. A grantee of the Fund since 2008, HRFT has aided 3,800 torture survivors at its five rehabilitation centres, according to Elçin Türkdoğan, HRFT Programmes Coordinator.

“The crackdown on civil society in Turkey has intensified since 2013,” Türkdoğan said. “In the current oppressive atmosphere in Turkey, torture survivors may refrain from applying for rehabilitation or may interrupt rehabilitation due to fear and security concerns.”

“These brave people who have survived torture have gone on to become activists in the anti-torture community, global leaders and human rights defenders and many were tortured as a reprisal for their commitment to human rights work,” Nathanson said. “Grantees bring a richness to the work globally and we will continue to support them.”

SPECIAL FUND ESTABLISHED BY THE OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT

The Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OP-CAT) was adopted by the General Assembly in December 2002 and entered into force in June 2006. OP-CAT created a two-pillar system at the international and national levels to prevent torture and other forms of ill-treatment in places where persons may be deprived of their liberty.

At the international level, it established the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (SPT), which has been in operation since February 2007. SPT is mandated to visit all places of detention in States Parties and provide assistance and advice to States Parties and National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs).

At the national level, the Special Fund established by article 26 of OP-CAT helps to finance the implementation of recommendations issued by SPT after a visit to a State Party and to support training programmes for NPMs. In 2021, the Fund awarded grants amounting to US\$257,100 to support 17 torture prevention projects in 13 States parties to the Optional Protocol. In 2021, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the transition to a new mode of grant processing in the Secretariat, delays in the disbursement of grants occurred and adjustments were required for some of the ongoing projects, resulting in the extension of their implementation periods.

⁵ The guide is available on the [OHCHR website](#).

In 2021, the Fund received contributions and pledges of US\$ 434,761, which enabled the launch of the 2022 Call for Applications.

Since 2012, the Fund has supported 103 technical cooperation projects in 30 countries worldwide. These projects were instrumental in facilitating legislative and institutional changes in the 30 countries and supported the compliance of laws with international human rights standards on torture prevention and on the creation of NPMs. This resulted in revised codes of criminal procedure, prison acts, and laws prohibiting abusive body searches for persons deprived of their liberty. The projects supported the establishment or strengthening of effective NPMs or other relevant institutions and contributed to the improved knowledge and capacity of NPM staff to monitor places of detention (through training, study visits, elaboration of internal rules and methodologies, production of manuals, interview protocols and guidelines) and to the enhanced visibility of NPMs (through improved annual reports, their translation into national languages, radio transmissions, brochures and posters). The projects also enabled the purchase of technical equipment (such as cameras and equipment to measure the size and humidity of cells) and contributed to enhanced collaboration with other stakeholders (professional groups, prosecutors, the judiciary, the police, lawyers and CSOs).

In addition, the projects supported capacity-building activities in institutions equipped with psychiatric and health facilities, and enhanced collaboration with national monitoring bodies established under the CRPD, overall contributing to improved protection of vulnerable groups

(women, persons with disabilities, children and persons living with HIV/AIDS).

Given the focus of the Special Fund on the establishment and strengthening of the national preventive mechanisms, and in response to increasing demand from the field, OHCHR developed a practical guide entitled *Preventing torture: the role of national preventive mechanisms*, available in English, French, Russian and Spanish.⁵ The Arabic version of the guide and the training materials accompanying the guide are expected to be released in 2022.

OP-CAT SPECIAL FUND

Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2021

Donor	US\$
Czech Republic	9,381
Denmark	200,610
France	60,976
Germany	118,064
Portugal	23,209
Spain	22,523
Total	434,761
Expenditure	325,302

CONTINGENCY FUND

The Contingency Fund is a flexible funding mechanism that was established in 2006 to carry out activities and implement the priorities and strategies of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, particularly in response to human rights and humanitarian emergencies. This was primarily achieved by the rapid deployment of human rights staff and the provision of necessary logistical support.

The Fund, which is financed through voluntary contributions, aims to maintain a balance of approximately US\$1 million at all times. Cash advances are withdrawn from the Fund to enable the implementation of emergency response activities without administrative delays. When additional funding is received from other sources, the Fund is reimbursed. Since the inception of the Fund, the capacity of UN Human Rights to provide conceptual and operational support to unforeseen mandates or situations requiring rapid response has significantly increased.

In 2021, despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, OHCHR managed to utilise the Contingency Fund for emergency deployments. A total of 13 human rights officers (five women, eight men) were deployed to seven countries with deteriorating human rights situations, including during electoral periods.

In Niger, a surge capacity team was deployed to strengthen the capacity of the field offices to monitor and report on the human rights situation during the elections; in a similar context in Chad, the team deployed was also part of the overall UN approach to provide technical assistance to the Government and other actors in the organization of the elections, promoting a peaceful political climate that respects human rights.

The Office also deployed a surge capacity team to the OHCHR Technical mission in Bolivia to support the monitoring of the human rights situation during the electoral period. And, in view of the importance of maintaining OHCHR's presence in Belarus, and thus ensuring the continuity of the Office's engagement with the Government and other stakeholders, the Office deployed one human rights officer to Minsk; and to Haiti, following the earthquake of 14 August, a human rights officer was also deployed to provide support to Human Rights Section on the ground to ensure an adequate delivery on the country project and mandate. In Gambia, the surge capacity team was deployed to support the UNCT in the lead up to presidential elections. In Uganda, a surge capacity team was deployed to assist the Country Office with human rights monitoring and capacity-building activities during the general elections. As part of a deployment that began in 2020, a surge capacity team in Ethiopia documented violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law during the armed conflict in Tigray.

As of 31 December, the Fund had received a total of US\$485,319 in pledges and contributions to enable these deployments compared to US\$449,547 in 2020. In 2021, the total expenditure of the Fund amounted to US\$285,438 compared to US\$96,216 in 2020. As of 31 December, the remaining balance of US\$816,165 was below the target of maintaining a reserve of US\$1 million at all times, thus undermining the capacity of UN Human Rights to implement rapid response deployments.

CONTINGENCY FUND

Voluntary contributions and expenditure in 2021

Donor	US\$
France	134,146
Germany	112,613
Poland	12,483
Republic of Korea	50,000
Sweden	176,077
Total	485,319
Expenditure	285,438

Promoting credible and peaceful presidential elections in Chad



Surge capacity team for the OHCHR Chad Country Office in the context of the April 2021 presidential election. © OHCHR

In March 2021, I led a surge capacity team that was deployed to Chad between 23 March and 8 May 2021 to support OHCHR Chad Office to conduct a set of activities during the April 2021 presidential elections. These included monitoring and reporting on human rights issues, developing an early warning system to prevent and respond to human rights violations during the electoral period, and strengthening the office contribution to the UN system's efforts to support the Chadian authorities in conducting the 2021 elections.

Despite challenges related to the security situation including following the death of Chadian President Idriss Déby Itno, announced by the media on 20 April, restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the limited capacity of the Office, the surge team was integrated into the Chad Country Office and achieved most of its objectives. The team

documented serious human rights violations committed by Chadian Internal Security Forces (police, gendarmerie and security service) and the army, including violations of the rights to life and physical integrity, the right to peaceful assembly and the right to freedom of expression. Under the leadership of the Head of Office, I led the compilation and drafting of field daily reports in both English and French, produced using information from the five OHCHR teams that were deployed across the country and shared with OHCHR senior leadership, UNOCC in New York and the UNCT. A substantive internal report related to human rights violations during the electoral period including key recommendations to the Chadian authorities, the United Nations and other stakeholders in Chad was released on 28 May. The surge team also participated in the training of security forces in charge of ensuring security during the elections, upholding human rights during the electoral period and engaging CSOs and human rights defenders.

Good practices were observed in the context of this mission. These included a smooth integration of the surge team into the Chad Country Office, the preparation of meetings, targeted trainings for security forces, and coordination between various OHCHR entities including the Emergency Response Section, Africa Branch, the Country Office, and the United Nations Country Team in Chad. The delivery of capacity building activities including a training for the gendarmes and regular engagement with civil society organisation and regular contacts of the Head of Office

with key Ministers, especially of justice and of internal affairs were instrumental for the success of the mission. Further, a cell was set up in the capital to collect and analyze information on an ongoing basis. The mission team leader and the Head of Office monitored the quality of the inputs and ensured the production of three daily reports every day during the elections. They facilitated the drafting of the final report and provided advocacy tools for engagement with the Government.

This surge capacity mission showcased the important role that OHCHR can play in preventing violations and protecting human rights through monitoring and reporting in complex situations, in spite of limited human and logistical capacities. The collaboration between the surge team and staff of the Country Office led to strengthened monitoring, capacity-building and high-level engagement to respond to violations and prevent further abuses. The work of the surge team and the recommendation formulated in the final report laid the foundation for future work of the Country Office. Lessons learned from this experience will inform future engagement in the country and can be replicated in other settings. On a personal note, I am confident that the experience gained when leading this surge capacity mission to Chad in 2021, will assist me in my current position as Senior Human Rights Adviser to the UN Resident Coordinator and the UNCT in Sierra Leone as the country is preparing for the elections in 2023.

SPECIAL FUND FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN THE SOCIAL FORUM, THE FORUM ON MINORITY ISSUES AND THE FORUM ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The Special Fund for the Participation of Civil Society in the Social Forum, the Forum on Minority Issues and the Forum on Business and Human Rights was established by HRC decision 24/118 of 27 September 2013. The aim of the Fund is to facilitate the broadest possible participation of civil society representatives and other relevant stakeholders in the annual meetings of the three forums. In 2021, the Special Fund didn't receive any contribution compared to US\$ 50,000 in 2020.

The 14th session of the UN Forum on Minority Issues took place on 2-3 December 2021, focusing on one of the world's greatest challenges: the growing number of violent conflicts, and how conflict prevention and the protection of the human rights of minorities could be addressed more effectively. In response to the COVID-19 restrictions, the Forum was held in a hybrid format for the first time. The hybrid modality and multilingual outreach campaign increased the opportunities of participation. Over 680 delegates attended from nearly 50 countries, which is the largest number of participants the Forum has welcomed over the past few years. This also enabled wider participation of minorities whose voices are rarely heard in international forums. Discussions held at the Forum complemented the outcome of four online regional forums hosted by the Special Rapporteur on minority issues in 2021. The Special Rapporteur will present the recommendations to the Human Rights Council in March 2022. These recommendations further contribute to the

SGD 16 and the UN Human Rights Office "shift" on helping prevent conflict, violence and insecurity.

The tenth Annual Forum on Business and Human Rights took place from 29 November to 1 December 2021, on the theme "The next decade of business and human rights: Increasing the pace and scale of action to implement the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights." Over 3,000 participants registered to participate in the Forum, which was once again, as with the ninth Forum, held virtually over three days. The Forum included 27 thematic, regionally focused and plenary sessions. Participants addressed some of today's most critical business and human rights questions, including the role of business in confronting climate and environmental harms and related global human rights impacts, as well as how business should help and could contribute to tackling racism and discrimination. Over 180 panellists, including representatives from States, businesses and business associations, civil society, NHRIs, unions, indigenous peoples, human rights defenders and academics, shared their experiences and perspectives, with a particular focus on how to improve implementation of the UN Guiding Principles in the next decade and beyond. A special session paid tribute to the late Professor John Ruggie, the architect of the Guiding Principles, who passed away in September 2021.

Each year, the Social Forum, which is convened by the HRC, provides a unique space for an open and interactive dialogue between civil society actors, representatives of Member States and intergovernmental organizations on a theme that is chosen by the Council. As a result of COVID-19 restrictions, the 2021 Social Forum was held as a hybrid

in-presence and online event. Over 500 participants attended each day of the event through Zoom and in-person in Room XX of the Palais des Nations. The Special Fund was used to hire UN Web TV (media.un.org) to broadcast the event and to archive the sessions in the six UN official languages. In this way, the Fund contributed to ensuring the Social Forum reached further audiences, including approximately 200 views during the first day of the Forum, 150 views during the second day, and almost 800 views of the archived videos in the following months. The Special Fund also covered the costs of accessibility services (international sign language interpreters and English captioning), making this edition of the Social Forum more inclusive for persons with disabilities.

The Social Forum – Advocating for persons with disabilities



Jarrod Clyne, Human Rights Advisor for the International Disability Alliance. © OHCHR

The International Disability Alliance is an Alliance of 14 global and regional organisations of persons with disabilities, bringing together over 1,100 organisations of persons with disabilities and their families. We advocate at the United Nations for a more inclusive global environment for everyone. Ensuring accessibility is critical to our goal of making the UN processes inclusive to persons with disabilities. This applies both to physical accessibility and accessibility of information, without which millions of persons with disabilities around the world are deprived of the possibility of participating in and benefiting from the work of the UN. In that regard, we are grateful for the ongoing work of the Human Rights Council Task Force on Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities. We also understand that funding is a challenge, and it is

often not possible to have sign language interpretation and captioning.

Since the HRC Social Forum is by nature a uniquely open space for civil society and organisations of persons with disabilities, with a person-centred approach focusing on international solidarity, it is therefore critically important that all people can enjoy the rich dialogue that the Social Forum offers. Given the experience of exclusion of millions of persons with disabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic, it was particularly important that the 2021 Social Forum which focused on good practices and challenges in the COVID-19 pandemic, was inclusive of and accessible to person with disabilities. The International Disability Alliance is grateful to the Special Fund for the Participation of Civil Society in the Social Forum for making this possible.

During the 2021 Social Forum, the International Disability Alliance highlighted some particular challenges for persons with disabilities in relation to social and economic rights, the lack of access to digital platforms impacting on remote employment, education and health, and the role of organisations of persons with disabilities in the pandemic response. We also learned how other marginalized groups were also disproportionately affected – structural and systemic discrimination and profound inequality in social and political power

and participation had tragic results across the globe. Sharing good practices and lessons learned, combined with the strong spirit of international solidarity gave us hope for the future, that we can and will ‘build forward better.’

The International Disability Alliance hopes that one day all UN meetings will be accessible to persons with disabilities, and all UN reports will be accessible, including to persons with intellectual disabilities, funded through the regular budget. As we work towards that objective, we remain greatly appreciative of the demonstrated commitment to accessibility and making the UN a place for all, through funding from the Special Fund for the Participation of Civil Society in the Social Forum. This contribution gives effect to the rallying cry of the disability movement: “Nothing about us without us.”

Financial reports as at 31 December 2021

SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IN 2021

This summary financial report indicates total funds available for activities in 2021, inclusive of new contributions carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during the period and total funds balance at the end of the fiscal year 2021

	EXTRABUDGETARY	REGULAR BUDGET	TOTAL
SUMMARY			
Opening balance ^a	162,331,799	n/a	162,331,799
Adjustment ^b	(2,371,017)	n/a	(2,371,017)
Income from contributions/Allotments ^c	227,734,491	140,093,900	367,828,391
Other income ^d	(1,107,743)	n/a	(1,107,743)
Total funds available	386,587,530	140,093,900	526,681,430
Expenditure ^e	213,869,872	109,303,382	323,173,254
Closing balance^f	172,717,658	30,790,518	203,508,176

Notes:

- ^a Corresponds to the final 2020 closing balance, as reported in the UN Human Rights Report 2020.
- ^b Includes adjustments of income, refunds to donors, and write-off of unpaid pledges from past period.
- ^c Extrabudgetary includes all donor contributions and pledges received in the UNOG/OHCHR accounts for the fiscal year 2021; excludes future donor pledges and commitments. Regular Budget corresponds to the amount allotted to OHCHR for 2021.
- ^d Gain/(Loss) on exchange from contributions received, and interest income.
- ^e Includes disbursements and commitments for the fiscal year 2021; excludes future commitments and liabilities.
- ^f The extrabudgetary amount corresponds to all funds held in the UNOG/OHCHR accounts at the end of the fiscal year 2021.

The above summary financial report of income and expenditure in 2021 is materially correct and expenditures were incurred in connection with the purpose of the extrabudgetary contributions received and the regular budget amount allotted to OHCHR for 2021.

Notes on p.144:

- ^a Corresponds to the final 2020 closing balance, as reported in the UN Human Rights Report 2020.
- ^b Includes adjustments of income, transfer between trust funds, refunds to donors, and write-off of unpaid pledges from past period.
- ^c Includes all contributions and pledges received in the UNOG/OHCHR accounts for fiscal year 2021; excludes future donor pledges and commitments.
- ^d Includes gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions and interest income.
- ^e = opening balance + adjustment + income from contributions + other income available.
- ^f Includes disbursements and commitments for fiscal year 2021; excludes future commitments and liabilities.
- ^g Corresponds to all funds held in the UNOG/OHCHR accounts at the end of the fiscal year 2021. The summary financial report of extrabudgetary income and expenditure for 2021 is materially correct and expenditures were incurred in connection with the purpose of the trust funds for which contributions were received.

SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT OF EXTRABUDGETARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IN 2021 (TRUST FUNDS)

This summary financial report indicates total funds available for activities in 2021, inclusive of new contributions carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during the period and total funds balance at the end of the fiscal year 2021.

	VF for Victims of Torture	VTF for Contemporary Forms of Slavery	VF for Indigenous Peoples	VF for Participation in the Universal Periodic Review	VF for Financial and Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review	TF for Participation of LDCs and SIDS to the Work of HRC	VF for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights	TF for Human Rights Education in Cambodia	TF for Support Activities of OHCHR	Total OHCHR Trust Funds
SUMMARY	CHA	SHA	IHA	VPU	UPR	VTA	AHA	CIA	HCA	TOTAL
Opening balance ^a	13,452,407	1,207,057	2,115,855	739,021	2,226,618	2,037,545	23,807,516	420,147	116,325,633	162,331,799
Fund balance	13,447,407	1,207,057	2,110,855	739,021	2,126,618	2,015,543	23,637,517	420,147	109,775,459	155,479,624
Unpaid pledges past period	5,000	0	5,000	0	100,000	22,002	169,999	0	6,550,174	6,852,175
Adjustment ^b	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(244,411)	(1,665,282)	(1,909,693)
and write-off (unpaid pledges) ^b	0	0	0	0	0	0	(19,999)	0	(441,325)	(461,324)
Income from contributions ^c	10,564,313	1,510,218	51,091	103,706	212,195	469,083	22,989,946	1,950,794	189,883,145	227,734,491
Paid contributions 2021	10,564,313	1,487,695	51,091	92,965	212,195	469,083	22,876,785	1,950,794	184,644,507	222,349,428
Unpaid pledges 2021	0	22,523	0	10,741	0	0	113,161	0	5,238,638	5,385,063
Other income available ^d	(75,564)	(12,919)	1,684	(11)	1,732	(1,207)	(152,106)	(46,893)	(822,459)	(1,107,743)
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	(37,934)	(10,550)	(78)	0	(567)	(3,049)	(163,223)	(46,111)	(762,773)	(1,024,285)
Interest income	(37,630)	(2,369)	1,762	(11)	2,299	1,842	11,117	(782)	(59,686)	(83,458)
Total funds available^e	23,941,156	2,704,356	2,168,630	842,716	2,440,545	2,505,421	46,625,357	2,079,637	303,279,712	386,587,530
Expenditure ^f	8,958,694	846,797	255,716	230,276	559,197	449,032	21,934,474	1,572,733	179,062,953	213,869,872
Closing balance^g	14,982,462	1,857,559	1,912,914	612,440	1,881,348	2,056,389	24,690,883	506,904	124,216,759	172,717,658

Please refer to page 143 for the footnote a, b, c, d, e, f, g.

REGULAR BUDGET ALLOTMENT AND EXPENDITURE IN 2021

(Summary by programme, in thousands of US\$)

	ALLOTMENT	EXPENDITURE
HEADQUARTERS		
Executive Direction and Management	8,193.1	7,745.2
Policy-making Organs	9,484.2	2,887.6
Programme of Work		
Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis	16,972.8	13,926.5
Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies	16,827.5	15,163.7
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation*	38,984.0	25,454.4
Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures		
- Human Rights Council and the UPR	8,029.0	7,963.9
- Special Procedures	16,154.8	12,733.6
Total programme of work: Headquarters	114,645.4	85,874.9
Programme Support and Management Services	5,889.3	5,814.3
Subtotal: Headquarters operating resources	120,534.7	91,689.2
FIELD PRESENCES		
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services, Technical Cooperation and Field Activities**		
- Africa	4,433.9	3,960.8
- Americas	2,169.2	2,029.1
- Asia and the Pacific	4,349.8	3,942.4
- Europe and Central Asia	1,979.3	1,983.6
- Middle East and North Africa	4,439.5	3,482.6
Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation (Sec. 23)	2,187.5	2,215.7
Subtotal: Field presences operating resources	19,559.2	17,614.2
Grand total	140,093.9	109,303.4

* Includes allotments for mandated commissions of inquiry.

** Includes Cambodia, Sudan, the Regional Office for Central Africa in Yaoundé, the field-based structure on the DPRK, the presence in the State of Palestine, the Regional Offices in Bangkok, Bishkek, Brussels, Dakar, Panama, Qatar and Santiago de Chile.

EXTRABUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPENDITURE IN 2021**(Summary by programme, in thousands of US\$)**

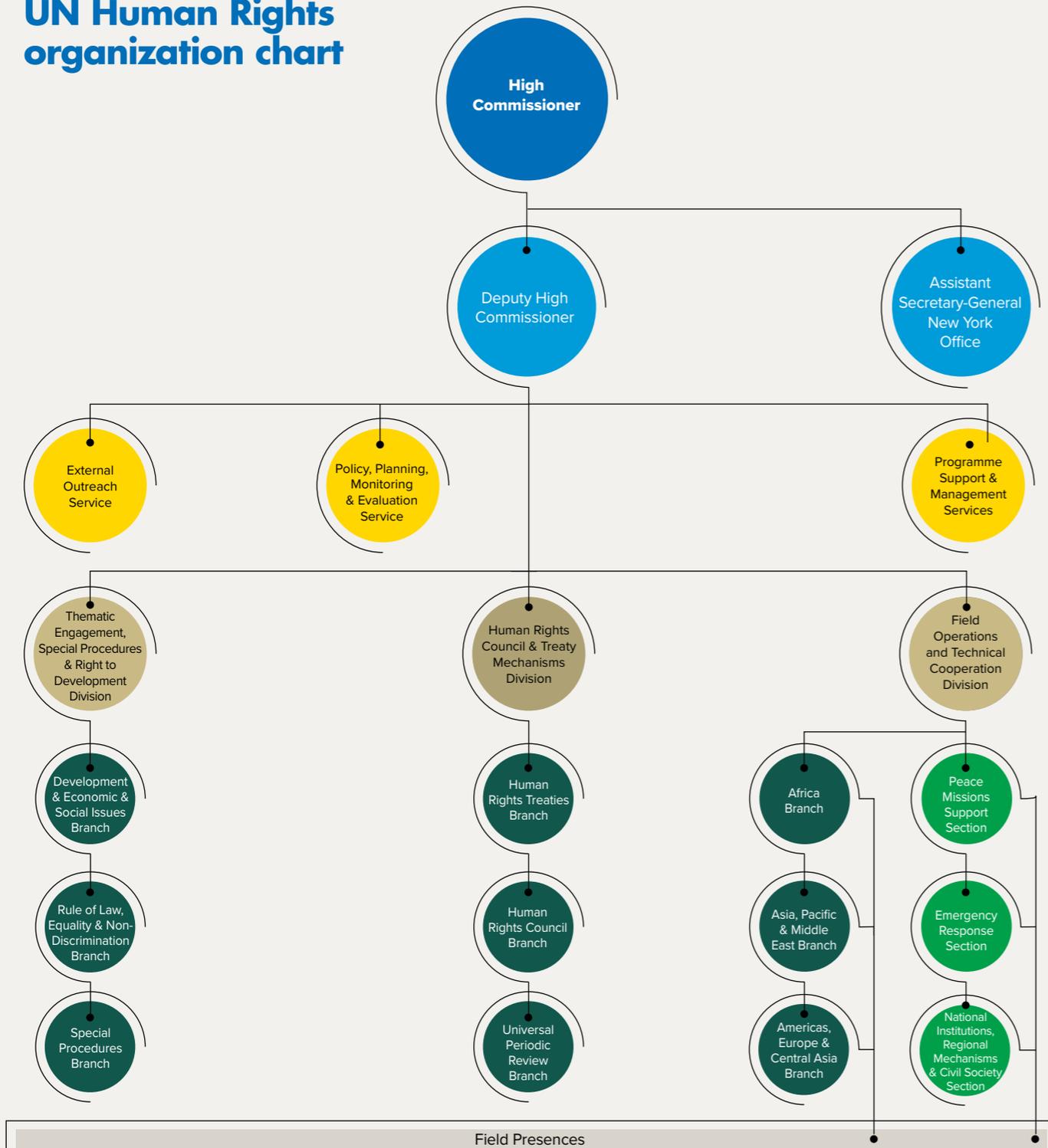
	REQUIREMENTS	EXPENDITURE
HEADQUARTERS		
Executive Direction and Management	23,801.6	20,912.4
Programme of Work		
Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis	26,371.2	20,742.2
Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies	3,875.8	2,960.3
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation	22,679.7	16,544.5
Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures		
- Human Rights Council and the Universal Periodic Review	5,130.7	4,501.5
- Special Procedures	12,052.8	9,272.7
Total programme of work: Headquarters	93,911.8	74,933.6
Programme Support and Management Services	11,559.9	9,976.6
Subtotal: Headquarters operating resources	105,471.7	84,910.2
FIELD PRESENCES		
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services, Technical Cooperation and Field Activities		
- Africa	68,415.7	51,485.5
- Americas	33,952.1	27,013.2
- Asia and the Pacific	15,670.4	11,016.9
- Europe and Central Asia	13,224.0	10,589.8
- Middle East and North Africa	21,702.6	15,157.6
Contingency Fund - Emergency Response Projects	421.7	285.4
Subtotal: Field presences operating resources	153,386.5	115,548.4
Total: Headquarters and field presences	258,858.2	200,458.6

	REQUIREMENTS	EXPENDITURE
OTHER TRUST FUNDS		
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	10,662.5	8,956.3
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples	557.6	255.3
Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	977.1	846.6
Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for Implementation of the UPR	573.0	558.8
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Participation	317.1	230.2
Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of LDCs and SIDS in the work of the HRC	630.0	448.7
Total: Other trust funds	13,717.3	11,295.9
Other expenditure and adjustments not reported above	3,029.6	2,115.4
Grand total	275,605.1	213,869.9

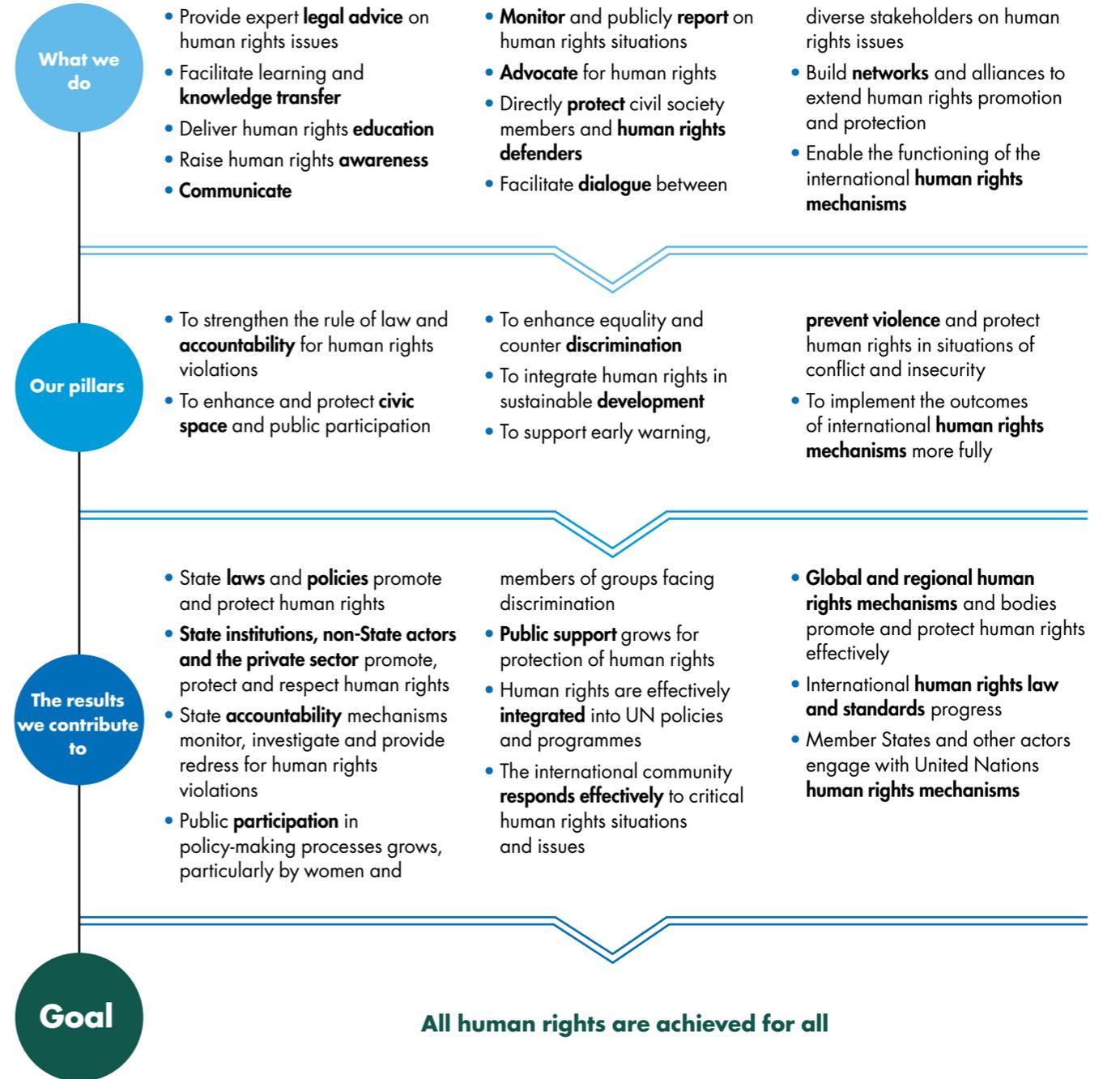
Annexes



UN Human Rights organization chart



UN Human Rights theory of change



Progress in 2021 towards OMP targets for 2018-2021

THE TYPE OF RESULTS THAT WE CONTRIBUTE TO	UN HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAMME INDICATORS ^a	WHAT WE EXPECT TO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO BY 2021, IN COOPERATION WITH OUR PARTNERS	REPORTED PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT ^b	PILLARS
State laws and policies promote and protect human rights.	# of countries of engagement ^c where the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights standards in selected human rights areas has significantly improved.	In 63 countries*, laws and policies will have significantly increased the promotion and protection of human rights in selected human rights areas. ^d	2021: 52 2020: 50 2019: 35 2018: 29	
	# of countries of engagement where NHRIs have been established or have improved compliance with international standards (Paris Principles).	In 35 countries*, NHRIs will have been established or will have improved their compliance with international standards (the Paris Principles).	2021: 16 2020: 22 2019: 19 2018: 16	
	# of countries of engagement where the level of compliance of selected State institutions and programmes with international human rights standards has significantly improved.	In 54 countries*, State institutions, non-State actors and the private sector will have increased their contribution to the promotion and protection of and respect for human rights.	2021: 34 2020: 31 2019: 27 2018: 20	
	# of countries of engagement where human rights trainings have been institutionalized in one or more selected human rights areas.	In 15 countries*, human rights education and training programmes will have been institutionalized.	2021: 11 2020: 11 2019: 10 2018: 8	
	# of countries of engagement where the use of international human rights law in court proceedings and decisions has increased to a significant extent.	In 15 countries*, the use of international human rights law and jurisprudence will have increased in court proceedings and decisions.	2021: 7 2020: 4 2019: 6 2018: 5	

^a The programme indicators are the same as in previous programming and reporting cycles.

^b Full or partial achievement of results or good progress made in achieving results.

^c The use of * after 'countries' in the table indicates a reference to all countries in which the Office plans to undertake or implement activities towards a planned result. It is not limited to countries where UN Human Rights has a presence.

^d Due to potentially shifting priorities, these targets should not be understood as the baselines for the upcoming programming cycle. Similarly, the achievements from the previous programming cycle cannot be understood as the baseline. Baselines have been provided for those targets that are cumulative, i.e., ratifications.

	# of countries of engagement where oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms have been established or have improved compliance with international human rights standards.	In 46 countries*, oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms will have been established or improved their compliance.	2021: 40 2020: 36 2019: 28 2018: 19	
State accountability mechanisms monitor, investigate and redress human rights violations.	# of countries of engagement where transitional justice mechanisms, which conform to international human rights standards, have been established or have improved their compliance with international human rights standards.	In 24 countries*, transitional justice mechanisms will have been established or improved their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.	2021: 11 2020: 11 2019: 9 2018: 5	
	# of countries of engagement where the proportion of human rights violation cases raised by UN Human Rights have been positively addressed by governments of concern has significantly increased.	In 33 countries*, an increased number of human rights violation cases raised by UN Human Rights will have been positively addressed.	2021: 17 2020: 15 2019: 17 2018: 15	
Public participation in policymaking processes grows, particularly by women and members of groups facing discrimination.	# of countries of engagement demonstrating significant improvement in the level of meaningful participation in selected public processes.	In 35 countries*, the level of meaningful participation by selected groups in public processes will have improved significantly.	2021: 29 2020: 24 2019: 29 2018: 20	
	# of countries of engagement where the level of use of national protection systems has significantly increased.	In 23 countries*, the use of national protection systems will have increased significantly.	2021: 12 2020: 12 2019: 15 2018: 14	
The international community effectively responds to critical human rights situations and issues.	# of countries of engagement where the international community has engaged in an objective and constructive way on specific issues raised by UN Human Rights.	In 13 countries*, the international community will have engaged objectively and constructively on issues raised by UN Human Rights.	2021: 13 2020: 15 2019: 8 2018: 6	



	# of countries of engagement with UN peace missions which have integrated international human rights standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the international human rights mechanisms, into their work to a significant extent.	16 UN peace and political missions will have integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the international human rights mechanisms, into their work.	2021: 11 2020: 6 2019: 14 2018: 10	
Human rights are effectively integrated into UN policies and programmes.	# of countries of engagement with humanitarian operations which have integrated international human rights standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the international human rights mechanisms, into their work to a significant extent.	12 humanitarian operations will have integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the international human rights mechanisms, into their work.	2021: 6 2020: 7 2019: 5 2018: 6	
	# of UNCTs where human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the international human rights mechanisms, have been integrated to a significant extent.	50 UNCTs will have satisfactorily integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the international human rights mechanisms, into their work.	2021: 46 2020: 38 2019: 42 2018: 30	
	# of UN policies and programmes at the global level which integrate a human rights-based approach (HRBA) to a significant extent.	25 UN policies and programmes at the global level will have significantly integrated an HRBA.	2021: 35 UN policies have significantly integrated an HRBA 2020: 27 2019: 22 2018: 15	
Widespread public support for protection of human rights.	# of countries of engagement where the narrative on selected human rights topics has significantly improved.	In 23 countries*, the narrative on selected human rights topics will have improved significantly.	2021: 16 2020: 13 2019: 12 2018: 9	

	# of countries of engagement where mechanisms for integrated reporting and/or implementation of outstanding recommendations of the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures or Human Rights Council are in place or increasingly functioning.	In 68 countries*, mechanisms for integrated reporting or implementation of recommendations of the UN human rights mechanisms will have been put in place or have improved functioning.	2021: 39 2020: 31 2019: 41 2018: 22	
Member States and other actors (regional organizations, NHRIs, civil society, UN entities) positively engage with international human rights mechanisms.	Total number of international human rights treaties ratified.	100 additional ratifications of the international human rights treaties. Baseline: 2,233	2021: 89 ratifications in 2018-2021 2020: 79 ratifications in 2018-20 2019: 69 ratifications in 2018-19 2018: 32 ratifications in 2018, 37 in 2019	
	Total number of reservations withdrawn from the international human rights treaties.	10 reservations will have been withdrawn from the international human rights treaties.	5 in 2018-2021 2 in 2021 2 in 2020 1 in 2019 0 in 2018	
	Percentage of countries that submit reports to the human rights treaty bodies on time.	35% of countries will have submitted reports to the human rights treaty bodies in a timely manner. Baseline: 32%	2021: 16% of reports were submitted on time. 2020: 37% 2019: 38% 2018: 38%	
	Number of countries, which have issued a standing invitation to special procedures mandate holders.	125 countries will have issued a standing invitation to special procedures mandate holders. Baseline: 118	2021: Standing invitation by 128 and two non-Member Observer States 2020: Standing invitation by 127 countries and one non-Member Observer State 2019: Standing invitation by 126 and one non-Member Observer States 2018: Standing invitation by 119 and one non-Member Observer States	



	Number of countries for which requests for visits of thematic special procedures have resulted in at least one visit.	In 63 countries , requests for visits of thematic special procedures will have resulted in a visit.	2021: 177 visits to 96 countries. 2020: 149 visits to 87 countries. 2019: 135 visits to 79 countries. 2018: 84 visits to 59 countries.	
	Rate of responses from governments to special procedures communications.	60% of special procedures communications will have received a response from governments. Baseline: 57.6%	2021: 53% 2020: 48% 2019: 45% 2018: 43%	
	Percentage of reprisals raised by UN Human Rights, which are positively addressed by the Government.	50% of the cases of reprisals against individuals for cooperation with the international human rights mechanisms that are reported by UN Human Rights will have been addressed.	The 2021 report of the Secretary-General (A/HRC/48/28) included public allegations pertaining to 45 States, including summaries of formal responses of more than half of the States (23) sent to UN Human Rights on new and ongoing cases during the reporting period (1 May 2020 to 30 April 2021)	
	# of countries of engagement with a significant number of substantive submissions or submitting actors to the international human rights mechanisms.	In 51 countries* the number of submissions to the international human rights mechanisms will have increased significantly.	2021: 36 2020: 34 2019: 33 2018: 27	
	Total number of substantive submissions from NHRIs, civil society organizations, UN entities and individuals to the international human rights mechanisms.	15,000 substantive submissions to the international human rights mechanisms will have been received from NHRIs, civil society organizations, UN entities and individuals.	2021: 6,062 reports, 819 urgent actions and 17,057 submissions to communications >23,938 2020: 18,531 2019: 14,055 2018: 8,310	
International human rights laws and standards are elaborated.	Number of thematic areas where international and/or regional human rights law or standards have been strengthened/developed.	In 12 areas , international/regional human rights law/standards will have been strengthened.	2021: 15 areas 2020: 14 areas 2019: 9 areas 2018: 7 areas	

	Number of countries that submitted or updated common core documents.	85 countries will have submitted or updated their common core documents.	52 common core documents submitted in 2018-2021 9 in 2021 10 in 2020 9 in 2019 12 in 2018	
International and regional human rights mechanisms and bodies effectively promote and protect human rights.	Degree of progress made in improving the level of harmonization of the work of the human rights treaty bodies.	Harmonization of the work of the human rights treaty bodies will have improved significantly.	2021: Chairs of TBs continue to work on the predictable aligned schedule of reviews, harmonization of TBs' working methods, and the digital uplift. In addition, reprisals guidelines have been adopted by all Committees of the TBs. 2020: Chairs of TBs established a WG to address procedural aspects of the impacts of COVID-19 on the work of TBs, including a predictable calendar, recommendations for online State Party reviews in 2021 and substantive aspects of COVID-19 and human rights.	
	Degree of coordination among the special procedures.	A high degree of coordination among the special procedures will have been achieved.	2021: 93% of communications were issued jointly by two or more mandate holders. 2020: 90% 2019: 79% 2018: 80%	



Abbreviations and acronyms

ACHPR

African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights

ADB

Asian Development Bank

AGA

African Governance Architecture

AI

Artificial Intelligence

AIIB

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

AIPP

Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact

AMISOM

African Union Mission to Somalia

APCOF

African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum

APF

Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions

APSA

African Peace and Security Architecture

ASEAN

Association of Southeast Asian Nations

ASG

Assistant Secretary-General

AU

African Union

AU-WGDD

African Union Women, Gender and Development Directorate

BINUH

United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti

CARICOM

The Caribbean Community

CAT

Committee against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

CATI

Computer-assisted telephone interview

CAWI

Computer-assisted web interviewing

CCA

Common Country Analysis

CEB

United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

CED

Committee on Enforced Disappearances

CEDAW

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

CERD

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

CERF

Central Emergency Response Fund

CESCR

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

CITAC

G5 Sahel Joint Force Civilian Casualty and Incidents Tracking and Analysis Cell

CIVIC

Center for Civilians in Conflict

CLT

Communal land titling

CMW

Committee on Migrant Workers

COHOM

EU Council Working Party on Human Rights

COI

Commission of inquiry

CRC

Committee on the Rights of the Child

Convention on the Rights of the Child

CRM

Customer Relationship Management

CRPD

Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

CRSV

Conflict-related sexual violence

CSO

Civil society organization

CTD

Europe Office of the Centre for Democracy and Technology

DCO

Development Coordination Office

DFS

Department of Field Support

DOS

Department of Operational Support

DPA

Department of Political Affairs

DPO

Department of Peacekeeping Operations

DPPA

Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

DROI

European Parliament's Subcommittee on Human Rights

ECA

Europe and Central Asia

ECLAC

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

ECOSOC

Economic and Social Council

ECOWAS

Economic Community of West African States

EDG

Emergency Directors Group

EEAS

European External Action Service

EHRD

Environmental human rights defender

EIB

European Development Bank

EMRIP

Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

ENPAD

European Network of People of African Descent

EOSG

Executive Office of the Secretary-General

ePAG

Extended Policy Advisory Group

ERT

Emergency Response Team

ESCRs

Economic, social and cultural rights

EU

European Union

FAO

Food and Agriculture Organization

FBHR

Forum on Business and Human Rights

FCCC

Framework Convention on Climate Change

FFM

Fact-finding mission

FGM

Female genital mutilation

FRA

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

GANHRI

Global Alliance for National Human Rights Institutions

GBV

Gender-based violence

GCM

Global Compact for Migration

GEE

Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts

GMG

Global Migration Group

GPC

Global Protection Cluster

GTG

Gender Theme Group

HC

Humanitarian Coordinator

HCT

Humanitarian Country Team

HRA

Human rights adviser

HRBA

Human rights-based approach

HRBAD

Human rights-based approach to data

HRC

Human Rights Council

HRD

Human rights defender

HRDDP

Human Rights Due Diligence Policy

HRMMU

Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine

HRMS

Human Resources Management Section

HRPD

Human Rights Protection Division

HRTG

Human Rights Theme Group

HRS

Human Rights Section

HRuF

Human Rights up Front Initiative

IACHR

Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

IAM

Independent Accountability Mechanism

IASC

Inter-Agency Standing Committee

ICC

International Criminal Court

ICCP

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

ICCP-OP1

First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

ICCP-OP2

Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty

ICERD

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

ICESCR

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

ICGLR

International Conference for the Great Lakes Region

ICJ

International Commission of Jurists

ICPPED

International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

ICRC

International Committee of the Red Cross

ICRMW

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

ICT

Information and communication technology

ICTJ

International Center for Transitional Justice

IDB

Inter-American Development Bank

IDPs

Internally displaced persons

ILO

International Labour Organization

IOM

International Organization for Migration

IIM

Independent investigative mechanism

IMM

Independent monitoring mechanism

IPU

Inter-Parliamentary Union

IT

Information technology

JAM

Joint Assessment Mission

JIC

Joint Implementation Committee

JIT

Joint Investigation Team

JPO Junior Professional Officer	NPM National Preventive Mechanism	OPDs Organizations of persons with disabilities	REC Regional Economic Community	UNAMA United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan	UNITAMS United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan
LDCs Least Developed Countries	NRTD National Recommendations Tracking Database	OP-ICESCR Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	RMPS Resource Mobilization and Partnerships Strategy	UNAMI United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq	UNITAR United Nations Institute for Training and Research
LGBTI Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex persons	NSOs National Statistical Offices	OSAPG United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide	RMR Regional Monthly Review	UNAMID African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur	UNJHRO United Nations Joint Human Rights Office
LNOB Leave/Leaving No One Behind	OAS Organization of American States	OSWPA Office of the Senior Women's Protection Adviser	SADC Southern African Development Community	UNBT United Nations Brussels Team	UNMIK United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo
MARA Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements	OCHA Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	OVRA Office of the Victims' Rights Advocate	SDGs Sustainable Development Goals	UNCT United Nations Country Team	UNMIL United Nations Mission in Liberia
MDB Multilateral development bank	OEAP Organizational Effectiveness Action Plan	PAG Policy Advisory Group	SEIA Socio-Economic Impact Assessment	UNDAF United Nations Development Assistance Framework	UNMISS United Nations Mission in South Sudan
MDTF Multi-Partner Donor Trust Fund	OECD Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development	PAPEV Support Project for the Protection of Child Victims of Rights Violations	SEM Sustainable environmental management	UNDIS United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy	UNMSDF United Nations Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework
MENA Middle East and North Africa	OHCHR Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	PBF United Nations Peacebuilding Fund	SERP Socio-Economic Response Plan	UNDP United Nations Development Programme	UNOCC United Nations Operations and Crisis Centre
MINUJUSTH United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti	OIBC Opportunity Issue-Based Coalition	PBRB Programme and Budget Review Board	SGBV Sexual and gender-based violence	UNECA United Nations Economic Commission for Africa	UNOCI United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire
MINUSCA United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic	OIF Organisation internationale de la Francophonie	PBSO United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office	SIDS Small Island Developing States	UNEG United Nations Evaluation Group	UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
MINUSMA United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali	OIOS Office of Internal Oversight Services	PCCMHS Pacific Climate Change Migration and Human Security	SMT Senior Management Team	UNEP United Nations Environment Programme	UNOG United Nations Office at Geneva
MONUSCO United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	OMP OHCHR Management Plan	PFII United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues	SOPs Standard operating procedures	UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	UNOSAT United Nations Satellite Centre
MOPAN Multilateral Organization Performance Assessment Network	OP-CAT Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	PGLE World Economic Forum Partnership for Global LGBTI Equality	SPT Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	UNFPA United Nations Population Fund	UNOWAS United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel
MoU Memorandum of Understanding	OP-CEDAW Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	PMS Performance Monitoring System	SRHR Sexual and reproductive health and rights	UNGPS United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights	UNPRPD United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
MPTF Multi-Partner Trust Fund	OP-CRC-AC Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict	PICTs Pacific Island Countries and Territories	SRS Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General	UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	UNSDCF United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
MRM Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism	OP-CRC-IC Third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure	PSEA Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse	SWAP United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	UNIC United Nations Information Centre	UNSDG United Nations Sustainable Development Group
NGO Non-governmental organization	OP-CRC-SC Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography	PSMC Private Security and Military Company	TOE United Nations Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict	UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund	UNSDG-HRM United Nations Sustainable Development Group Human Rights Mainstreaming
NHRI National human rights institution		RBM Results-based management	UDHR Universal Declaration of Human Rights	UNIOGBIS United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau	UNSMIL United Nations Support Mission in Libya
NMRF National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up		RC United Nations Resident Coordinator	UHR Universal Human Rights Index	UNIPP United Nations Indigenous Peoples' Partnership	UNSONM United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia

UPR

Universal Periodic Review

UNV

United Nations Volunteers

UNVFVT

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

UNVTFCS

United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

VFTC

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights

VNR

Voluntary National Review

WEOG

Western European and Others Group

WGAD

Working Group on Arbitrary Detention

WGEID

Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

WGEPAD

Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent

WHO

World Health Organization

WHRDs

Women human rights defenders



OHCHR staff monitors cases of Palestinian families at risk of eviction in Sheikh Jarrah in East Jerusalem. © OHCHR

Online Content

UN Human Rights in the field



OHCHR Regional representative for South America visiting the Cedar Quilombola indigenous community in Arari, Maranhão, Brazil, in November. © OHCHR

Introduction

The deployment of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in countries and regions through field presences is central to implementing the High Commissioner's global mandate, outlined in General Assembly resolution 48/141, to promote and protect the enjoyment and full realization, by all people, of all human rights, everywhere. The impartial work of OHCHR's field presences is critical to supporting the High Commissioner's independent, objective voice in her dialogue and advocacy on human rights with all counterparts.

UN Human Rights' field engagement is based on interaction, dialogue and technical cooperation with a wide range of actors, such as governments, national institutions, civil society (including community and religious groups and the private sector), non-State actors (including armed groups and de facto authorities), United Nations entities, international military coalitions, regional and subregional organizations, victims of human rights violations and abuses and other affected persons and communities. As impartial interlocutors, the Office's field presences serve as conveners and foster dialogue among different stakeholders.

OHCHR field presences also contribute to broader United Nations efforts on human rights, peace and security and development (the three United Nations pillars), including through the integration of human rights across and within

all pillars and by providing assistance in relation to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the UN Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights. Moreover, OHCHR's engagement in the field ensures the application of a human rights-based approach (HRBA) to UN country programming and advocacy.

UN Human Rights operates through two main categories of field presences, namely offices and collaborative arrangements. The first category is composed of country, stand-alone and regional offices. The second category consists of human rights components of peace or political missions and human rights advisers (HRAs) in UN Resident Coordinator Offices (RCOs) and UN Country Teams (UNCTs).

As of 31 December, OHCHR was operating in 103 field presences globally, consisting of 19 country and stand-alone offices, 12 regional offices, 54 HRAs and human rights mainstreaming projects, 11 human rights components in UN peace operations and 7 other types of field presences.

TYPES OF FIELD PRESENCES



Country and stand-alone offices

UN Human Rights country and stand-alone offices are established in accordance with an agreement between the High Commissioner and a host State. A mandate typically includes human rights monitoring and analysis, protection and the provision of technical assistance to host governments, national authorities, civil society, victims and other relevant counterparts through targeted technical cooperation activities, capacity-building support and public reporting. Country and stand-alone offices are primarily funded through voluntary contributions.

With the establishment of the country office in Burkina Faso at the end of 2021, OHCHR's 19 country or stand-alone offices include 17 country offices in Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Liberia, Mauritania, Mexico, Niger, the State of Palestine,⁶ the Syrian Arab Republic (based in Beirut), Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda and Yemen; one field-based structure in Seoul that covers the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK); and the Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU).



Regional offices and centres

Regional offices cover multiple countries and are instrumental in integrating human rights into the broader development, peacebuilding and humanitarian programming of the United Nations and Member States.

UN Human Rights maintains 12 regional presences, including 10 regional offices, one Sub-Regional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa (Yaoundé) and one Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region (Doha). The regional offices are based in East Africa (Addis Ababa), Southern Africa (Pretoria), West Africa (Dakar), South-East Asia (Bangkok), the Pacific (Suva), the Middle East and North Africa (Beirut), Central Asia (Bishkek), Europe (Brussels), Central America (Panama City), including the Dominican Republic and English-Speaking Caribbean, and South America (Santiago de Chile). Regional offices are funded by the UN regular budget and voluntary contributions.

Regional offices focus on cross-cutting regional human rights issues, in close cooperation with UNCTs in the region, regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and civil society. In addition, they play an important role in supporting governments in their engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, specifically the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

UN Human Rights strengthened its regional offices, including by establishing Early Warning/Emergency Response Teams in the Regional Offices for Southern Africa (2017), South-East Asia (2018), West Africa (2019) and in Central Africa, Central and South America (2021). In addition, OHCHR plans to expand its Early Warning/Emergency Response Teams in three other regional offices, namely, the Regional Office for East Africa, the Regional Office for the Pacific and the Regional Office for Central

Asia. UN Human Rights also strengthened the fundraising capacities of regional offices by deploying dedicated and specialized staff in South-East Asia and South Africa in 2021.

The Office's efforts to strengthen its regional presences are consistent with the Secretary-General's plans to increase the UN's engagement at the regional level and reinforce cooperation with regional organizations. UN Human Rights is committed to reinforcing regional offices, tailoring their structures and strengthening their capacities to respond to the challenges and opportunities of the changing global and regional environments.



Human rights components of United Nations peacekeeping operations and special political missions

The promotion and protection of human rights is a core mandate and function of UN peace operations (peacekeeping operations and special political missions). UN Human Rights facilitates the political, strategic and operational integration of human rights into the United Nations peace and security agenda and supports the implementation of Security Council mandates for UN peace operations.

The integration of human rights into peace operations is governed by a 2005 decision of the Secretary-General and the 2011 OHCHR/DPKO/DPA/DFS Policy on Human Rights in United Nations Peace Operations and Political Missions. The latter recognizes the centrality of human rights in integrated and multidimensional missions, outlines the roles and

responsibilities of mission leadership and human rights and other components in promoting and protecting human rights and assigns backstopping responsibilities to OHCHR.

In 2021, human rights components were integrated into 11 UN peacekeeping operations and special political missions mandated by the Security Council in order to promote and protect human rights in Afghanistan, the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Haiti, Iraq, Kosovo,⁷ Libya, Mali, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan. The Head of the human rights component serves as the representative of the High Commissioner, with dual reporting lines to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General/Head of Mission and the High Commissioner.

Human rights components in peace operations document, prevent and follow up on violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law through monitoring and investigations that include early warning analysis for the protection of civilians, engaging with duty-bearers and reporting publicly. In addition, human rights components conduct a wide range of activities, including building the capacity of civil society, NHRIs and national institutions, advocating for accountability, supporting transitional justice programmes, training military, police and law enforcement officials, advocating for legislative and rule of law reforms and supporting the implementation of peace agreements and the UN's Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) by peace operations.



Human Rights Advisers in UN Country Teams

HRAs are deployed at the request of Resident Coordinators (RCs) and UNCTs under the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG).

HRAs are essential catalysts of human rights mainstreaming. They support and assist the RCs, Heads of UN agencies and members of UNCTs to integrate human rights into UN programmes and activities at the country level and ensure coordinated UN responses to requests for technical cooperation and advisory services from State institutions.

HRAs also provide human rights expertise in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which situates human rights at the core of the UN's development efforts. They play a critical early warning and prevention role as part of the UNCTs and, when applicable, provide advice on integrating human rights into humanitarian responses and post-crisis recovery processes.

Further, HRAs provide support to State actors and technical advice and capacity-building to NHRIs. They build networks with and provide practical support to civil society in the promotion and protection of human rights, including with regard to follow-up on engagement with the international human rights mechanisms.

HRAs are funded through extrabudgetary contributions. Since 2012, all deployments are operationalized under the UNSDG Strategy for the Deployment of HRAs. The Multi Donor Trust Fund, established

to support the deployment of human rights expertise to RCOs and UNCTs, has been critical in ensuring the sustainability of this effort and the expansion of in-country human rights expertise.

Requests for and the number of HRAs have steadily increased, including in relation to reform of the UN Development System and interest in supporting follow-up to the recommendations issued by the UPR. Support has also been requested with regard to the national-level implementation of the SDGs, Common Country Analyses (CCAs) and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs).

As of the end of 2021, the Office had deployed HRAs and/or undertaken human rights mainstreaming projects in 54 countries, supporting RCs and UNCTs, as well as State partners, through the enhanced integration of human rights into their programmes. The countries include Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Republic of the Congo, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, the Republic of Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar (based in Bangkok), Nepal, Nigeria, the Republic of North Macedonia, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Rwanda, Samoa, Serbia, Sierra Leone, South Caucasus (Georgia), Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Zambia and Zimbabwe.⁸

⁶ All references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

⁷ All references to Kosovo should be understood in compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

⁸ Republic of the Congo, Kazakhstan, Mozambique, Samoa, Suriname and Tajikistan were approved in late 2021 for deployment in 2022.

The consolidation of support to RCs and UNCTs is occurring at a critical juncture when the new CCAs, UNSDCFs and the Management Accountability Framework of the UN Development System and the RC system are being implemented.

ENGAGEMENT IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

In the face of the crises that unfolded in 2021 and the continuation of protracted situations, including COVID-19, UN Human Rights increased its engagement in humanitarian action at the global and field levels, strengthening efforts to prevent and respond to human rights violations and supporting efforts to mainstream a human rights-based approach into preparedness, crisis response and environment building.

OHCHR continued to support the response to COVID-19, with a particular focus on Leaving No One Behind (LNOB), ensuring that vulnerable categories were prioritized in the joint UN crisis activities through Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) bodies, the Crisis Management Team and the Global Health Cluster. In February, OHCHR submitted its request to join the latter mechanism and since then, has contributed to raising awareness on vulnerable communities left behind in the vaccine roll-out. Similarly, the Deputy High Commissioner engages in the Crisis Management Team and raises awareness regarding the LNOB principle and the impacts of COVID-19 on the human rights situation. In addition, OHCHR is part of the COVAX Humanitarian Buffer Working Group and the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network.

Furthermore, OHCHR continued to participate in the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) and its task teams, supported the integration of human rights analysis in

protection and participated in the humanitarian planning cycle and national responses to ensure that populations at risk of being left behind were placed at the centre of these efforts. In 2021, OHCHR assisted in reviewing the protection analysis framework (guidance) and its subsequent roll-out to the field. OHCHR also provided inputs to the GPC's guidance on collaboration with NHRIs. OHCHR contributed to a series of webinars organized by the Human Rights Engagement Task Team on how Protection Clusters can engage with international and national human rights mechanisms and co-organized a webinar on collaboration between Protection Clusters and OHCHR field presences.

The Office played a significant role in inter-agency processes, including in the roll-out of the review of the 2016 IASC Protection Policy; the handbook for UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinators; the IASC Guidance on strengthening participation, representation and leadership of local and national actors in IASC humanitarian coordination mechanisms; the IASC Guidance on the impact of sanctions and counter-terrorism measures on humanitarian operations; the IASC Guidance on addressing bureaucratic and administrative impediments to humanitarian action; the IASC common narrative on the climate emergency and humanitarian action; and the IASC Anti-Racism and Anti-Discrimination Action Plan.

At the country level, the Office assisted UNCTs and Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) with integrating human rights protection into national and regional emergency preparedness and response mechanisms. OHCHR integrated human rights into humanitarian action in Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, CAR, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras,

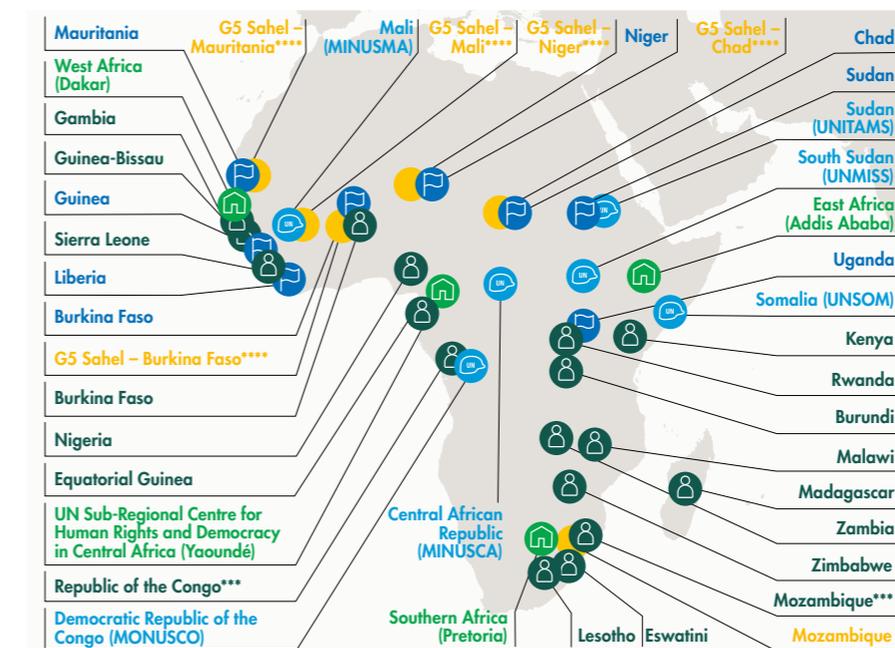
Libya, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Pacific Island Countries, Somalia, South Sudan, the State of Palestine, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, Venezuela, Yemen and Zimbabwe. In 2021, 18 field presences contributed to Humanitarian Planning Cycle strategic documents. The Office continued to lead the Protection Cluster in the State of Palestine, co-led the Protection Cluster in Haiti, co-led sub-national Protection Clusters in Colombia and advised the humanitarian leadership of the Syria response.

The Office supported the human rights situation in various locations through the deployment of surge capacity, including in Afghanistan, following the withdrawal of troops from the United States of America, in August; in Gaza, following the escalation of hostilities, in May; and in Haiti, as part of the response to the earthquake, in August, and to conduct a joint protection assessment in gang-controlled areas, in November. It also strengthened the expertise and skills of OHCHR staff through an adapted online training on human rights in humanitarian action, which reflected on lessons learned from the COVID-19 response and recovery. Further, OHCHR partnered with the Asia-Pacific Forum on NHRIs to deliver a three-week, online pilot training for NHRI staff on humanitarian action.

OTHER TYPES OF FIELD PRESENCES

OHCHR also has staff members deployed to implement projects in Bolivia, Mozambique, Myanmar (based in Bangkok, Thailand), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Russian Federation and Venezuela, as well as the G5 Sahel Joint Force Compliance Framework Project.

UN Human Rights in Africa



TYPE OF PRESENCE	LOCATION
Country/Stand-alone Offices/Human Rights Missions	Burkina Faso**, Chad, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Niger, Sudan**** and Uganda
Regional Offices/Centres	Central Africa (Yaoundé, Cameroon), East Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia), Southern Africa (Pretoria, South Africa) and West Africa (Dakar, Senegal)
Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions	Central African Republic (MINUSCA), Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO/UNJHRO), Mali (MINUSMA), Somalia (UNSOM), South Sudan (UNMISS) and Sudan (UNITAMS)
Human Rights Advisers*	Burkina Faso, Burundi, Republic of the Congo***, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique***, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Zambia and Zimbabwe
Other types of field presences	G5 Sahel Joint Force Compliance Framework Project****, Mozambique

* Human Rights Advisers are deployed under the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group.
 ** New OHCHR Country Office established in December 2021.
 *** Approved in late 2021 for deployment in 2022.
 **** Further to Security Council resolution 2391 (December 2017), OHCHR supported the G5 Sahel Joint Force with the operationalization of a Compliance Framework to ensure that military operations to combat terrorism in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger comply with international human rights law and international humanitarian law.
 ***** Security Council resolution 2524, of 3 June 2020, established the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) with a human rights and civilian protection mandate. As of 1 January 2021, the OHCHR Country Office in Sudan is operationally integrated with the UNITAMS Support Office for Civilian Protection to ensure the full implementation of the human rights mandate under Security Council resolution 2524 and under the Host Country Agreement and in accordance with the 2011 OHCHR/DPKO/DPA/DFS Policy on Human Rights in UN Peace Operations and Political Missions.

LEGEND:

Spotlights:

- Disabilities
- Youth
- Women

Shifts:

- Global constituency
- Prevention
- Civic space
- Climate change
- Corruption
- Inequalities
- New technologies
- People on the move

SDGs:

In 2021, UN Human Rights increased its footprint in Africa, including through the operationalization of mandated country offices in Niger and Sudan. Moreover, a Host Country Agreement for a fully mandated country office was signed with the Government of Burkina Faso. Agreements were also concluded for the deployment of human rights advisers (HRAs) in Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Sierra Leone and Zambia. The UN Human Rights Africa programme covers 49 countries of Sub-Saharan Africa and consists of 37 field presences, including four regional offices in Central Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa and West Africa; eight country offices in Burkina Faso, Chad, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Niger, Sudan and Uganda; 17 HRAs in UN Country Teams (UNCTs) in Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Republic of the Congo,⁹ Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique,¹⁰ Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Zambia and Zimbabwe; and six human rights presences in UN peace missions in the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Mali, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan.

In Geneva, UN Human Rights provides support to five special procedures country mandates, namely, Somalia (1993), Eritrea (2012), CAR (2013), Mali (2013) and Burundi (2021), and to the work of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi (2016), the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan (2016), the Team of International Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo (2017), the Designated Expert on the human rights situation in Sudan (2021)

and the International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia (2021).

In 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic had devastating impacts on the region's economy and industrialization efforts. The resulting acute food insecurity, negative impacts on economic and social rights and persisting vaccine inequalities triggered a severe economic contraction, risking a reversal of progress made in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). While governments generally responded effectively to the pandemic by implementing health measures, curfews and other restrictions, such measures were at times disproportionately used to restrict human rights. In some countries, this included arbitrary arrests and detentions, an excessive use of force by law enforcement and military personnel, an increased prevalence of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and restrictions on freedom of expression that led to shrinking civic space.

UN Human Rights worked with UNCTs, Member States, the African Union (AU) and its organs, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and CSOs to monitor the impacts of COVID-19 and government measures on human rights and to raise awareness about these issues. The information was used in the preparation of policy documents and guidelines for UNCTs and governments and ensured that a human rights-based approach (HRBA) and gender perspective were integrated into COVID-19 responses in Africa, including socio-economic response plans, Common Country Analyses (CCAs) and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation

Frameworks (UNSDCFs). Technical macroeconomic analysis linking the SDGs and an HRBA was also provided and integrated into CCAs, focusing on structural vulnerabilities, debt and fiscal space for investing in measures for sustainable development and economic, social and cultural rights, as well as the importance of increasing social spending and progressive taxation.

In the East and Horn of Africa, ethnic violence and extreme poverty were major challenges in 2021. The region was affected by several separate and interrelated conflicts. Serious violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law continued to be committed by all sides to the conflict in the Tigray region of Ethiopia, which spilled over into the neighbouring Afar and Amhara regions. The conflicts in Ethiopia and Somalia, compounded by acts of terrorism, resulted in thousands of people being displaced and refugees fleeing to neighbouring countries, with significant humanitarian and protection needs. Civic space and media freedoms were curtailed and included reports of enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and threats against human rights defenders (HRDs), political opponents, journalists and social media activists in the context of elections, for example, in Uganda. In Djibouti, sporadic intercommunal violence increased risks for forced displacements. In Sudan, the Sudanese Armed Forces, supported by the Rapid Support Forces and other security forces, launched a military coup on 25 October, which removed the civilian-led government. Numerous arrests were carried out against high-ranking officials, political activists and civil society representatives and security forces responded with

excessive force to widespread protests against the coup.

In Southern Africa, the discovery of the Omicron subvariant had an acute impact on people's livelihoods. High rates of unemployment and limited social protection schemes affecting millions of people led to social unrest and protests. The dire economic impacts of the pandemic, compounded by climate-induced humanitarian disasters, increased food insecurity and the loss of livelihoods, especially in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. The southern region of Madagascar faced a climate change-induced famine, which exacerbated existing structural inequalities. As a result, over 1.1 million people were in urgent need of food assistance.

In Central Africa and the Lake Chad Basin, attacks by Boko Haram and other Islamic insurgents increased, leading to insecurity for civilians and prompting the displacement of thousands of people. Women and girls faced a heightened risk of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV). General insecurity was at times compounded by excessive counter-terrorism responses. In Nigeria, the insurgency and response of security forces led to widespread human rights violations and abuses. Climate change also adversely affected livelihoods, caused forced displacement and intensified conflicts between farmers and herders, exacerbating existing fragilities and underlying conflict triggers. In the Central African Republic, despite the unilateral ceasefire declared by the President on 15 October, the country's conflicts continued to generate severe violations and abuses of human rights by all parties. According to OCHA, more than 1.4 million people have been forced to flee their homes and 3.1 million people (63 per cent of the population) are in need of

humanitarian protection and assistance. In the past five years in CAR, there have never been as many people in acute need. Multiple armed groups have continued to perpetrate serious human rights abuses. The Government's security forces have conducted military operations against these armed groups, with the support of other armed elements and foreign private contractors, resulting in serious human rights violations. Approximately 59 per cent of related incidents were attributed to armed groups that were signatories to the Peace Agreement of February 2019. National security forces and their allies were responsible for 40 per cent of incidents, representing a sharp increase from 23 per cent in January 2021. In Chad, UN Human Rights actively advocated for the mainstreaming of human rights into the policies and processes related to the transition to democracy that began with the violent death of former President Deby, in April.

In Cameroon, continued violence in the north-west and south-west regions led to an increase in human rights violations against civilians and forced displacement and hampered humanitarian access. The eruption of intercommunity violence in the Far North Region of Cameroon resulted in large-scale displacement to neighbouring Chad. In a number of countries, such as Burundi, political change was reported following elections, providing some hope for stabilization after years of serious crisis. Nevertheless, significant challenges that are linked to the root causes of human rights violations and abuses persist.

In the eastern provinces of the DRC, the human rights situation has been marked by multiple attacks by armed groups and the massive displacement of civilians. A state of siege has been in place since 3 May.

The work of the UN Joint Human Rights Office (UNJHRO) to document violations, fight impunity and provide support to national authorities on transitional justice is of paramount importance.

West Africa and the Sahel region continued to face several challenges, including terrorism, organized crime, climate change, extreme poverty and weakened State institutions. Terrorist activities became increasingly intertwined with intercommunity conflicts and clashes between farmers and herders, resulting in heightened insecurity and violence and compounding an acute humanitarian crisis in large parts of the Sahel region. Systematic attacks by violent extremist groups on civilian and military targets in Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Nigeria posed serious threats to peace and security. Freedoms of expression, association and assembly were subsequently restricted on several occasions, in particular in Burkina Faso and Niger. In Nigeria, ongoing attacks by armed groups and criminal elements, as well as farmer-herder clashes, contributed to a degrading security environment across the country. The region faced complex challenges, including unconstitutional changes in power in Burkina Faso, Guinea and Mali and an attempted coup d'état in Guinea-Bissau.

UN Human Rights contributed to raising awareness about the human rights situation of migrants in the West African region, which remains worrisome. Migrants and refugees are being subjected to a diverse range of human rights violations in their countries of origin, transit and destination. These violations are committed by various State and non-State actors, including State officials, smugglers and traffickers. West Africans are being forced to migrate in order to adapt to the changing climate and seek livelihood

⁹ Approved in late 2021 for deployment in 2022.

¹⁰ Idem.

opportunities. Increasing water scarcity has forced pastoralists to look for new pasturelands and farmers are facing lower crop productivity. This development has increased the risk of conflict between farmers and herders.

The situation of women and youth continues to be of serious concern within the context of growing conservatism. Moreover, the pandemic has had a significant and lasting impact on both women and youth. OHCHR has played an essential role in supporting the capacities of women and youth human rights defenders, including those working on LGBTI issues, and providing the space for them to contribute to national and global debates related to building back better.

With regard to the pillar on fighting against discrimination, UN Human Rights worked with the Support Project for the Protection of Child Victims of Rights Violations (PAPEV) to assist countries in their efforts to promote human rights, particularly those of children who are victims of human rights violations in the context of the pandemic. In collaboration with the ECOWAS Gender Development Centre, the Governments of the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali and Senegal were encouraged to include children, especially those in street situations, in their COVID-19 response plans as they are an important segment of the population that has been left behind. The Regional Office for West Africa provided support to 3,310 children in the above-mentioned countries and supported authorities who are responsible for child protection to evaluate their national child protection strategies.

UN Human Rights provided technical assistance to the G5 Sahel Joint Force on the development of rules and regulations

that are compliant with international human rights law and international humanitarian law and on the integration of human rights and protection of civilians into the planning and conduct of operations. UN Human Rights also began implementing a new project in the Sahel region to ensure that internal security forces in Chad, Mauritania and Niger comply with international human rights law and international humanitarian law standards and that human rights violations committed during law enforcement operations are successfully prevented or investigated, addressed and publicly reported.

UN Human Rights supported accountability processes and mechanisms in Africa, including by providing assistance to the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan and the Team of International Experts on the situation in the Kasai, as well as by supporting the development of transitional justice processes in CAR and Sudan. UN Human Rights in Guinea assisted authorities in their preparations for trials related to the 28 September 2009 cases and supported the implementation of recommendations issued by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia. UN Human Rights offered support to the AU-UN joint assessment missions in situations of crisis and deployed surge capacity teams in the context of elections in Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Niger, Sudan and Uganda and to Sudan in the context of the conflict in the Tigray region of Ethiopia. In 2021, UN Human Rights conducted a joint investigation with the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) into allegations of human rights violations and abuses, violations of international humanitarian law and violations of international refugee law committed in Tigray. On 17 December,

the Human Rights Council adopted resolution S-33/1 on the situation of human rights in Ethiopia. The resolution established a new International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia for one year, renewable as needed, to complement the joint OHCHR-EHRC investigation. The Regional Office for Southern Africa continued working with its national counterparts in Mozambique by strengthening institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, in particular in relation to accountability and the rule of law, and by responding to protection concerns in the northern part of the country.

Moreover, UN Human Rights engaged with RECs and subregional organizations to strengthen their capacities in the area of human rights, such as the AU and its organs in Africa. In addition, UN Human Rights supported the AU in mainstreaming human rights into its early warning system, strengthened the capacities of civil society and NHRIs and helped to advance the agendas related to women, peace and security and youth.

In Guinea, UN Human Rights organized the first Hernán Santa Cruz Dialogue, in July, as a new platform for opinion leaders and policymakers to exchange progressive ideas, experiences and practices on economic and social rights, the right to development and the SDGs and to link them to contemporary challenges.

UN Human Rights in Africa supported governments, CSOs and other actors to effectively engage with the international human rights mechanisms, integrate human rights into their implementation of the SDGs and link the principle of prevention with the human rights framework to guide UN responses in relation to civil unrest, political protests and

other conflict triggers. The Emergency Response Teams (ERTs) in the Regional Offices for Central Africa, Southern Africa and West Africa strengthened the early warning and prevention agenda by supporting the Resident Coordinators (RCs) and UNCTs on human rights risk analysis. This included the establishment of an integrated human rights monitoring and analysis platform, known as the Malawi Prevention Platform. Similarly, the ERT in the Regional Office for Central Africa was successfully established as part of a project on integrating human rights into the COVID-19 response and recovery and addressing the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic in Central Africa. During the year, the ERT built the capacity of the members of the Coalition of Civil Society Organizations for Peace and Conflict Prevention in Central Africa (COPAC) and the country representatives of the Early Warning Mechanism of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).

In West Africa, within the framework of the UN's preventive engagement in the Gambia, which emphasizes the need for peaceful and inclusive electoral processes and the implementation of transitional justice processes, the ERT provided support to the UNCT by deploying a surge capacity team consisting of three staff

members. The Regional Monthly Review also recommended the establishment of a Crisis Risk Dashboard (CRD) to ensure that violations and related human rights information were identified and reported during the elections. OHCHR collaborated with UNDP and the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) to set up the CRD and provided regular feedback to the UNCT. At the request of the Gambia Press Union, trainings were delivered by OHCHR to 75 media practitioners. The trainings equipped the participants with knowledge and skills on how to identify, address and monitor hate speech and built their capacity to effectively engage communities, in line with relevant professional ethics and human rights standards.

In Sudan, the UNJHRO supported the establishment and functioning of the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF), as well as the submission of reports to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) by the Government of Sudan, CSOs and the UNCT. In Madagascar, with the support of the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), UN Human Rights worked with UNESCO to empower young HRDs to claim their rights, prevent conflicts and act as vectors of peace.

BURKINA FASO

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
21.50 million	273,000 km ²	0.452 (rank: 182/189 in 2019)	-

Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser, Country Office established at the end of 2021
Year established	2020
Field office(s)	Ouagadougou
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2020*
Staff as of 31 December 2021	5

XB requirements 2021 **US\$565,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



Data sources and notes:

¹ UN (2021), Statistical Yearbook 2021: Sixty-Fourth Issue, UN, New York.

² UNDP (2020), Human Development Report 2020, The next frontier: Human development and the Anthropocene.

³ Sub-Committee on Accreditation of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI), Chart of the Status of National Institutions. Accreditation status as of 6 December 2021.

* Extended through 2021-2022. UNSDCF implementation, 4 October 2021, https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/Final_UNSDCF%20Implementation%20-Table-04102021_0.pdf

PILLAR RESULTS:
 **Peace and Security**

PS3 – Strategies to prevent and respond to conflict consistently integrate human rights protection.

16

By providing advice to the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), OHCHR supported the integration of human rights into UN programmes.

The HRA continued to support the HCT in integrating human rights into its programmes. Through systemic registration, analysis and reporting of human rights violations and abuses, the HRA informed the decision-making of the RC and the

UNCT, as well as development partners. The HRA also built closer relationships with the HCT and the Protection Cluster to ensure that protection programmes are founded on human rights. Furthermore, the HRA participated in the Global Protection Cluster Task Team on human rights engagement in humanitarian action. The HRA monitored, verified and registered 112 cases and situations that it reported as human rights violations and abuses. Moreover, the HRA shared information with the UNOCC, particularly during the heaviest attacks against civilians in the Sahel, East, North and Centre-North regions, through analytical notes about human rights violations and abuses and breaches of international

human rights law. The HRA contributed to the inclusion of this legal framework in the HCT Protection Strategy and its action plan.

 **Non-discrimination**

ND1 – National laws policies and programmes in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) increasingly protect children who are victims of abuse and exploitation.

5 10 16

OHCHR contributed to selected State institutions/programmes, demonstrating a significant improvement in their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

The HRA supported civil society platforms on the rights of women living with disabilities by increasing the visibility of their activities and initiatives. More specifically, the HRA supported the production of videos on activities implemented by the NGOs Union des femmes handicapées du Burkina Faso (UNAFEHB) and Amis pour un Monde Meilleur (AMM).

Further, the HRA reinforced the capacities of 97 human rights monitors from various NGOs to engage in monitoring activities during the revision of the electoral roll, which will take place in seven regions (Sahel, East, North, Centre-North, Boucle de la Mouhoun, Hauts Bassins and Centre), in May 2022.

Finally, the HRA provided tools to the Women's Coalition for CEDAW to disseminate key messages and statements made by the High Commissioner for Human Rights during her official visit to Burkina Faso from 27 November to 1 December.

 **Accountability**

A1 – The national human rights institution is effectively functioning in conformity with international standards and reports annually on the human rights situation in Burkina Faso.

16

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which the NHRI has been established and/or is working in conformity with international standards (Paris Principles).

The HRA worked to strengthen the capacity of the National Commission on Human Rights (CNDH) to enable it to fulfil its mandate and prepare for accreditation by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) Sub-Committee on Accreditation. More specifically, the HRA provided technical and financial support to the CNDH to draft a human rights report covering the period 2019-2020. It also supported the CNDH to facilitate the compliance of the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) with OP-CAT. This work will continue in 2022.

The HRA also supported a CSO collective (Collectif contre l'impunité et la stigmatisation des communautés (CISC)) in a successful application to the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture and was granted USD 30,000 to provide legal, judicial, and psychological support to victims of torture.

Finally, the HRA strengthened relationships with partners to ensure coordinated support from the European Union, Enabel, the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) and the United States of America.

BURUNDI

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
12.26 million	28,000 km ²	0.433 (rank: 185/189 in 2019)	"A" Status (2021)

Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser
Year established	2020
Field office(s)	Bujumbura
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023
Staff as of 31 December 2021	2

XB requirements 2021 **US\$1,103,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:
 **Accountability**

A1 – The justice system and the administration establish and apply laws, policies and practices that address human rights violations effectively, protect victims and others at risk and ensure that human rights complaints are investigated.

16

OHCHR contributed to the establishment and/or functioning of oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards.

In November, the HRA partnered with the National Defence Force (the Burundian Army) and the Association Ntabariza (L'association Solidarité avec les prisonniers et leurs familles) to build the capacities of judges and prosecutors

from the military tribunals and courts of Burundi in order to ensure the right to a fair trial through the application of human rights norms. The 27 participants (military officers), including four women, resolved to use good practices to promote legal reforms that will align national legislation with international human rights standards and judicial practices with Article 19 of the Burundian Constitution, which provides that the "Rights and duties proclaimed and guaranteed by international human rights instruments ratified by Burundi are an integral part of the Constitution."

In May, an awareness-raising session on measures to curb the spread of COVID-19 and protect detainees was delivered to 15 penitentiary personnel, including nine women and 30 representatives of detainees in the prison of Bubanza in West Burundi.

Through the HRA's support, a draft amendment to the legislation of the Independent National Human Rights Commission (INHRC) was prepared to include a National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) under OP-CAT. The draft is being considered by the Government. If endorsed, the amendment would enable the establishment of an NPM, more than eight years after OP-CAT was ratified by Burundi in October 2013.

Development

D3 – Civil society is better able to participate in the preparation of development policies and decision-making. Civil society organizations work to promote and protect economic, social and cultural rights (ESCRs).



OHCHR contributed to the enhanced participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes.

In June and July, the HRA collaborated with the NGO Youth Empowerment Leadership Initiative (YELI) and brought together 150 young girls and women victims of human trafficking to provide them with professional and vocational training. The training aimed at strengthening their knowledge about their rights, life skills, psychosocial rehabilitation and community reintegration and to empower them through financial education and income-generating activities, business plan development, culinary arts and artisanal food processing and artisanal soap making.

Furthermore, the HRA and YELI organized a training for representatives of associations of domestic workers, young

girls, victims of human trafficking and administrative and police officials at the grassroots level regarding the collection, monitoring and evaluation of cases of violations of ESCRs. This provided a platform for the 99 participants, including 60 women, to discuss human rights violations affecting young girls and women, particularly trafficking in rural areas. Discussions also focused on how to tackle these violations, provide redress to victims and prevent reoccurrence. As a result, focal points were established in all 18 provinces to monitor human trafficking.

CENTRAL AFRICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Cameroon, Republic of the Congo, Gabon and Sao Tomé and Príncipe
Year established	2001
Field office(s)	Yaoundé, Cameroon
Staff as of 31 December 2021	20

XB income **US\$557,700**

XB requirements 2021 **US\$1,610,000**

XB expenditure		US\$812,657
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
39%	49%	12%
\$320,597	\$398,488	\$93,572

RB expenditure **US\$1,484,295**

Personnel	Non-personnel
82%	18%
\$1,209,840	\$274,455

Key OMP pillars in 2021



⁴ OHCHR, as part of the UN Secretariat, charges 13 per cent of Programme Support Cost (PSC) on all direct costs, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/217 of December 1980. For activities implemented jointly with other UN partners, however, the related indirect PSC is reduced to seven per cent. This explains a lower PSC percentage average.

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Judicial actors have increasingly reflected the application of human rights principles and standards and institutions of law enforcement are gradually complying with international human rights norms and standards relating to torture and ill-treatment and the deprivation of liberty.

16

OHCHR contributed to selected State institutions/programmes that demonstrated significant improvement in their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

In cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of Cameroon, OHCHR delivered a series of training workshops to enhance the ability of judges to use international standards to promote fairness in trial processes. From July to October, 84 military and civilian magistrates, including 40 women, were

trained on international human rights law and international humanitarian law in Yaoundé, Buea and Maroua. These activities aimed at strengthening their capacities, with a view to encouraging the application of international human rights law and international humanitarian law in cases of human rights violations. From 13 to 15 December, OHCHR delivered another training to 30 magistrates and lawyers, including 12 women, from the north-west and south-west on the protection of victims and witnesses in the criminal law justice system.

From 15 to 17 November, OHCHR collaborated with the Ministry of Justice in Gabon and held a training of trainers on human rights. Participants included magistrates and lawyers from various sectors of the justice system who are mandated to promote and protect human rights and are therefore involved in the implementation of the State's international human rights commitments. The objective of the workshop was to train a pool of magistrates and lawyers on the fundamental principles and provisions of international human rights law and international humanitarian law and their application in judicial procedures and proceedings, particularly judgments. This pool of 34 trainers, including 13 women, will train their peers on international human rights and humanitarian law.

On 22 November, OHCHR participated in a session on the establishment of the NPM in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Organized at MONUSCO's premises by the DRC's National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), the session brought together 20 participants, including an expert from the Sub-committee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (SPT), the World Organization Against Torture (OMCT), the Geneva

Centre for Civil and Political Rights, parliamentarians and members of the NHRC. OHCHR shared the experiences of NHRIs from Cameroon, Gabon (currently being created) and Rwanda that also include NPMs. The session reflected on strategies to align the DRC's National Committee for the Prevention of Torture, which operates within the NHRI and in accordance with the standards set out in OP-CAT.

A2 – Protection mechanisms are in place and strengthened to ensure effective follow-up on human rights violations, including seeking redress on behalf of victims, in Cameroon and the Republic of the Congo.

10 16

OHCHR contributed to the functioning of NPMs, in increased conformity with international standards, including by providing technical support.

As a result of OHCHR's sustained advocacy, the new members of the **Cameroon Human Rights Commission** were designated by a presidential decree on 19 February. The Office supported the operationalization of the Commission through an induction workshop for 30 new staff and members, including 11 women, in Yaoundé, from 25 to 28 May.

In the Central African Region, OHCHR organized a regional workshop, in Libreville, **Gabon**, from 10 to 12 November, on the establishment and strengthening of NHRIs, in conformity with international standards. The main objectives of the workshop were to raise awareness about the importance of NHRIs in the promotion and protection of human rights and to strengthen the participants' knowledge of the Paris Principles. It also aimed to sensitize

participants regarding the role and responsibility of national actors (governments, parliaments, NHRIs and CSOs) on the creation and functioning of NHRIs and to encourage the adoption and implementation of roadmaps to create and strengthen NHRIs. The workshop brought together 35 participants, including six women, who attended as presidents/members of National Human Rights Commissions and representatives of civil society and governments from **Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Republic of the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Sao Tomé and Príncipe**. Following the workshop, the countries of the region pledged to ensure that their respective NHRIs meet international standards. A series of activities are planned in 2022, specifically in **Equatorial Guinea** and in **Sao Tomé**, which expressly requested OHCHR's assistance in setting up National Human Rights Commissions that meet international standards.

Participation

P1 – In at least three countries, parliaments, law enforcement institutions and other relevant actors implement measures that protect fundamental freedoms and human rights defenders (HRDs).

16

With OHCHR's support, the level of compliance of legislation and policies with international human rights standards in countries of the subregion has improved, including through capacity-building activities and advocacy.

From 28 to 29 October, OHCHR partnered with the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and the Promotion of Indigenous Peoples, UNDP and the RCO

and organized a workshop on the implementation of the recommendations issued by the UPR in relation to the **Republic of the Congo**. A total of 50 participants, 20 of whom were women, attended the workshop in Brazzaville, including representatives from various ministries, the Parliament, the National Human Rights Commission, the police and civil society. At the end of the workshop, a road map was developed regarding the recommendations that are to be implemented before the Government submits its fourth cycle State report to the UPR. The establishment of a National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) was addressed and will be on the agenda of the Ministry of Justice in 2022, with OHCHR's support.

From 25 to 26 August, OHCHR organized a high-level workshop on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on vulnerable populations in Yaoundé, **Cameroon**. Speakers included the Minister of Social Affairs and the Minister of Women's Empowerment and the Family; the Director of the UN Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa; a representative from the Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium in Cameroon; and the President of the Network of Women Parliamentarians of Cameroon. The workshop brought together 55 participants, including 41 women, representatives from various ministries, the Parliament, CSOs promoting the rights of persons with disabilities, women, persons affected by HIV/AIDS and internally displaced persons (IDPs). Discussions focused on the human rights impacts of fiscal and other policies that were adopted to address the effects of COVID-19; the integration of an HRBA into COVID-19 response and recovery measures; the Government's obligations under CEDAW; and the inclusion of inputs from IDPs,

persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and other vulnerable groups in the development, implementation and monitoring of COVID-19 recovery plans. Representatives from key CSOs raised concerns about restrictions on the rights of vulnerable groups to access basic needs in the context of the pandemic. At the end of the workshop, participants prepared a road map on the integration of human rights into the COVID-19 response, in line with human rights indicators. As a result of the workshop, a commitment was undertaken by the Government and its national and international partners to include vulnerable women in all COVID-19 response and recovery plans that affect their rights. Moreover, the Network of Women Parliamentarians committed to organizing a special parliamentary session to further discuss the recommendations emerging from the workshop.

P6 – Marginalized groups participate more actively in political and public life, locally and nationally.

OHCHR trained rights-holders to support their meaningful participation in selected public processes.

From 21 to 22 April and from 30 August to 2 September, OHCHR organized a workshop for 51 representatives of CSOs, including 19 women from the north-west and south-west regions. The training session brought together organizations with diverse areas of work, including SGBV, health, legal protection, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and IDPs. Key information was provided on human rights monitoring, including gender sensitivity; information collection; the cartography of actors; protection of human rights in humanitarian action, including risk analysis; and advocacy

in community-based inclusive actions. Concerns raised included the legal classification of the situation in the north-west and south-west regions and challenges regarding human rights monitoring in both regions due to security concerns.

From 21 to 22 January, OHCHR organized a virtual training workshop for 30 members of CSOs, including 11 women from 14 organizations in **Gabon**, to reinforce their technical and operational capacity to discharge their promotion and protection functions. In addition, the training addressed ways to strengthen their capacities and techniques related to monitoring, investigations and protection in order to enable them to collect quality information and produce well-documented reports, which could be used to trigger action by the authorities in respect of human rights principles and standards. It was also aimed at encouraging the participants to engage with State and non-State actors for the promotion and protection of human rights and to encourage CSOs to engage with the international human rights mechanisms.

From 2 to 3 December, OHCHR organized a training for 31 media professionals, including 10 women, in Limbe, **Cameroon**, on mainstreaming an HRBA into reporting and protection in journalism. The objective of the workshop was to equip media professionals with relevant human rights knowledge that can be applied in relation to their work and professional safety. The workshop also provided the participants with an opportunity to make connections between human rights and journalism in the context of the crisis. Participants discussed ways to ensure the protection of journalists, while respecting the deontology of the profession, and received useful tools, such as investigation techniques while

ensuring their safety, and also focused on human rights issues, notably documenting human rights incidents for journalists. Furthermore, the session encouraged an expansion of the media coverage of the crisis in the north-west and south-west regions to include reports of human rights issues and to make tools available to the local population to facilitate their engagement in decision-making processes. At the end of the workshop, participants committed to including human rights issues in their reports.

On 8 July, OHCHR collaborated with UN Women to organize a capacity-building workshop on "Gender, human rights and women's political participation" for the Network of Women Parliamentarians of **Cameroon**. The Vice-President of the National Assembly chaired the workshop and participants included 67 women parliamentarians. OHCHR delivered two presentations. In the first, the Office focused on the legal framework for the promotion and protection of women's rights and the contributions of parliamentarians to peacebuilding. In the second presentation, the Office highlighted the role that women parliamentarians can play in offsetting the negative impacts of COVID-19 on the rights of two vulnerable groups of women, namely, women with disabilities and indigenous women. Discussions focused on the need for sensitization on and appropriation of CEDAW and for support to implement the Network's strategic plan, including Axis 4 on "gender and human rights," which seeks to include women in development and advocates for an increase in the budgetary allocation of ministries in charge of women's affairs. The workshop marked the start of a partnership between OHCHR, the Network and Cameroon's Parliament, with a specific emphasis on the promotion and protection of the rights

of vulnerable women in the context of COVID-19 in Cameroon.

Finally, ahead of Congo's presidential elections, held on 21 March, OHCHR worked closely with the United Nations system in Congo, UNOCA and UNESCO Regional Offices to organize three training workshops for 135 media professionals on their role in promoting a peaceful and non-violent electoral process. The trainings aimed at equipping journalists with the skills to ensure the adequate treatment and diffusion of information on electoral activities, and promote the rights of persons, especially the vulnerable, to participate in the process. OHCHR delivered a presentation on the media and the protection of human rights before, during and after the electoral period. This enabled participants to understand the human rights violations and abuses that could occur during these periods and sharpened their skills to analyse and objectively report these violations.

Peace and Security

PS3 – Regional bodies and national security authorities use information on conflict triggers and the impact of conflict on human rights in order to implement effective protection measures.

16

OHCHR increasingly advocated with relevant governments in the subregion on specific human rights issues, either directly or by supporting targeted efforts undertaken by the international community.

Through participation in the Protection Cluster meetings, OHCHR assisted UN entities with monitoring human rights violations in the crisis regions and the collection of information by various actors in the field, such as UN agencies,

international NGOs, CSOs and others. To this end, the Office organized a presentation on 23-24 February 2022 on human rights terminologies and their definitions for members of the Protection Cluster.

From 1 to 2 November, OHCHR organized a capacity-building workshop for Defence and Security Forces on gender-based violence (GBV), in Yaoundé, for 40 participants, including 18 women. The primary objectives of this interactive session were to strengthen their skills to help prevent GBV, provide them with tools and guidance and discuss their potential contribution to the implementation of the national strategy to combat GBV. At the end of the workshop, participants recommended the sensitization of senior army officers on GBV, an increase in awareness-raising campaigns on GBV and the involvement of religious leaders, community leaders and civil authorities in the fight against GBV. It was also strongly recommended that vulnerable groups affected by GBV should be empowered through further capacity-building trainings.

On 8 September, OHCHR delivered an HRBA online training session during a meeting of the Programme Management Team at a UNCT retreat on the CCA in the Republic of the Congo. The training was well received and OHCHR was requested to deliver a two-day in-person training session on the integration of an HRBA into UNCT programmes in the country.

On 18 October, OHCHR provided inputs to a UN inter-agency review assessing the integration of human rights, Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) and gender into the new CCAs and the UNSDCFs, which highlighted the need for OHCHR to be actively involved for the duration of these processes.



Development

D2 – Corporate bodies increasingly acting in conformity with relevant norms and standards to ensure the implementation of the UN's Protect, Respect and Remedy Framework and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) by October.

1 2 3 5 6 8 9 13 16
17

OHCHR contributed to the number of selected policy areas with a significant improvement in the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards.

In Cameroon, OHCHR organized two training and consultation sessions, from 1 to 2 September, with human rights and COVID-19 focal points from various national administrations, the Cameroon Human Rights Commission and civil society on their engagement in the COVID-19 pandemic response in Cameroon. Discussions centred on gaps and challenges in the Government's response to the pandemic, civil society engagement in response efforts, challenges faced during the national vaccine roll-out and the need to build back better, taking into consideration the needs and views of those who are at risk of being left behind. Participants also stressed the urgency of conducting a human rights-based analysis on the impacts of COVID-19 on women, persons with disabilities, older persons, IDPs and people living with HIV/AIDS. Senior representatives from the National Institute of Statistics expressed a strong desire to collaborate with the Office on the development, collection and disaggregation of human rights indicators, particularly those relating to vulnerable groups, in anticipation of the upcoming survey on household living conditions.

On 13 September, in the Republic of the Congo, OHCHR held high-level consultations to engage national and international stakeholders, as well as UN partners, on the integration of human rights into the country's COVID-19 response and recovery. The Office had meetings with the RC and colleagues from UN agencies, the Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium in Congo, the General Director of Human Rights in the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and the Promotion of Indigenous Peoples. The RC and other stakeholders committed to applying human rights in the context of the pandemic.

In the Republic of the Congo, OHCHR and the National Human Rights Commission organized two consultation and training sessions for 40 participants, including 13 women, from 14 to 15 September, on the integration of human rights into the country's COVID-19 response and recovery efforts. The sessions fostered formal collaboration between the participants and the NHRC for joint actions on this issue. Participants discussed the social and economic impacts of the pandemic on vulnerable groups and proposed various solutions, including strategies to maximize available resources for minimum core obligations related to social and economic rights.

In Gabon, OHCHR held a training session on the integration of human rights into the COVID-19 response and recovery plans for 30 members of the NHRC and CSOs, including 11 women, from 16 to 17 November. The session focused on key international human rights standards and principles, the application of an HRBA to the socio-economic response to COVID-19 and how to build back better. While deploring their lack of participation and exclusion from the COVID-19 response, participants recommended

less severe measures and the need to consider the proportionality of exceptional decisions, such as the curfew in Gabon. They also proposed an in-depth study to evaluate the impacts of the pandemic on key vulnerable groups and the State's obligation to address these issues and fulfil its human rights obligations, including by mobilizing the maximum available resources.

In Gabon, the Office organized a training session, on 2 December, for 28 members from the Steering Committee for the Monitoring and Response Plan against the Coronavirus Epidemic in Gabon (COPIL), including 13 women. Topics included international human rights standards and the application of an HRBA to the socio-economic country response to COVID-19. The session aimed at fostering formal collaboration between the participants and the NHRC for joint actions to integrate human rights into the COVID-19 response and recovery in Gabon. The participants discussed the social and economic impacts of the pandemic on vulnerable groups and various potential solutions.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: UNITED NATIONS MULTIDIMENSIONAL INTEGRATED STABILIZATION MISSION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (MINUSCA)

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
4.92 million	623,000 km ²	0.397 (rank: 188/189 in 2019) -	-
Type of engagement	Peace Mission		
Year established	2000		
Field office(s)	Bambari, Bangassou, Bangui, Berberati, Birao, Bossangoa, Bria, Kaga-Bandoro, Ndele, Obo and Paoua		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2021		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	72		

XB requirements 2021 **US\$80,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Peace and Security

PS1 – As a component of CAR's national infrastructure for peace and human rights, the National Committee on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide, Crimes against Humanity, War Crimes and the Fight against Discrimination is fully operational. The capacity of the Committee is strengthened to enable it to implement its road map. A national multifunctional mechanism to protect victims and witnesses is established. It holds accountable those responsible for violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law and protects and assists victims of gender-based violence and sexual violence in conflict.

5 16

OHCHR contributed to the increased compliance of national protection systems with international human rights standards through capacity-building and technical support.

The Human Rights Division (HRD) of MINUSCA provided financial and technical support to CAR civil society, early warning networks, local human rights forums and the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. The objective was to develop a national capacity for monitoring and data collection of human rights violations and abuses, contribute to early warning alerts on the protection of civilians and establish platforms for human rights dialogue at national and local levels. The HRD supported 77 workshops and trainings on human rights and international humanitarian law and reached

13,972 people, including 6,075 women, representing CSOs, human rights NGOs, religious leaders, tribal leaders, youth groups, women's associations, victims' associations, the local population and media professionals.

The HRD supported 30 field missions of NHRIs, including the National Commission of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, the High Council for Communication and the National Committee on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide, Crimes against Humanity, War Crimes and the Fight against Discrimination. The missions enabled the identification and establishment of additional focal points in field locations to provide early warning alerts on human rights violations and the protection of civilians.

PS4 – A comprehensive national transitional justice strategy is developed and implemented and it is gender-sensitive.

16

OHCHR provided technical support to develop and implement a comprehensive national transitional justice strategy.

With the support of MINUSCA and OHCHR, an important step was taken towards the operationalization of the Truth, Justice, Reparations and Reconciliation Commission (CVJRR) with the Government's appointment of 11 commissioners. An initial retreat was organized to begin drafting the CVJRR's internal rules of procedures. A second strategic retreat was held to focus on substantive matters to enable the CVJRR to implement its mandate, including operationalization, communications, investigations, public hearings, reparations, complementarity with the special

criminal court and gender issues. The retreat was co-facilitated and attended by commissioners and experts from the Gambia, Libya, Mali, Peru, Sierra Leone, Togo and Tunisia. A third retreat was held to finalize the CVJRR's internal regulations and organigram.

PS5 – National institutions and non-State actors increase their capacity to promote and protect human rights more effectively.

3 5 8 10 13 16 17

OHCHR contributed to the increased compliance of State institutions with international human rights standards by providing guidance to relevant authorities.

The HRD supported technically and financially 30 field missions with 10 guidance documents for NHRIs, 10 for *Haut Conseil de la Communication* and 10 for *Comité National de Prévention du Génocide*; organized 10 joint protection assessment missions with the National Commission of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and the local human rights forums and facilitated 12 field missions of victims' associations and civil society working groups on transitional justice.

In monitoring and reporting on the human rights situation across CAR, the HRD organized 53 special investigation missions and 73 monitoring missions. During these missions, 1,180 incidents of human rights violations and abuses impacting 2,466 victims, including 397 conflict-related civilian deaths, were documented. Armed groups were responsible for 56 per cent of incidents and State agents were responsible for 44 per cent of incidents.

In August, MINUSCA and OHCHR published a joint report on the human rights situation in CAR. The report identifies

armed groups as the main perpetrators of human rights violations and observes a significant and concerning trend in violations committed by national security forces and other security personnel, including private security companies. The HRD also notes an increase in attacks on members of the Muslim community by the Central African Armed Forces/Internal Security Forces (FACA/ISF) and other security personnel, as well as the deliberate targeting of Muslims over their alleged affiliation with armed groups. The joint report calls on all parties to the conflict to prioritize the protection of civilians, respect human rights and international humanitarian law and to respect their commitments within the framework of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in CAR (APPR-RCA). It also urges the Government to take immediate action to hold accountable those responsible for abuses and violations.

Accountability

A1 – The actions of judicial institutions and defence and security forces increasingly comply with international human rights standards.

16

OHCHR contributed to the improved compliance of State institutions with international human rights standards through technical and expert advice.

The HRD delivered 78 trainings and workshops to strengthen the capacities of members of the national defence and security forces on human rights and integrating an HRBA into their work. More than 5,500 FACA/ISF personnel, including 908 women, participated in the trainings.

The HRD conducted 211 visits to detention facilities to monitor detention conditions, the treatment of detainees and their legal status, in line with international standards. Irregularities were brought to the attention of relevant authorities for appropriate action.

CHAD

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
16.92 million	1,284,000 km ²	0.398 (rank: 187/189 in 2019)	"B" Status (2009)
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	2018		
Field office(s)	N'Djamena		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2017–2021		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	14		

Total income 2021	US\$1,528,972	
XB requirements 2021	US\$1,783,000	
XB expenditure	US\$1,352,577	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
71%	17%	11%
\$963,031	\$235,510	\$154,037

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is established and functioning in conformity with the Paris Principles.

16

OHCHR contributed to the functioning of the NHRC, which is operating in increased conformity with the Paris Principles, by providing it with technical and financial support.

UN Human Rights continued to support the NHRC to ensure it is operational.

In March, OHCHR provided technical and financial support for the development of the NHRC's triennial strategic plan, the complaints management manual and the financial and administrative procedures manual. In October, the Office delivered a two-day workshop, in N'Djamena, to improve the knowledge of 68 human rights observers (19 women, 49 men) from the NHRC. The next month, the Office facilitated the participation of the NHRC in a regional peer learning workshop that was organized by the Regional Office for Central Africa, in Libreville.

In addition to supporting the work of the NHRC, OHCHR contributed to enhancing laws, policies and practices to address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems. More specifically, it strengthened the knowledge and expertise of the Internal Security Forces (ISF) on human rights by conducting several trainings and awareness-raising sessions. In the context of the first round of presidential elections in Chad, which took place shortly before the death of President Deby, in April, OHCHR conducted one training and six awareness-raising sessions for 416 defence and security forces (28 women, 388 men), including special police units. The sessions focused on the fundamental freedoms and the use of force and firearms during law enforcement operations, arrests and detentions. Over 500 leaflets on human rights and basic principles on the use of force and firearms were distributed to the participants.

OHCHR provided support to ISF within the framework of a project to enhance their compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law. Through this project, OHCHR conducted a workshop for 40 participants (five women, 35 men) from the Police Nationale, Gendarmerie Nationale, Garde Nationale et Nomade du Tchad (GNNT) and the Police Judiciaire. It also held two awareness-raising sessions for 50 ISF (four women, 46 men) on the principles of human rights and the protection of human rights during public demonstrations, arrests and detention.

A3 – Judicial authorities and the National Human Rights Commission act on at least half of the cases they receive regarding crimes associated with gender, including those that involve women and youth.

5 10 16

OHCHR sought to increase the proportion of human rights violations cases that it raised that were positively addressed by relevant actors, including through advocacy work.

OHCHR continued to monitor elections and farmer-herder conflicts. With regard to the monitoring of the electoral process, the Office focused on the enjoyment of fundamental human rights, respect for democratic space and violations of freedoms, including freedom of expression and opinion, freedom of peaceful assembly and of association. Monitoring activities were undertaken before, during and after the elections.

OHCHR undertook systematic monitoring of demonstrations that took place during the electoral period and followed up with partners, including CSOs, the NHRC and judicial actors, on human rights violations. As a result, more than 714 demonstrators, including 207 human rights defenders, were released between January and November.

Development

D7 – UN strategic programmes take account of human rights when they are drafted, implemented and evaluated.



OHCHR provided substantial support, which contributed to the integration of international human rights standards into UN plans and programmes in Chad.

In 2021, OHCHR supported the integration of the HRBA into inter-agency project proposals aimed at supporting political and institutional transition, projects related to farmer-herder conflicts, migration and IDPs and an inter-agency proposal that was approved and funded by the Peacebuilding Fund to support the transition.

In addition to ensuring that human rights are taken into account by the other components of the project, the Office included a specific component for the integration of an HRBA at all levels of the transition. This included the participation of all social strata, including women and youth, the mapping of human rights violations, the establishment and functioning of a commission to verify illegal detentions and the conducting of a social audit by CSOs of the integration of human rights into the transition. The project also included the monitoring of the human rights situation and possible violations that were committed during the electoral period. Furthermore, the Office succeeded in obtaining approval for a project on the establishment of an observatory for gender equality and equity.

Mechanisms

M1 – National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and the implementation of their recommendations.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to the Government's submission of quality reports to the human rights treaty bodies by delivering training sessions and supporting the drafting process.

In 2021, OHCHR assisted the Government with the implementation of its international obligations, with a particular focus on the submission of initial and periodic reports to the human rights treaty bodies, in accordance with their respective reporting guidelines. More specifically, the Office provided technical and financial support to the Government's Interministerial Committee, which is tasked with preparing and following up on reports to regional and international human rights mechanisms. This led to the drafting of an implementation plan for the recommendations issued by the UPR, in March, the drafting and submission of the mid-term State report to the UPR, in May and the drafting and submission of the Government's initial report to CRPD, in June. OHCHR partnered with UNICEF to support the Government in preparing and submitting initial reports on the implementation of OP-CRC-AC and OP-CRC-SC. In 2022, this momentum will be maintained to help the Government eliminate its backlog of overdue reports to the human rights treaty bodies. The Office supported two trainings for the exclusive benefit of persons with disabilities on the promotion and protection of their rights and recruited a person with disability as a national volunteer.

Non-discrimination

ND3 – Knowledge of the provisions of CEDAW and Security Council resolution 1325 is improved.



OHCHR contributed to the meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes.

OHCHR continued to raise awareness throughout the country about international instruments on the protection of women's rights. Missions were conducted in the provinces of Lake Chad, West Logone and Moyen-Chari. These missions enabled the Office to assess local partnerships and raise awareness about violence against women, as provided by CEDAW and Security Council resolution 1325.

Furthermore, OHCHR collaborated with the Liaison and Information Unit of Women's Associations (LIUWA) to organize a workshop on CEDAW and Security Council resolution 1325, in Sarh, in July. The workshop involved 31 participants, including 26 women from member organizations of the Women's Associations of Chad (CELIAF) network and five men from the Chadian League for Human Rights (LTDH), the Chadian Association for the Promotion and Defence of Human Rights (ATPDH) and the Association for the Promotion of Fundamental Freedoms in Chad (APLFT). The workshop focused on human rights, with a specific focus on violence and discrimination against women in the region. Emphasis was also placed on the Government's international and national commitments related to CEDAW and Security Council resolution 1325. Authorities commended

the initiative and encouraged respect for women's rights.¹¹

Finally, in July, OHCHR worked closely with the provincial social action delegation and the Sarh branch of the Liaison and Information Unit of CELIAF to organize an interactive radio programme on the protection of women's rights. The programme was aired on the private station, Radio Lotiko, in French, and was translated into the local language (Sara) and the local Arabic. The programme was followed by a large audience and contributed to raising public awareness of women's rights, relevant provisions of international conventions and national policies and international and national protection mechanisms and systems. A number of listeners called during the broadcast to ask about the role of justice and CSOs in protecting women's rights, highlighted the need to continue raising awareness about women's rights and to discuss socio-cultural barriers to the enjoyment of women's rights. The programme was rebroadcast on August 30 and September 15 to reach as many people as possible.

¹¹ See the Five-Year Action Plan for the implementation of the National Policy on Gender 2019-2023 (Plan d'Action Quinquennal de mise en œuvre de la politique nationale Genre 2019-2023), published by the Ministry of Women, Childhood Protection and National Solidarity.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO: THE UNITED NATIONS JOINT HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE (UNJHRO)

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
92.38 million	2,345,000 km ²	0.480 (rank: 175/189 in 2019)	"A" Status (2018)
Type of engagement		Peace Mission	
Year established		2008	
Field office(s)		Beni, Bukavu, Bunia, Butembo, Goma, Kalemie, Kananga, Kinshasa, Kisangani, Lubumbashi, Thsikapa and Uvira	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2020-2024	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		101	

XB requirements 2021

US\$10,917,000

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – The judiciary increases the number of convictions for human rights violations, including sexual and gender-based violence. Oversight mechanisms strengthen disciplinary measures for the same offences.

16

The UNJHRO contributed to the improved compliance of State institutions and programmes with international human rights standards, with a focus on women's human rights.

During 2021, the UNJHRO participated in 50 field missions, mainly in Ituri, North and South Kivu, Kasai and Kasai Central,

and Tanganyika in collaboration with civilian and judicial military authorities in support of the fight against impunity. A total of 17 mobile courts were supported, mainly to address emblematic cases. The UNJHRO continued to provide technical assistance to judicial authorities regarding the handling of cases of international crimes. A total of 175 convictions (92 Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC), 23 Congolese National Police (PNC), 39 members of armed groups, 21 civilians) were recorded as serious human rights violations. Notably, in September, the Military Court of South Kivu sentenced Mihonya Kolokolo to 24 years in prison for using, conscripting or enlisting children in

armed forces or groups, for violating integral natural reserves, national parks and biosphere reserves and for constructing a house in a protected area. This is the first conviction for the illegal exploitation of natural resources in the DRC.

The UNJHRO assisted with the preparation of the road map to accelerate the implementation of the FARDC and PNC Action Plans, as well as with the addendum to the Joint Communiqué between the Government of the DRC and the UN to eradicate conflict-related sexual violence, in cooperation with the Office of the Special Advisor to the Head of State on Youth, Children and Women. The UNJHRO provided capacity-building support in relation to CRSV to 139 FARDC elements, including unit commanders and magistrates in Kinshasa, Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu and Kisangani, and 10 members of CSOs, resulting in the signing of 52 commitments (actes d'engagement). The Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangement (MARA) remained a key tool in guiding the UN leadership's response to SGBV/CRSV.

Monthly meetings were held with representatives of the Ministry of Justice and the Office of the Prosecutor in Kinshasa to follow up on cases of impunity and measures to reduce overcrowding in prisons, especially in the context of COVID-19. In response, a Technical Group on Penitentiary Issues was established, leading to the preparation of documents on prison reform and the release of at least 3,288 inmates from a number of prisons in the DRC.

In December 2020, the President of the DRC reiterated his strong commitment to ending impunity and promoting transitional justice mechanisms. A letter was subsequently sent to the High Commissioner for Human Rights to

request the support of OHCHR and the UN to help make these commitments a reality. The High Commissioner welcomed this initiative and tasked the UNJHRO to work with the designated entities on the development of a national strategy on transitional justice. On 13 August, the President of the DRC formed a joint committee to discuss the national road map on transitional justice. The committee is co-chaired by the President's Deputy Chief of Staff and the Ministry of Human Rights and Justice, and includes the Ministry of Human Rights and Justice, the Human Rights Commission of the National Assembly, the National Human Rights Commission and civil society. The UNJHRO is providing technical support. The joint committee will conduct a mapping exercise of relevant actors, identify options for judicial and non-judicial mechanisms and propose a comprehensive and holistic road map for next steps related to transitional justice. A civil society working group on transitional justice was established, in April, with the support and technical assistance of the UNJHRO. In another encouraging development, which took place on 28 June in Kasai Central, the Provincial Assembly adopted a decree on the establishment of a Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission. To this end, the UNJHRO is providing technical, capacity-building, sensitization and logistical support in the context of a Peace, Justice Reconciliation and Reconstruction project in Kasai Central (PAJURR), which is funded by the Peacebuilding Fund. A ministerial decree was adopted on 17 December to establish a joint committee that will select the candidate commissioners.

Moreover, the UNJHRO supported transitional justice initiatives that were undertaken and implemented by national authorities in the Kasai Central, Kasai and Tanganyika and provided technical advice to the Ministry of Human Rights and Justice on UN standards regarding transitional justice. High-level meetings were held with the provincial Ministers of Justice and Human Rights to promote their participation in and ownership of the process. A draft law establishing the provincial Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission was adopted by the Kasai Provincial Assembly and promulgated by the acting Governor.

In 2021, the activities of OHCHR's Technical Assistance Team (TAT), based in Kasai Central province, increased by 74 per cent, compared to 2020. The Team provided expert support for the collection and preservation of evidence in Kinshasa, North Kivu and the Kasai region. A total of four autopsies, 36 exhumations (which are in the Kananga Laboratory awaiting autopsy) and 189 forensic examinations of victims of GBV were carried out. Additional assistance was provided for the building and operationalization of a forensic laboratory in Kananga. In support of the transitional justice process in Kasai, the TAT participated in a post-humous ceremony and the return of 10 bodies to a conflict-affected community in Tshisuku, representing the first ever ceremony of the kind in the DRC.



Participation

P1 – The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is more effective in fulfilling its mandate, including in handling complaints, in accordance with the Paris Principles.

16

Through technical support, advocacy and capacity-building, the UNJHRO contributed to strengthening the work of the NHRI, in conformity with international standards.

In 2021, the UNJHRO held 20 follow-up and advocacy meetings with the NHRC, the National Independent Human Rights Commission, the Ministry of Human Rights, the Minister delegate to the social affairs minister, humanitarian action and national solidarity in charge of people with disabilities and other vulnerable persons, the Conseil supérieur de l'audiovisuel congolais (CSAC) and CSOs on various human rights issues. Discussions included monitoring the adoption of the law on the rights of persons living with disabilities, the law on the rights of indigenous peoples, the law on the protection of HRDs and capacity-building activities for the partners involved in the meetings.

Moreover, the UNJHRO provided financial and technical support to the NHRC, including capacity-building on the UNGPs, hate speech and follow-up to and implementation of the recommendations issued to the DRC during its third cycle of the UPR. These actions were undertaken in consultation with other national actors to contribute to the implementation of the UPR recommendations and to ensure respect for human rights in the exploitation of natural resources by preparing the Congolese State of the Action Plan for the implementation of the UNGPs.

P5 – Citizens are able to exercise their rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association. Security forces show more respect for these rights and for international human rights standards and principles.



Through capacity-building, awareness-raising and enhanced monitoring of the environment for civic space, the UNJHRO contributed to enhancing respect for the rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association, in alignment with international human rights standards and norms.

In its efforts to combat hate speech, the UNJHRO continued to monitor hate speech across the country. A report on hate speech covering the period from March to December 2020 was published in March 2021. Several activities related to combating hate speech were carried out, including training workshops on monitoring hate speech for 20 officials from the Ministry of Human Rights, the Inter-Ministerial Human Rights Committee (CNDH) and the CSAC on 1 June; for 22 parliamentarians on 8 June; and for 24 members of a CSO platform, the Committee for Social Cohesion, in November. In addition, sensitization activities were conducted in collaboration with the Ministry of Human Rights and the CSAC and awareness-raising activities were carried out in collaboration with the Ministry of Human Rights for 240 representatives of civil society and provincial institutions in Goma, Bukavu, Bunia and Beni. The UNJHRO also collaborated with UNESCO, State partners and CSOs to deliver a workshop, in September, for the development of strategies on the fight against hate speech for 60 representatives of CSOs, State institutions and the

media. In cooperation with UNOCA, UNESCO, MINUSCA and other UN entities in the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) region, OHCHR organized a regional forum on capacity-building in the fight against hate speech, in Douala, in October, for 40 media professionals and representatives of media self-regulatory bodies. As a result, a platform of media professionals was established for the fight against hate speech in the region.



Development

D7 – The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2020-2024 integrates relevant international human rights standards and principles and references recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR contributed to the integration of international human rights standards and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into UN common country programmes.

In 2021, the UNJHRO continued to collaborate with the UNCT to integrate human rights into the Sustainable Development Goals. For instance, the Office led the UNCT-DRC National Voluntary Assessment of the SDGs. This ensured the systematic and transversal integration of an HRBA and key indicators into the UNSDCF and the annual workplan of the UNCT. Furthermore, within the framework of the UNSDCF and the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, the UNJHRO was actively involved in the implementation of joint projects in cooperation with UN agencies, funds and programmes, specifically five PBF projects in the conflicted provinces

of the Kasai, Kasai Central, Tanganyika and South Kivu.

In South Kivu, the UNJHRO trained 30 national military and police agents on the promotion and protection of human rights and economic, social and cultural rights in the mining area of Kigulube, in October. Through the PBF Women of Shabunda project, training and support was provided to economically empower women to carry out mining activities in an ethical manner for the improvement of their livelihoods. Among the 48 women who were trained on women's rights and gender-based violence under this project, some belonged to the mining cooperatives in Kigulube and Nzovu, which were fully composed of women. Other mines primarily employ men but also employ some women. The trained women will collaborate with local customary authorities to raise awareness on ESCRs and participate in a local dialogue with representatives from women's rights clubs, customary authorities and the police.

Peace and Security

PS5 – DRC Security Forces adopt an increased number of mitigation and corrective measures based on risk assessments that comply with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP).

3 5 8 10 13 16 17

The UNJHRO supported the functioning of accountability and protection mechanisms, in increased conformity with international human rights standards.

During the year, the UNJHRO worked in close collaboration with national authorities and the military justice system on emblematic cases, including through high-level advocacy and follow-up meetings. This enabled the gathering and sharing of information for status updates and follow-up, joint investigations and advocacy for the prosecution of alleged perpetrators of grave human rights violations. The UNJHRO also carried out capacity-building activities for State authorities to enhance their capacities to respond to human rights violations, protect civilians and support the fight against impunity.

As a follow-up to human rights violations committed by the DRC Security and Defence Forces, the FARDC provincial follow-up committees held 25 sessions and the PNC follow-up committees held 23 sessions in the provinces of North Kivu, South Kivu, Kinshasa, Ituri, Tanganyika, Kasai, Haut-Katanga and Maniema. Four joint FARDC and PNC follow-up committee meetings were held in Shabunda, South Kivu (two) and Lubumbashi, Haut-Katanga (two). The FARDC revived its follow-up committees in Kinshasa and Uvira and established two in Salamambila (South Kivu) and Minova (North Kivu). PNC follow-up committees were established in Kinshasa and Minova.

An amended version of the 2007 Directive on the PNC follow-up committees was signed by the Vice Prime Minister of the Interior on 3 July. Both the FARDC and PNC committees addressed human rights violations committed by State Security and Defence Forces and followed up on disciplinary and remedial measures.

In 2021, UNJHRO monitored the trials related to the murder of Chebeya and Bazana and the Yumbi mass killing case before the High Military Court in Kinshasa. The latter case includes 79 defendants, one of whom is a woman, who are being prosecuted on various counts of crimes against humanity, such as murder, the forced transfer of populations and deportations, criminal conspiracy, arson, malicious destruction, attempted robbery, illegal possession of weapons and ammunition of war, usurpation of authority through the illegal use of the uniforms of the Congolese National Police and violation of orders.

In Kananga, Kasai Central province, the UNJHRO continued to monitor proceedings in the trial regarding the murder of two UN experts that is before the Military Court of the former province of Western Kasai. A total of 54 defendants, 22 of whom are being tried in absentia, are being prosecuted for various counts of participation in an insurrection movement and criminal associations and murder as a war crime.

PS6 – Decisions made by the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) in support of the political process or on the protection of civilians are guided by relevant international human rights standards and principles. This is particularly true of the good offices of the Mission leadership and the provision of support to the security forces.

16

The UNJHRO contributed to the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into the work of peace missions.

The UNJHRO organized 76 trainings for the FARDC, PNC and prison authorities in a number of localities and provinces, such as North and South Kivu, Ituri and Kinshasa. The trainings covered topics such as international human rights law, international humanitarian law, CRSV and the HRDDP. Eleven sensitization sessions were conducted for the United Nations Police/ Formed Police Units (UNPOL/FPU), Force/Military Observers on compliance with the HRDDP, clearance procedures and the implementation of mitigating measures. The sessions contributed to improving knowledge and awareness of the HRDDP among MONUSCO and State partners. A total of 2,775 individuals, including 151 women, participated in the training activities and sensitization sessions.

Furthermore, the HRDDP Secretariat conducted 114 comprehensive risk assessments (196 transport requests) containing robust mitigating measures, through the screening of 1,126 officers, for UN support to the Government of the DRC. A total of 730 profiles were created in the HRDDP database

and 394 remedial actions, including administrative and disciplinary sanctions, were imposed on State Defence and Security Forces responsible for committing human rights violations. The Secretariat continued its efforts to ensure better reporting of administrative sanctions, including within the framework of the follow-up committees, and held regular meetings with the état-major of the FARDC and the Inspector General of Police. The HRDDP Secretariat systematically shared information with partners in the context of risk assessments. The Secretariat continued to liaise with UNCT partners on issues related to the Disarmament, Demobilization, Recovery, Community and Stabilization programme and the management of natural resources, as well as with the World Bank, in the context of continuous collaboration.

The UNJHRO's HRDDP Secretariat held 29 sessions for MONUSCO partners, such as UNPOL, the Corrections Unit and the Force on compliance with the HRDDP, the clearance procedure and the implementation of mitigating measures. Briefing sessions were also organized for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG), the Deputy SRSG and the Mission leadership, including on a strategy against the use of excessive force by the PNC. Moreover, the HRDDP Secretariat identified potential protection threats arising from MONUSCO support to non-UN security forces and developed mitigating measures.

Finally, the UNJHRO organized seven information sessions for the UNCT, an introductory meeting with the Centre des Hautes Etudes de Sécurité et de Défense on compliance with the HRDDP, the clearance procedure and the implementation of mitigating measures.

EASTERN AFRICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Tanzania
Year established	2002
Field office(s)	Addis Ababa
Staff as of 31 December 2021	21

Total income	US\$6,017,233		
XB requirements 2021	US\$8,091,000		
XB expenditure	US\$6,361,616		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
67%	22%	11%	
\$4,269,725	\$1,382,450	\$709,441	
RB expenditure	US\$164,068		
Personnel	Non-personnel		
97%	3%		
\$159,965	\$4,103		

Key OMP pillars in 2021



⁴ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Regional human rights mechanisms are increasingly accessible to all.

16

OHCHR contributed to enhancing the compliance with international human rights standards of the NHRI in Ethiopia.

Together with the AU, UN Women and UNHCR, OHCHR launched a joint study, in June, entitled *The status of women's rights in refugee and internal displacement settings in Africa: The context of the African Governance*

Architecture (AGA) and the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA). The study provides a contextual analysis of the forced displacement of women and girls in Africa, maps out relevant legal and policy frameworks and makes policy recommendations to the AU, Member States and relevant stakeholders to fast-track the implementation of women's rights within the context of the AGA and the APSA.

In Ethiopia, OHCHR supported CSOs to strengthen their engagement with AU human rights mechanisms. More specifically, in July, the Office trained 30 CSO

representatives (13 women, 17 men) on general human rights concepts, international, regional and national human rights instruments, obligations of States, AU and international human rights mechanisms and the complementarity of these mechanisms. Participants were also trained on developing advocacy messages to various human rights mechanisms and drafting alternative submissions.

In **Djibouti**, in October, OHCHR organized a workshop to enhance the participation of CSOs in human rights work and to strengthen collaboration among relevant stakeholders at the national level and between national, regional and international actors. Participants, including persons with disabilities, were provided with information on the international and regional human rights systems and how to effectively engage with the two systems, including by interacting with the special procedures mandate holders regarding human rights violations cases in Djibouti and participating in annual sessions of the mechanisms, to share their experiences of promoting and protecting human rights.

On Human Rights Day, 10 December, OHCHR organized a high-level forum for 200 actors from the justice system to discuss the role of the justice sector in advancing equality and human rights in **Ethiopia**. The forum reflected on Ethiopia's current political, security and human rights situation and acknowledged their critical role, including on the implementation of the recommendations issued by the OHCHR-Ethiopian Human Rights Commission Joint Investigation on Tigray (JIT). OHCHR agreed on follow-up measures and capacity requirements, such as a high-level consultation on the joint investigation recommendations on 3 February 2022 and several

concrete steps to support accountability and reconciliation efforts outlined by the Inter-Ministerial Taskforce. On the same day, CSOs held an awareness-raising and advocacy event to recognize and welcome the report of the OHCHR-EHRC Joint investigation on Tigray. The CSO actors committed to advocating for and monitoring the implementation of the recommendations of the JIT report and agreed on areas of cooperation with OHCHR in 2022 and beyond.

In **Tanzania**, OHCHR supported a member of the East Africa Women's Human Rights Defenders Network, namely, Women Action Towards Entrepreneurship Development, to develop a new app and a reporting tool to capture and report cases of GBV and to provide survivors with timely information and responses. The tools were formally launched in December 2021.

Finally, OHCHR strengthened awareness among law enforcement and justice system actors on the integration of human rights and gender considerations into their respective mandates. Specifically, OHCHR designed and conducted four trainings for police and prosecutorial personnel in Guji, Gondar, Wollega/Kemeshi and Jijjiga/Dire Dawa on human rights, SGBV and the rights of the child. A total of 128 police officers and prosecutors (47 women, 81 men) were trained between March and July on gender-related issues in law enforcement and the administration of justice. Additionally, 70 government militias and police officers (two women, 58 men) received trainings in the Fafan and Sitti zones in the Somali Region during the months of November and December.

A1 – National and international human rights principles are integrated into policies and manuals of national protection mechanisms, including on the use of force, and the subsequent prosecution of violations.

16

OHCHR contributed to the use of national protection systems, in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

In May, in collaboration with CSOs and regional justice offices, OHCHR trained judges and public prosecutors from the Benishangul Gumuz and Amhara regions on human rights and the administration of justice. A total of 70 judges and prosecutors (19 women, 51 men) were trained during the two-day workshop that was organized as a response to OHCHR's monitoring, which revealed gaps in the administration of justice in the two regions.

Following the publication of the findings of the joint OHCHR-EHRC report on the human rights situation in Tigray, on 3 November, the Government of **Ethiopia** announced the establishment of an Inter-Ministerial Taskforce to implement the recommendations of the report. The Taskforce established four committees on investigations, SGBV, refugees and IDPs, and resource mobilization. OHCHR and the EHRC were invited by Ethiopia's Ministry of Justice to provide capacity-building and technical advice to the Inter-Ministerial Taskforce, as well as to key government actors mandated to implement the report's recommendations (i.e., police, prosecutors).

In **Ethiopia**, OHCHR provided technical assistance to the EHRC to conduct a comprehensive review and analysis of the draft criminal procedure and evidence

laws and to prepare written recommendations to the Parliament to ensure an increased compliance with applicable international human rights law and standards. By highlighting several gaps in the law from a human rights perspective during parliamentary hearings and expert consultations, OHCHR, EHRC and CSOs successfully advocated for a delay in the adoption of the draft law until the comments were fully considered and integrated. The majority of OHCHR's inputs and recommendations were incorporated into the revised draft proclamation, which was tabled in the Parliament in February. Following the June and September 2021 elections of members of the House of Peoples' Representatives, a new round of debate and possible adoption is expected by the newly constituted Parliament in the coming months.

In **Djibouti**, OHCHR supported the UNCT and national actors through a series of workshops. The first workshop, held in February, aimed to build the capacity of staff from the National Human Rights Commission's regional offices to promote human rights and address cases of human rights violations brought to their attention. The second workshop aimed to strengthen the capacity of the newly established parliamentary Committee on Human Rights to integrate human rights norms and principles into draft legislation and ensure that the implementation of adopted legislation is consistent with human rights norms and standards. The third workshop aimed to provide UNCTs with the tools to integrate human rights norms, standards and principles into the CCA in Djibouti. Finally, in light of the absence of CSO engagement with both regional and international human rights mechanisms, the Office organized a fourth workshop on strengthening civil society engagement with regional and international mechanisms. Participants

were trained on how to establish partnerships and engage with the mechanisms, including by requesting observer status, and how to submit cases on human rights violations.

A3 – Governments more consistently report, investigate and prosecute gender-related crimes.

5 10 16 

OHCHR contributed to strengthening accountability and protection mechanisms with a focus on women's human rights.

OHCHR partnered with the African Union Gender, Peace and Security Programme (AU GPSP) to develop an infographic on women's participation in peace processes. The infographic aims to take stock of progress made in increasing women's engagement in the peace processes in Africa and illustrates the journey to inclusive peace on the continent. To this end, it identifies the main legal and policy instruments, as well as key political processes on women's participation at the global, continental and regional levels, and puts forward recommendations for strengthening women's effective and meaningful inclusion in peace processes.

In June and July, OHCHR partnered with the AU GPSP and the AU ECOSOCC to implement a series of six e-talks on women, peace, and security in Africa, providing CSOs with the opportunity to share their experiences on these topics. The e-talks followed a series of six civil society consultations on women, peace and security that were conducted in 2020, during which CSOs noted their concern that there were no continental platforms for CSOs to share their experiences and good practices on women, peace and security.

Finally, OHCHR worked with the AU GPSP to start the development of a toolkit aimed at building the capacity of women human rights defenders (WHRDs) and women-led CSOs as they engage with regional and international human rights mechanisms.



Participation

P1 – CSOs, WHRDs and other relevant stakeholders advocate for human rights, especially women's rights, more frequently and more effectively.

16

OHCHR contributed to building the capacities of WHRDs and other stakeholders to improve the compliance with international human rights standards of selected State institutions and programmes.

Following a training for 75 media practitioners (30 women, 45 men), in May, UN Human Rights supported the establishment of a Network of Journalists for Human Rights in **Ethiopia**. The Network is anticipated to contribute to the incorporation of human rights issues into the reporting and practices of journalists. OHCHR will seek to engage with journalists on human rights issues through this Network, including in relation to freedom of the media and in the context of sustained capacity-building interventions.

OHCHR also supported the Federation of Persons with Disabilities and the Ministry of Women and Social Affairs to organize a workshop on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The high-level event took place in Jijjiga City, in the Somali Region, on 3 December, and included 200 participants. The workshop was officiated by the President of

the Somali Region and provided participants with an opportunity to highlight the specific challenges faced by persons with disabilities during conflicts and health crises. A set of recommendations outlined steps to be taken by the Government and other relevant stakeholders to address those challenges. The Office also provided comments to the draft Disability Act, which is expected to be adopted during the second quarter of 2022. The initiative, led by the Ministry of Women and Social Affairs, aims to promote the implementation of the CRPD and the recommendation of the CRPD in its Concluding Observations (CRPD/C/ETH/CO/1) that the Government of Ethiopia strengthen and mainstream legal protections for persons with disabilities in law and practice.

OHCHR continued to strengthen the capacity of grassroots CSOs to promote, monitor and document human rights issues. More specifically, the Office delivered four trainings for CSOs operating in the Amhara, Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region (SNNPR), Sidama, Somali and Afar regions and Dire Dawa. A total of 111 CSO representatives (40 women, 71 men) were trained on various thematic issues, including a basic introduction to human rights, the rights of IDPs, SGBV and the role of CSOs in peacebuilding. Additionally, participants developed skills related to human rights monitoring, documentation, reporting and undertaking advocacy with local, regional and federal authorities.

OHCHR collaborated with the Ethiopian Arbitration and Conciliation Centre and Geo Heaven Ethiopia to organize an event, which included a march by “reconciliation mothers” for a peaceful election and a debriefing session with political party

leaders in Addis Ababa and Bahir Dar, on 11 and 15 June, respectively. During the march, the reconciliation mothers called upon the public at large and key actors in the election process, including political party leaders, to promote a peaceful election. The event also encouraged women to take an active role in peacebuilding, reconciliation and the promotion of human rights. The event was attended by reconciliation mothers, WHRDs, CSOs, political party representatives, journalists and other stakeholders in the election domain. A total of 80 participants (59 women, 21 men) attended. The events were covered by major media houses, including the Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporation and the Amhara Mass Media, ensuring widespread coverage across the country.

OHCHR continued to raise the awareness of the public, including through radio talk shows and during public events to commemorate relevant international days. In addition, OHCHR collaborated with relevant regional and local authorities and academics from Gondar University and Wollega University to participate in 11 radio talk shows in Gondar and Wollega/Kemeshi as another means of disseminating human rights information to the public. Topics included general human rights issues, the prevention of SGBV, child protection, the rights of IDPs and host communities, and the application of an HRBA to conflict prevention and peacebuilding. Moreover, through various international days and the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign, OHCHR ensured that human rights messages were communicated to the public.

P1 – CSOs, human rights defenders, and other relevant stakeholders increasingly advocate for human rights, more effectively.

16

OHCHR contributed to an increased number of selected policy areas where the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards has significantly improved.

OHCHR continued to strengthen the capacity of IDPs in Guji, Wollega, Kemeshi, Jigjiga and Dire Dawa to raise pertinent human rights issues affecting them with local and regional authorities. OHCHR conducted sensitization activities and participated in radio talk shows to highlight various human rights issues, including the right of IDPs and returnees to participate in decisions that affect them. As a result, IDPs in Millennium Park, in Dire Dawa, challenged the attempts of authorities to relocate them without prior consultation.

From 19 to 21 September, UN Human Rights partnered with UNESCO and Rotaract Ethiopia to hold a national consultation in **Ethiopia** on human rights, media, information literacy and peacebuilding. The consultation gathered youth from all regions of the country to enhance their knowledge and participation in activities related to peacebuilding, human rights and conflict prevention and resolution. The programme aimed to build the capacity of the participants to engage with regional mechanisms, with a view to encouraging them to make regular submissions.

OHCHR strengthened the capacity of CSOs in Ethiopia to promote, monitor, document and report on human rights issues, particularly in the context of

elections, through six trainings in various regions. In April, OHCHR worked closely with the Consortium of Ethiopian Human Rights Organizations (CEHRO) to conduct a three-day training for 30 CSOs operating in the Afar, Somali and Harari regions and Dire Dawa. The CSO participants and other members of the CEHRO applied their knowledge and skills to monitor and report the human rights issues that emerged during the elections that were held in June and September. In Guji, Gondar, Wollega/Kemeshi, Jigjiga and Dire Dawa, OHCHR conducted five trainings for 180 CSO representatives (64 women, 116 men) from the SNNPR, Sidama, Amhara and Benishangul Gumuz regions. The training focused on basic human rights concepts, human rights monitoring and reporting, and skills related to human rights advocacy.

From 1 to 3 December, in Zanzibar, **Tanzania**, OHCHR and the African Union Youth for Peace hosted a regional consultation on youth engagement with international and regional human rights mechanisms. A total of 10 youths from all regions of Africa gathered to enhance their general knowledge about human rights and the regional and international human rights protection mechanisms.

Non-discrimination

ND4 – The decisions of national human rights and justice mechanisms increasingly promote gender equality and comply with international and regional human rights standards.

OHCHR contributed to raising awareness on SGBV and trafficking in women and girls.

In Ethiopia, on the occasion of the launch of the 16 Days of Activism on 25 November 2021, UN Human Rights in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Social Affairs, UN Women and UNFPA, co-organized a high-level policy dialogue in Ethiopia with key government service providers for SGBV survivors. The event saw the launch of a National Standard Operating Procedure for shelter services to women and girls' survivors of violence in Ethiopia and was followed by a panel discussion on services available for survivors. On this occasion, the Government of Ethiopia reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening prevention and response activities for GBV cases. The event was attended by 125 participants, including the President of Ethiopia and high-level government officials, UN agencies, CSOs, the media and other stakeholders. The event was broadcasted on the main national TV stations and was posted on social media platforms of organizing UN agencies and government ministries.

ND6 – Increased integration of international human rights standards into AU policies and migration governance measures.

1 2 3 4 5 6 8 10 11
13 16

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards are in place and/or functioning.

OHCHR continued to provide leadership and guidance on matters relating to the human rights of people on the move. As part of the UN Network on Migration and working through Opportunity/Issue-Based Coalition 7 (O/IBC7) on Forced displacement and migration, the Office collaborated with ILO to convene a multi-stakeholder consultation “Ensuring that migration is voluntary, orderly and regular,” on 28 June. The consultation gathered together 70 participants from civil society, NHRIs, academia, trade unions, employers' organizations, migrants or their representatives and other stakeholder groups. The inputs from this consultation primarily focused on human rights and legal aspects relating to migration and fed into the Africa Global Compact on Migration (GCM) review report. As part of the UN Migration Network and O/IBC7, OHCHR, IOM and other UN agencies co-organized the Africa Regional Review of the Implementation of the Global Compact on Migration, held from 29 August to 1 September, in preparation for the first International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), which will be held in 2022. OHCHR moderated the session on the report of stakeholder consultations, held in June.

OHCHR also reviewed and provided inputs to the AU draft Policy on the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons in Africa and the draft Policy on the Prevention of Smuggling of Migrants in Africa.

Mechanisms

M2 – Civil society organizations, NHRIs and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes.

17

By providing technical support, OHCHR sought to increase the number of substantive submissions to the human rights mechanisms by NHRIs, CSOs, individuals and UN agencies.

In all of the priority countries, OHCHR strengthened the capacity of CSOs and NHRIs to engage with regional and international human rights mechanisms through capacity-building activities.

Through the provision of technical advice and assistance with drafting, OHCHR supported the UNCT in **Tanzania** to prepare its submission in anticipation of Tanzania's third UPR cycle.

In **Ethiopia**, the RC requested that OHCHR and UN Women provide support for the submission of the UNCT report under the CEDAW follow-up procedure.

In **Ethiopia**, OHCHR supported CSOs and the EHRC to strengthen their collaboration with the international human rights mechanisms through technical assistance, capacity-building programmes and sustained engagement. As a result, CSOs are drafting alternative reports to CAT, CRC and the Human Rights Committee following the submission of the Government's State Party reports in 2021.

OHCHR organized a capacity-building programme for newly established grassroots CSOs from different parts of **Ethiopia** to discuss practical ways to integrate the outcomes of the human rights mechanisms into their projects and develop advocacy strategies related to their implementation by local authorities. A total of 27 participants (10 women, 17 men) attended the training from 9 to 10 November. Participating CSOs subsequently received small grants from OHCHR and began implementing projects on various human rights issues, in accordance with recommendations issued by various human rights mechanisms. These included interventions on disability-based discrimination, peace-building, environmental rights and gender equality. A follow-up training will be organized in the second quarter of 2022 to assess the impact of the training.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
1.45 million	28,000 km ²	0.592 (rank: 145/189 in 2019)	-
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2021	
Field office(s)		Malabo	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		1	
XB requirements 2021		-	

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P6 – The voices of people affected by decisions, particularly victims and those who face discrimination, are more clearly heard.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the awareness of CSOs about human rights and gender mainstreaming.

Following the adoption of the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH) Action Plan by the UNCT, in December 2020, the Human Rights Adviser (HRA) strengthened the capacities of NGOs through an orientation on PSEAH. A total of 10 NGOs participated and committed to developing policies within their respective agencies. The orientation presented a brief

explanation of the UN PSEAH agenda and discussed ways the NGOs could contribute to the prevention of SEAH in their workplaces and when dealing with beneficiaries in the communities where they work. The NGOs were requested to commit to developing relevant policies to combat SEAH at their respective organizations and to this end, signed a declaration in the presence of the Secretary of State for the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Director General for Civil Society.

The HRA will work with relevant authorities in 2022 to raise awareness about PSEAH at all levels of the Government and the Parliament. It will also work with CSOs to advocate for the adoption of national legislation to criminalize SEAH in the workplace.

Mechanisms

M4 – International human rights mechanisms contribute to the elaboration of international law and jurisprudence, in particular in the context of emerging human rights concerns (“frontier” issues).

OHCHR contributed to improving the implementation of recommendations issued during the UPR process, enhancing the Government's response to the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and ensuring the submission of pending reports.

In 2021, the HRA began engaging with the Third Vice Prime Minister in charge of Human Rights and the Director General for Human Rights in the preparation of the State interim report to the UPR. With the support of the Director General for Human Rights, the HRA will coordinate the contributions of the relevant ministries, in 2022, through a series of workshops with the relevant Directors General. The workshops will provide an opportunity to increase their awareness about the UPR process and other international human rights mechanisms and to promote human rights at ministerial levels.

Furthermore, the HRA advocated for the signing and ratification of CRPD and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict. These efforts will continue in 2022.

GUINEA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
13.50 million	246,000 km ²	0.477 (rank: 178/189 in 2019)	-
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	2010		
Field office(s)	Conakry, Nzérékoré		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	19		

Total income	US\$3,262,111	
XB requirements 2021	US\$5,554,000	
XB expenditure	US\$2,778,105	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC⁴
56%	33%	11%
\$1,557,867	\$910,022	\$310,216

Key OMP pillars in 2021

^{1 2 3 4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P1 – MA law that protects human rights defenders has been adopted.

16

OHCHR contributed to stronger laws, policies and practices that protect the right to participate and civic space.

OHCHR provided technical support to ensure the compliance of a draft law on the protection of the rights of HRDs, which was prepared by the Government, in collaboration with CSOs. The draft was submitted to the Independent National

Institution for Human Rights (INIDH) for its review. OHCHR will continue to advocate for the adoption of the law.

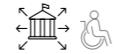
P2 – A protection mechanism for victims and witnesses is established.

OHCHR contributed to enhancing the establishment and/or functioning of oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms, in conformity with international human rights standards.

With the support of the United Nations system, including OHCHR, the Code of

Criminal Procedure was revised to ensure the protection of victims and witnesses of crime or human rights violations during all stages of the judicial process. Drafting of the Code’s implementing regulations is underway, with OHCHR’s support, and will facilitate the operationalization of the mechanism at the national level.

P6 – By 2021, the participation in public life of women and discriminated groups, including youth and persons living with albinism, has increased. These individuals and groups are able to claim their rights.



OHCHR contributed to the meaningful participation of rights-holders in public processes, especially women and discriminated groups, including persons with disabilities, by strengthening partnerships, building capacity and raising awareness on human rights principles and standards.

With OHCHR’s advocacy and technical support to ensure compliance with international standards, two laws were adopted by the Government of Guinea, namely, the Law for the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (2018) and the Law for the protection of the rights of persons with albinism (2021). The Office provided support to the Government and NGOs working on these issues by disseminating the laws and supporting their implementation through an awareness-raising campaign with civil society and law enforcement for their familiarization with the newly adopted legislation.

Development

D7 – States integrate human rights, including the right to development and outcomes of the international human rights mechanisms, as they implement the Sustainable Development Goals and other development and poverty eradication efforts. The UN supports them in these objectives and integrates human rights into its own development work.

Through technical advice, OHCHR supported the integration of human rights approaches into development efforts.

The third session of the OHCHR series of Hernán Santa Cruz Dialogues was held in Conakry, on 13 July, with the participation of authorities, including the Head of State. The session focused on the right to development, ESCRs and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and advancing sustained peace and development in Guinea, in Africa and beyond. Panellists highlighted the need for an enabling local and global environment for sustainable development, including fiscal and policy space as envisioned by the right to development (RTD). The discussions led to the formulation of an Action Plan designed to progressively advance the RTD and ESCRs and strengthen inclusive international cooperation and solidarity, such as South-South and regional cooperation. The Plan includes support for the participation of the Government in ongoing negotiations on a national convention on the RTD and the fulfilment of its commitment under the Paris Agreement to strengthen early warning and resilience in the context of climate change.

Mechanisms

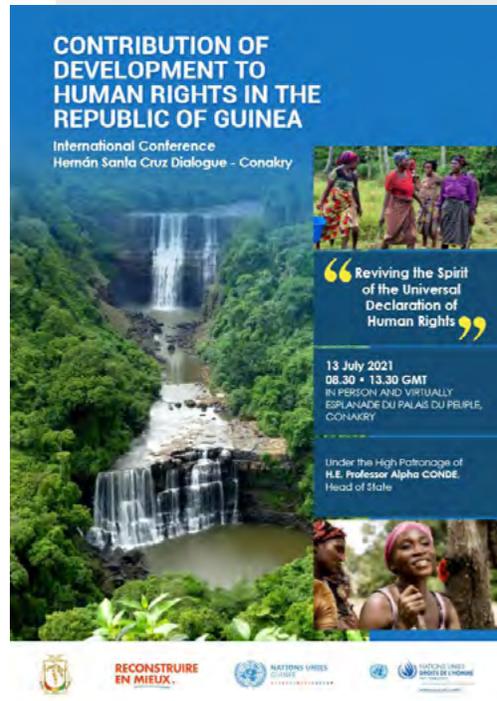
M1 – An interministerial committee that is mandated to prepare State Party reports to the human rights treaty bodies and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is fully operational by 2021.

16 17

OHCHR continued to support the establishment and functioning of a National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) on the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR advocated with State officials to transform the existing interministerial committee into an NMRF. A draft text was adopted by the Cabinet and was awaiting presidential approval prior to the 2021 military coup. Following continued advocacy, authorities have indicated that the NMRF will be in place in 2022.

Guinea pursues a healthy environment and development for human rights



Concept note of the Hernán Santa Cruz Dialogue hosted in Guinea in July. © OHCHR

Saikou Amadou Tidiane Diallo recalled the day he decided to take action against climate change.

“I had heard about pollution in the media. They were talking about the importance of trees in the fight against global warming. From then on, I started noticing that when I was under a tree, it did not feel the same as when I was in the street,” Diallo said. “Trees give us shade and cool air that I could not find anywhere else.”

In November 2018, Diallo created the “One birthday, one tree” challenge. He planted a Flame Tree (Flamboyant) in

Kakimbo Forest, a few miles north-east of Conakry, Guinea’s capital. That same month, he founded an NGO named Agir contre le réchauffement climatique (Acting Against Global Warming).

In June 2021, les Awards de l’écologie Africaine (African Ecology Awards) were held in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire and recognized the work of Diallo and his organization with second place honours (out of 3,000 applicants) in the personal commitment, associations and cooperatives category. In 2020, the organization raised awareness about climate change in 50 schools in Conakry and, with the help of participants across Guinea, planted over 2,000 trees during the Muslim feast of Eid al-Adha, known as Tabaski in West Africa. Diallo and his wife have transformed the way they live their lives to reflect their concern for the environment.

CREATING UNIQUE SYNERGIES TO ADVANCE THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT

Diallo’s home country, Guinea, and UN Human Rights teamed up to host the third edition of the Hernán Santa Cruz Dialogues, on 13 July, to consider the contribution of development to human rights in the country. Guinea was the second country to ratify the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights, which recognizes the right of all peoples to a satisfactory environment that is favourable to their development. Guinea also enshrined the right to a healthy environment in its Constitution.

ADOPTING A HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TO COUNTER CRISES

One of the themes of the Dialogue was the link between the right to development, climate change and environmental protection. It took place during the COVID-19 pandemic and participants noted it presented them with an opportunity to support improved social protection measures, advance efforts to fulfil human rights, realize the Sustainable Development Goals and promote ambitious environmental action.

In her opening statement, delivered [via video message](#), the High Commissioner said that the pandemic had important lessons to teach.

“In every country and region, it has demonstrated that advancing the right to development, and fixing the root causes of poverty, inequalities, health and social crises and environmental degradation, will promote the broader goals of peace, justice and sustainable development. These measures can be supported with steps to expand fiscal space, including by combating corruption. By ensuring a just transition to a sustainable economy, such policies invest in the well-being and dignity of the people – surely the best investment of them all.”

GUINEA-BISSAU

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
2.02 million	36,000 km ²	0.480 (rank: 175/189 in 2019)	-
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2021	
Field office(s)		Bissau	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Partnership Framework 2016-2020 ⁴	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		1	

XB requirements 2021

US\$235,000

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Establishment of a national human rights institution that is compliant with the Paris Principles.

16

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which an NHRI has been established and/or operates in conformity with international standards (Paris Principles).

The Human Rights Adviser provided advice to internal and external actors on the establishment of an NHRI and the Paris Principles. This was a key recommendation in all three cycles of the UPR and was identified as a peacebuilding priority in the context of the transition. More specifically, the HRA supported UNDP in organizing a workshop on NHRIs and the Paris Principles, in October,

by leading a session on good practices (NHRIs with “A” Status in Africa) and those to avoid. For national authorities, including the Comissão Nacional para os Direitos Humanos, the main objective in this process was to review the decree establishing the Comissão and ensure its alignment with international standards. The HRA successfully communicated to both internal and external partners that an NHRI could only be established through legislation that is adopted by the Parliament. The HRA also advocated for the participation of CSOs and clarified the difference between an NHRI and an NMRF. Nevertheless, many stakeholders continue to confuse the two.

Mechanisms

M1 – Timely submission of the State reports to human rights mechanisms, including the human rights treaty bodies. In addition, overdue reports were submitted to the Human Rights Committee, CESC, CEDAW, CAT and CERD and to CRC in relation to its Optional Protocols on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to the increased percentage of reports that were submitted, on time, to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR.

The HRA assisted the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to fulfill its reporting obligations under the international human rights treaties. In November, the HRA and UNICEF organized a training on reporting to CRC. Additionally, the HRA disseminated an online training on reporting to the human rights treaty bodies, which was organized by the Portuguese NMRF. One civil servant from Guinea-Bissau and one staff member from UNICEF participated in the training.

KENYA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
54.99 million	592,000 km ²	0.601 (rank: 143/189 in 2019)	"A" Status (2014)
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser		
Year established	2008		
Field office(s)	Nairobi		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	7		

XB requirements 2021 **US\$1,611,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A2 – The Kenyan authorities strengthen and enforce measures to prevent human rights violations, including sexual and gender-based violence, by police and other security agencies. Those responsible for violations are held accountable and prosecuted.



OHCHR contributed to the enhanced capacity of the National Police Service (NPS) in the investigation and prosecution of serious human rights violations.

Following the 2020 establishment of the Tripartite Task Force on the investigation and prosecution of human rights violations, with the Human Rights Adviser's technical and financial support, the

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on Serious Human Rights Violations Committed by Police Officers were launched, in 2021, by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP), the Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA) and the NPS, with the Cabinet Secretary of the Ministry of Interior presiding. The SOPs enable coordination and periodic case tracking by the ODPP to enhance case management and data collection of serious human rights violations. Engagement with the Tripartite Task Force continued, with a focus on implementation of the SOPs.

In 2021, to contribute to the operationalization of the Prevention of Torture Act, the HRA supported a legal and policy review to guide the development of a Reference Guide and sample charge

sheet, which is based on international and regional human rights standards and practices. The Reference Guide is now pending finalization and launch. The HRA also participated in the review of the National Guidelines on Use of Force and Firearms and the Guidelines on Public Order Management, which were developed by the National Police Service Commission. This inclusive review involved the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) and civil society actors.

Furthermore, at the request of the ODPP, the HRA supported a needs assessment of its capacity to prosecute sexual violence crimes as human rights violations. This will support the implementation of the SOPs on the Investigation and Prosecution of Serious Human Rights Violations Committed by Police Officers, which encompass sexual violence crimes.

Participation

P1 – Kenyan authorities institute measures to protect civic space, including the Public Benefits Organizations Act. The measures and policies on public participation comply with international human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to the full participation of civil society in national processes.

While the Policy on Public Participation, which was developed through an inclusive whole of society process, is still pending adoption since 2019, the HRA has continued to support participation and civic space more broadly. For instance, to enhance youth engagement on governance, particularly political participation and civic engagement, the HRA supported grassroots human rights defenders and

social justice centres to roll out one-day community dialogues in informal settlements and marginalized areas, including indigenous and pastoralist communities. A total of nine dialogues were held and engaged 300 young women and men. The dialogues were held in anticipation of the upcoming general elections in 2022 and provided a platform for youth to: learn about constitutional provisions on political rights; identify key priorities that can be promoted through issue-based advocacy; and recognize how to become change and prevention agents in their communities.

The HRA convened grassroots HRDs from the Rift Valley region, a hotspot for electoral contention and violence, for strategic reflection and capacity-building ahead of the general elections. Thirty HRDs (14 women, 16 men) were trained on defining and documenting hate speech and incitement, monitoring human rights violations and ensuring their safety and security. They were also introduced to a monitoring tool to be used by the Defenders Coalition during the election cycle, with the HRA's support, that will support early warning and prevention and inform UN engagement.

Furthermore, the HRA organized a strategic leadership retreat of 20 women HRDs (WHRDs) from across Kenya to jointly strategize and coordinate efforts to advance human rights protection and create a space for women's participation and leadership during the upcoming 2022 electoral period. The retreat brought together WHRDs from informal settlements, indigenous communities, peace networks and SGBV networks.

Further, the HRA and UNEP supported the Land and Environment Defenders Network to convene its fifth annual meeting, bringing together over 40

environmental HRDs from across Kenya to promote learning, sharing of good practices, tools and strategies to promote human rights relating to the environment.

Finally, the HRA supported the finalization and launch of the election strategy for the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights. The strategy details various interventions that will be undertaken during the electoral cycle, including monitoring human rights violations for early warning, prevention, accountability and advocacy.

Development

D1 – Two landmark litigation cases are successfully concluded and remedies are provided to victims.



OHCHR ensured that oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms conform to international human rights standards in Kenya.

Following the landmark judgment of the Land and Environment Court, in the Owino Uhuru case in 2020, ordering the payment of compensation for damages to the environment and health of the community, the National Environmental Management Authority filed an appeal against the Court's decision. The HRA continued to support the Centre for Justice, Governance and Environmental Action (CJGEA) in defending the appeal case and in negotiations with other respondents who did not file an appeal to obtain the execution of the Court's judgement.

The HRA also initiated a project on human rights, the environment and climate change that follows up on a previous court judgment relating to the Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia-Transport

Corridor (Lapsset) transnational infrastructure project. The project will result in a broad analysis of the potential legal, environmental and human rights impacts of the Lapsset Corridor in affected counties. The HRA partnered with the Katiba Institute, the NGO that initiated the case, to review the legal and policy framework as it relates to human rights and the environment in Kenya and its application to the Lapsset Corridor. In addition, two community-based organizations were engaged to deploy grassroots monitors in order to undertake field research, monitoring and documentation of the human rights and environmental impacts of the Lapsset Corridor on affected communities, including indigenous and minority communities, and to identify human rights issues linked to environmental governance that are likely to be affected. This will inform further engagement and advocacy with duty-bearers and stakeholders in 2022.

D2 – The courts and State non-judicial mechanisms hold businesses and other economic actors accountable, in accordance with international human rights standards and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.



OHCHR contributed to the enhanced compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards.

The National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights was approved by the Cabinet, in February. While its review and official adoption is pending before the Parliament, much progress has been

made. The Attorney General/Department of Justice appointed the implementing committee, which is composed of representatives from government ministries, departments, agencies and constitutional commissions, including the NHRI, civil society actors and actors from the private sector, to oversee the implementation of the policy from a sector-specific perspective. The HRA collaborated with the Government and the NHRI and carried out sensitization forums on the Policy and National Action Plan for government and businesses in preparation for its adoption and implementation.

D7 – The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (2018-2022) integrates human rights norms, standards and principles into its design and implementation.

OHCHR successfully integrated human rights into the UN common country programmes.

The HRA provided leadership as Chair of Outcome 1 of the UNDAF Strategic Results Area on Transformative Governance and coordinated reporting and the implementation of activities addressing improved governance, access to justice, respect for the rule of law, human rights and gender equality. OHCHR also contributed to the development of the UNDAF annual report and overall evaluation.

The HRA actively engaged in the development of the new CCA to integrate human rights analysis and priorities. The Adviser chaired Thematic Group 2 on Governance, which produced a report highlighting issues on governance and the rule of law and proposed interventions by UN agencies. The HRA drafted the section on human rights and civic space

for inclusion in the Governance and Institutional Analysis section of the CCA. Furthermore, it ensured that the CCA has a strong focus on inequalities and Leaving No One Behind, incorporating analysis from OHCHR's human rights-based analysis of Kenya's 2021/2022 budget and human rights reports detailing the impacts of COVID-19 on marginalized communities.

The HRA engaged with the UNCT regarding the development of the next UNSDCF 2022-2027 and provided technical support in relation to the two priority areas of People and Peace. The process involved all 24 UN agencies in the UNCT.

Peace and Security

PS4 – The reparation policy and framework are finalized, and reparations are provided to SGBV survivors.



OHCHR successfully advocated for the inclusion of issues related to GBV in transitional justice mechanisms.

The HRA collaborated with Partners in Justice International (PJI) to support the Tripartite Task Force composed of the ODPP, IPOA and the Internal Affairs Unit (IAU) of the National Police Service on investigating and prosecuting human rights violations committed by police officers. PJI conducted training and case mentoring sessions for investigators from IPOA, IAU and prosecutors and developed a road map on how to identify, investigate and prosecute emblematic cases of sexual violence crimes that were committed in the context of the 2017 electoral period. Other trainings focused on strengthening access to justice and accountability

for SGBV survivors and a SGBV needs assessment of the ODPP's SGBV Unit to enhance the capacity of prosecutors to address sexual violence crimes committed by police officers. A total of 108 prosecutors participated in the assessment and the report was finalized and submitted to the Director of Public Prosecutions, for adoption and implementation.

With regard to strengthening the prevention of and response to election-related sexual violence, the HRA initiated plans to engage WHRDs in Kisumu, Vihiga and Bungoma counties under Phase II of the "Let It Not Happen Again" joint project with UN Women. The HRA trained 15 HRDs (11 women, four men) to enable them to facilitate access to medical and justice services for SGBV survivors and to document service delivery by duty-bearers in order to inform advocacy for effective prevention and response to SGBV. As a result of the training, the 15 HRDs assisted 139 GBV survivors (135 women, four men) with reporting their cases to the police and accessing medical and psychosocial services. The HRA also facilitated access to psychosocial services for HRDs to protect them from burnout as they assist GBV survivors.

PS5 – UN early warning and advocacy initiatives regularly integrate human rights principles and analysis. The Government finalizes a reparations policy and framework, which covers survivors of SGBV.



Through engagement with the international community and the Government, OHCHR strengthened a shared commitment to prevention, sustained peace and human rights.

The HRA and the Peace and Development Adviser (PDA) continued to co-lead the UNCT Prevention and Integrated Analysis Platform, which serves as the primary early warning and prevention mechanism for the UN in Kenya. The Platform is a repository for data and information submitted by UNCT agencies to support prevention and risk analysis. The Executive Office of the Secretary-General and the Development Coordination Office referred to the quarterly Prevention and Integrated Analysis Reports, including the risk and vulnerability maps, as a good practice for UNCTs.

In addition, the HRA and the PDA led the UNCT's development of a Strategy and Plan of Action on countering hate speech and incitement to violence. The Kenya Resident Coordinator's Office hosted a mission of the Office of the Special Adviser for the Prevention of Genocide (OSAPG) to support the drafting of a UN Kenya Strategy and Plan of Action on countering hate speech and incitement. Other partners of the core drafting team included members of the UNCT's PDA team, UNESCO, UN Women and UNDP. Consultations were held with key national stakeholders, namely, the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC), the ODPP and the KNCHR. This Strategy will be vital in guiding UN

engagement on hate speech and incitement during the electoral period and beyond. Implementation of the Plan of Action will be prioritized during 2022 as part of the early warning and prevention work of the UNCT, in partnership with the Government and civil society actors.

The HRA continued to undertake media monitoring and shared weekly media monitoring reports with the RCO and OHCHR regional and headquarters teams. Media monitoring reports are structured around the priority areas of the rule of law and accountability, civic space and fundamental freedoms, economic, social and cultural rights, business and human rights, inequalities and non-discrimination.

Mechanisms

M2 – The Government, the NHRI, CSOs and the UNCT regularly submit reports to the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR provided CSOs with assistance in the development of substantive submissions to the international human rights mechanisms.

The HRA engaged with various stakeholders in relation to the international human rights mechanisms. For instance, OHCHR supported the preparation of the Government's State Party report to CESCR and provided CSOs, including indigenous CSOs, with assistance to engage in discussions on CESCR's draft General Comment on land and the governance of land tenure. In relation to the Human Rights Committee's review of Kenya's fourth periodic State Party report, the HRA supported the Government, the KNCHR and CSOs in their engagement with the Committee during the review and

coordinated a confidential UNCT submission. Further, to follow up on the third cycle of the Universal Periodic Review, the HRA collaborated with the Government, the KNCHR and civil society regarding the preparation of the Government's implementation matrix for the accepted recommendations and assisted with the development of a CSO monitoring plan for the third UPR cycle.

Finally, the HRA supported the engagement of the Government and CSOs with the special procedures and regional human rights mechanisms.

LESOTHO

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
2.16 million	30,000 km ²	0.527 (rank: 165/189 in 2020)	-
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2020	
Field office(s)		Maseru	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		1	
XB requirements 2021		US\$441,000	

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A2 – National human rights institutions and other national protection systems are established and increasingly operate according to international standards.

10 16

OHCHR supported the establishment or functioning of the NHRI in conformity with international standards (Paris Principles).

In July, an 18-month joint project of OHCHR, UNDP and UN Women was initiated that is being supported by the Peacebuilding Fund. In addition, a baseline survey on human rights and the security sector was undertaken, a training needs assessment for security forces was delivered and a training of trainers course for 30 Corrections Officers, including 17 women, was conducted with the aim to equip them with training modules and materials for use during trainings. With support from the HRA, the trainers have started rolling out human rights and corrections training in the districts.

Mechanisms

M1 – National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up legally established.

16 17

OHCHR supported the establishment of a national protection system according to international standards. In June, the HRA trained government officials on the importance of putting in place a mechanism, based on recommendations issued by the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) that were received by Lesotho in December 2020. In August 2021, the Government established an interministerial NMRF. Finally, an action plan is being drafted to facilitate the implementation of the UPR recommendations.

LIBERIA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
5.18 million	111,000 km ²	0.480 (rank: 175/189 in 2019)	"A" Status (2017)
Type of engagement		Country Office	
Year established		2018	
Field office(s)		Monrovia	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2020-2024	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		7	

XB income	US\$1,915,176		
XB requirements 2021	US\$5,712,000		
XB expenditure	US\$2,560,619		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
44%	46%	10%	
\$1,126,863	\$1,181,736	\$252,020	

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – The Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR) increases its capacity to fulfil its mandate in accordance with the Paris Principles.

16

OHCHR supported the implementation of the INCHR mandate through monitoring, reporting and issuing recommendations to redress human rights concerns.

With OHCHR's support, the INCHR strengthened the capacity of its staff to monitor, document and report on human rights, including through the hiring of

18 staff that increased the number of staff members and ensured that there are human rights monitors in all 15 counties in Liberia. In addition, a joint monitoring mission was undertaken with INCHR and CSOs to prisons and police detention facilities, which identified human rights concerns like prison congestion, poor feeding, prolonged detention of awaiting trial inmates, outbreak of diseases in some prisons, lack of medical care, among other issues. The relevant authorities were engaged on these and efforts were made to mitigate some of these concerns.

OHCHR organized a capacity-building and knowledge-sharing retreat for five

new members of the INCHR's Board of Commission on their mandate, the Paris Principles and the international human rights mechanisms.

A2 – The Ministry of Justice Human Rights Division and other relevant institutions cooperate with county attorneys, judges and public defenders to prosecute high-profile cases involving SGBV and harmful traditional practices.

10 16

Through technical support and capacity-building, OHCHR contributed to the establishment and/or functioning of oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards.

In March, OHCHR initiated a "Do it together" mentoring exercise for INCHR monitors. Nine field monitors in five counties were mentored on human rights monitoring and reporting, with a focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). The exercise took place during a two-day training for field monitors and partners on a methodological framework for investigations, documentation and reporting on allegations of human rights violations related to SRHRs, SGBV and harmful practices.

In October, OHCHR collaborated with CSOs and the INCHR to train 75 WHRDs on advocacy and drafting legislation and national action plans. Following the training, a network of WHRDs was established by defenders from five counties (Grand Cape Mount, Grand Gedeh, Lofa, Montserrado and Nimba).

In December, OHCHR provided technical support to 50 representatives of the INCHR and the LGBTI community for a three-day working session. The objective of the session was to raise awareness on protection mechanisms, discriminatory conditions affecting LGBTI persons and HRDs in Liberia and to strengthen collaboration between HRDs working on protection and advocacy related to the LGBTI community.

A2 – The INCHR promotes Liberia’s Truth and Reconciliation Palava Hut Hearings on memorialization and reparations.

10 16

OHCHR ensured that transitional justice mechanisms are in place and operating in conformity with international human rights standards.

In cooperation with justice actors, OHCHR provided technical support to the Civil Society Human Rights Advocacy Platform to commemorate the World Day for International Justice, in Monrovia, under the theme of “Promoting justice and accountability for past and future crimes,” which was attended by more than 50 participants representing CSOs, national institutions and the international community. It aimed to raise awareness about justice and accountability and emphasized the importance of holding perpetrators accountable for gross human rights and international humanitarian law violations that occurred during the war in order to achieve sustainable peace and development in a post-conflict society such as Liberia. OHCHR also provided transitional justice information, education and communication (IEC) materials to organizers for distribution.



Participation

P1 – Government ministries and the Parliament consult and cooperate with the INCHR and CSOs, including the Civil Society Human Rights Advocacy Platform, when drafting legislation that relates to human rights and undertaking action to create a safe and enabling environment for civil society.

16

Through technical support, OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR provided technical and advisory assistance through training and joint monitoring to strengthen the capacity of the Civil Society Human Rights Advocacy Platform to monitor and report on the human rights situation in the country. It also provided IEC materials to CSOs to strengthen public awareness about transitional justice and accountability for past crimes and other human rights violations during the pandemic.



Non-discrimination

ND1 – Protection mechanisms, including the INCHR and the Ministry of Justice’s Human Rights Division, monitor and report on efforts to strengthen access to justice, the rule of law and the justice system. They focus particular attention on impunity and discrimination against marginalized groups.

5 10 16



OHCHR provided support to protection mechanisms to improve the implementation of their respective mandates.

OHCHR supported the development and submission of a human rights and gender checklist to the national legislature for its endorsement and use when drafting legislation and undertaking reviews to ensure the mainstreaming of gender issues and concerns. Further, OHCHR supported CSOs and the Ministry of Justice in the drafting and validation of a proposed national policy on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), which is awaiting endorsement from the Cabinet. It also prepared a training manual for CSOs on alternative reporting to the international human rights mechanisms.

ND3 – The INCHR assists the Government and the Ministry of Justice’s Human Rights Division to draft and implement the National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP), fulfil its UPR and human rights treaty body obligations and strengthen legal and policy reforms to advance gender mainstreaming and prohibit discrimination, especially with regard to women and marginalized groups.

5 9 10



OHCHR supported the development of an HRBA in areas related to harmful practices, gender-based violence and the appropriate use of criminal law from a women’s rights perspective, in conformity with international human rights standards.

With OHCHR’s assistance, a designated Gender and Diversity Officer was recruited at INCHR, enabling the Commission to prioritize monitoring and reporting on violence against women and girls, specifically SRHR, SGBV and harmful practices, as well as human rights-related concerns of the LGBTI

community. Additionally, OHCHR supported the establishment of a Gender and Human Rights Desk at the Law Reform Commission and provided training, logistics and supplies to equip the Desk and ensure its operationalization. OHCHR developed a Human Rights and Gender Checklist for the legislature and built the capacity of the relevant legislative committee on its use to mainstream human rights and gender into their legislative processes and policy consideration.

OHCHR also developed training manuals and organized a training of trainers for 17 participants (eight women, nine men) on masculinities, gender and an HRBA as it relates to the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security.



Peace and Security

PS6 – The UN Country Team more often draws on human rights principles when it acts to prevent conflict and promote peace, national reconciliation and the rule of law.

16



OHCHR contributed to strengthening the UNCT’s support to national and regional security forces, law enforcement agencies and non-State actors in integrating international human rights norms, standards and principles into their prevention and response and complying with the HRDDP.

OHCHR continued to serve as Chair of the UNCT Human Rights Working Group and engaged with the UNCT on human rights issues to promote sustainable peace, national reconciliation, the rule of law and conflict prevention. OHCHR participated in the development of the Civil Society Human Rights Advocacy Platform and Strategy and conducted

training sessions on the integration of an HRBA into UNDAF programming to facilitate Liberia’s compliance with its international human rights obligations and the recommendations issued by the UPR. Furthermore, OHCHR shared information with the Resident Coordinator’s Office on an early warning mechanism and liaised with county coordinators and INCHR monitors to obtain information on conflict triggers that could be used by the preventive mechanism and in advocacy efforts aimed at containing conflicts before they erupt.

MADAGASCAR

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
28.43 million	587,000 km ²	0.528 (rank: 164/189 in 2020)	"A" Status (2019)
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser		
Year established	2011		
Field office(s)	Antananarivo		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2023		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	4		

XB requirements 2021 **US\$1,131,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:**Participation**

P2 – National mechanisms are established to protect civil society and human rights defenders. They are sustainable and supported by the UN.

Protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards are in place and functioning, with support from OHCHR.

The Human Rights Adviser continued to support the effective operationalization of the prisoner Case Flow Management Committee. The Adviser engaged in advocacy with the Minister of Justice regarding the potentially devastating impacts of COVID-19 on inmates already dealing with limited health-care services, chronic overcrowding, poor food options and unhygienic conditions. The HRA urged the Government to adopt concrete measures to reduce the number of people in

detention as a way to prevent the spread of COVID-19. As a result, the Government adopted a series of measures relating to the protection of detainees, including the temporary halt of all prison visits, regular temperature monitoring of detainees and prison staff, the disinfection of prisons, quarantining of all new inmates and testing of newly detained persons at the prison of Antanimora. Moreover, on 24 June, the President of the Republic issued a decree granting a presidential pardon benefiting 10,480 persons convicted of non-violent offences (80 per cent of convicted persons in Madagascar) on the occasion of the of the sixty-first anniversary of the independence of Madagascar, as a measure to address overcrowding of prisons and mitigate the risk of the spread of COVID-19 in detention centres.

**Accountability**

A1 – Law enforcement officials more fully comply with international human rights norms and standards when they fulfil their functions. An effective accountability mechanism has been established.

16



By implementing training programmes, OHCHR contributed to the improvement of selected State institutions in their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

The HRA provided technical support on the drafting and adoption of a decree to facilitate the implementation of a law against GBV. Following the Adviser's intensive advocacy and capacity-building activities for parliamentarians, a new parliamentary commission was established at the National Assembly to monitor the implementation of public policies. During the Parliamentary Days, which were organized by the HRA and the UNCT, parliamentarians were sensitized about their role in promoting and protecting ESCRs, including through advocacy for the adoption of an ESCR-sensitive budget. In response, the Government increased the budgetary allocation to health and education in the financial law that was adopted in December.

**Development**

D3 – National legislation and development policies more fully comply with international human rights norms and principles, notably with regard to land and housing.

16

17

OHCHR continued supporting the compliance of key policy areas with international human rights norms.

The HRA supported an academic analysis of the human rights gaps and challenges of existing laws, programmes, strategies and policies relevant to the mining sector, which will form the basis of advocacy in 2022. In addition, the HRA provided support to relevant State authorities and other stakeholders in addressing human rights issues that are emerging in the context of increased internal migration resulting from climate change.

**Mechanisms**

M1 – The government committee responsible for drafting State reports for the international human rights mechanisms is effective. It has established a monitoring mechanism.

16

17

OHCHR aimed at supporting the establishment and functioning of a National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up on the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

The HRA supported the Government in drafting an operationalization plan to facilitate the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms (the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the UPR), which will serve as a compass for future human rights initiatives in the country. A consultation workshop with national stakeholders (representatives of key government departments, the NHRI and CSOs) was conducted by the HRA to develop the operationalization plan, which was edited and disseminated on 10 December. The Adviser will support the implementation of this plan in 2022.

MALAWI

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
19.65 million	118,000 km ²	0.483 (rank: 174/189 in 2020)	"A" Status (2016)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2019	
Field office(s)		Lilongwe	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2019-2023	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		1	

XB requirements 2021 **US\$302,000**



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P6 – CSOs are increasingly able to participate in public processes and advocate for democratic space.



The Office continued its advocacy efforts to support legislation related to NGOs, in compliance with international standards.

Following technical advice and advocacy by the Human Rights Adviser and the special procedures, in collaboration with UN Malawi and development partners, the Government amended the NGO Amendment Bill so that it complies with international standards, including by guaranteeing the protection of the rights of freedom of association, assembly, expression and opinion.

In early 2021, the HRA submitted to the Government a detailed human rights

analysis of the NGO Act and the NGO Amendment Bill 2020. The analysis was prepared by the UN and seven development partners and included comments made on previous amendment bills by OHCHR and the special procedures, with an emphasis on the need for a vibrant civic space that respects and promotes core human rights. In March, the Government responded positively to the joint submission and indicated that it would reflect 80 cent of the comments in its review of the regulatory system. The remaining comments will be considered during a comprehensive review of the NGO Act by the Malawi Human Rights Commission (MHRC), as recommended in the joint UN submission.

At the end of the year, the NGO Amendment Bill was presented to the Parliament for debate, but it was not yet tabled. It is anticipated that the Bill will be tabled in a session in early 2022.

Accountability

A2 – National human rights institutions and other national protection systems are established that comply with international human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to the functioning of the MHRC, in increased compliance with the Paris Principles, by strengthening the capacity of its members and through targeted advocacy.

The HRA played a significant role in supporting national institutions to pursue accountability in an emblematic rape case involving Malawi police officers who were accused of raping 18 women and girls following a violent protest in October 2019. The HRA coordinated advocacy efforts of the UN, international development partners and national partners, including through engagement with the international human rights mechanisms. In response, the Malawi Police Service recognized that previous investigations did not meet national and international standards. As a result, a new investigation, led by the Independent Police Complaints Commissioner (IPCC), was announced. The HRA was asked to serve as the technical adviser to the investigation team, working closely with the Malawi Human Rights Commission and the lawyers for the survivors (Women Lawyers Association). In this role, the HRA delivered targeted trainings for the new investigation team on how to integrate human rights into investigations, maintain a survivor-centred approach and strategically collect evidence in sexual violence cases. OHCHR was instrumental in ensuring that criminal accountability was a common goal of the UN, its development partners and key NHRIs. The

HRA’s technical advice strengthened the capacity of the participating organizations to pursue accountability. In addition, the HRA coordinated with UN agencies and civil society to facilitate access to services and support for survivors, particularly following the significant backlash in the media and on social media platforms. These efforts also contributed to aligning the operations of key national institutions and protection systems with international standards. The HRA will continue to provide leadership, advocacy and technical support to the case with the goal of securing justice and accountability.

The HRA’s consistent and coordinated advocacy led to an increased demand for legal redress by victims of sexual violence and the enhanced capacities of NHRIs to help them achieve that objective. National institutions, such as the MHRC and the IPCC, improved their technical skills and confidence to deal with sexual violence cases. International institutions, including the UN and development partners, established a common advocacy position on human rights, which was consistently expressed through public statements and messaging. Finally, the media increased its coverage of issues related to sexual violence.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – The country adopts legal and policy measures that are aligned with international human rights standards and prevent discrimination against women, migrants, persons with albinism and persons with disabilities.



OHCHR’s technical advice, capacity-building and coordination contributed to the increased compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards.

Technical advice, capacity-building and coordination by the HRA to support the domestication of CRPD significantly contributed to a change in the capacities, programming and practices of UN agencies and the MHRC on disability issues.

As part of the ongoing roll-out of the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy, the HRA organized an accessibility assessment of all UN premises in Lilongwe. The assessment included a physical evaluation of office space by an expert engineer; an evaluation of digital equipment and a UN-wide staff survey to obtain feedback on disability challenges. The final report, which contains extensive recommendations, was presented to the UN Operations Management Team for implementation. This was an important step towards improving accessibility to UN premises and workplaces for staff and visitors with disabilities.

With technical and financial support from the HRA and the UN, respectively, the MHRC undertook a review of disability inclusion in Malawi’s COVID-19 response. The report notes that Malawi’s response has not been disability-inclusive and issued a series of recommendations

to national and international partners regarding the need for consultations, representation and data disaggregation.

ND7 – Public support increases for equal, inclusive and diverse societies, without discrimination.



Through training and advocacy, OHCHR contributed to processes that seek to prevent violent conflict through the promotion of equality, diversity and inclusiveness.

Since early 2020, the HRA has worked with the mediation process of the Public Affairs Committee (PAC) of Christian and Muslim leaders to address a long-standing dispute between Christian schools and Muslim communities in the South of Malawi that saw girls denied access to education if they wore a hijab. Following these efforts, the PAC concluded a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that permits all Muslim girls attending Christian schools to wear a hijab, in accordance with their personal choice. The MoU includes a specific commitment to respecting the right of students to education and freedom of religion, and the rights of the girl child. The PAC also made recommendations to the Ministry of Education to ensure that no Muslim girl experiences discrimination on the basis of her religion. The HRA used the international human rights framework to guide the dialogue and conflict resolution between the Christian and Muslim communities. The process received significant public attention, including through the media, and was closely followed by the President of Malawi.

Development

D7 – All United Nations Development Assistance Framework roll-out countries adopt a human rights-based approach to programming and link the Sustainable Development Goals to international human rights standards.

5 10 16 

The Office continued to encourage the UN leadership to undertake commitments to act and advocate on human rights issues, to align its policies with international human rights standards and to enhance the capacity of RCs/UNCTs on human rights.

During 2021, the HRA ensured that human rights issues were fully integrated into the new CCA, which was finalized during the year and will form the basis of the new UNSDCF that will be developed over the next two years. In addition to ensuring a thorough, evidence-based analysis of the human rights issues impacting on the UN's engagement, the HRA engaged with the UN Malawi Gender and Human Rights Technical Working Group to analyse human rights issues that need to be highlighted in the CCA review.

Under the leadership of the RC, the HRA, UNDP and UNODC collaborated on a joint scoping mission on anti-corruption in early 2021. This resulted in a National Anti-Corruption Dialogue, which was held in November, and hosted by the Anti-Corruption Commission and the Ministry of Justice. The Dialogue brought together all key entities working against corruption and led to the development of an action plan for the full implementation of the Malawi National Anti-Corruption Strategy. The HRA highlighted ways in which human rights could be further integrated into anti-corruption work and

several of these suggestions were incorporated into the action plan, such as the engagement of NHRIs and CSOs; the development of strategies to ensure that diverse groups have access to accountability mechanisms, including persons with disabilities; and the prioritization of resources to advance development and human rights.

Peace and Security

PS5 – In at least four countries, the UNCTs integrate human rights into their early warning, prevention, preparedness and response plans.

3 5 8 10 13 16 17 

OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of prevention and human rights-based approaches into specific UN programmes.

Throughout the year, the Malawi Prevention Platform (MPP) informed the Resident Coordinator's Office and the UNCT about trends in human rights issues and provided early warning reports and data-based guidance on preventing, mitigating and responding to emerging crises. Its research showed that though the number of protests remained constant, there was a reduction in violent incidents. The MPP identified that protests were no longer politically motivated but were instead driven by reactions to corruption and economic-based grievances, the mistreatment of irregular migrants and a consistent escalation in mob justice attacks throughout the country. Other trends identified included a possible link between the economic impacts of COVID-19 and an increase in attacks on persons with albinism.

Regular MPP reports provided a sound basis for the RC and the UNCT to make decisions in an unstable environment, to react urgently through programmatic or advocacy actions and to “deliver as one” with confidence. It facilitated evidence-based interventions by the HRA, which enhanced both the credibility and impact of the human rights technical advice being offered. The data documented in the MPP formed the basis of the human rights analysis that was mainstreamed into the CCA, drafted and finalized in 2021.

The increased incidence of public protests against acts of corruption by State officials and corresponding actions by the State to address corruption was reflected in MPP reports during the year. This expanded reporting informed and responded to the anti-corruption scoping mission that took place in February and March and the recommendations that were subsequently issued by UNDP, UNODC and the RCO.

MALI: UNITED NATIONS MULTIDIMENSIONAL INTEGRATED STABILIZATION MISSION IN MALI (MINUSMA)

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
20.86 million	1,240,000 km ²	0.434 (rank: 184/189 in 2019)	“B” Status (2012)
Type of engagement	Peace Mission		
Year established	2013		
Field office(s)	Bamako, Bamako-based office for the southern regions (Kayes, Koulikoro, Sikasso and Bamako District), Mopti, Gao, Kidal, Ménaka and Timbuktu		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2020-2024		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	74		

XB requirements 2021

US\$192,000

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Peace and Security

PS1 – Violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law are monitored, documented and reported. Particular attention is given to abuses by armed groups and violations by State actors, especially in the central and northern regions of Mali. Perpetrators and those responsible are identified.

5 16

Through reporting and advocacy, OHCHR aimed to contribute to the increased proportion of human rights violations cases that were positively addressed by authorities.

In 2021, the MINUSMA Human Rights and Protection Division (HRPD)

published two notes on trends of human rights violations and abuses that were committed in Mali. In the first note, covering the period from 1 January to 31 March, the HRPD documented 421 violations and abuses of international human rights law or violations of international humanitarian law, representing an increase of 11.37 per cent, compared to the previous quarter. These violations and abuses included: 106 cases of extra-judicial, summary or arbitrary executions and other killings (six women, 95 men, five children); 94 cases of violations/abuses of the right to physical integrity; 181 cases of enforced disappearance or abductions; 24 cases of arbitrary/illegal arrest and detention; and 16 cases of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV). In 58 cases, representing a 38.09 per cent

increase over the previous quarter, the violations were perpetrated by Malian Defence and Security Forces (MDSF). In the second note, covering the period from 1 April to 30 June, the HRPD documented the killing, injuring or abduction/disappearance of at least 527 civilians, an increase of 25 per cent compared to the previous quarter. Reflecting previous trends, the primary perpetrators were violent extremist groups and similar groups, which killed, injured or abducted 54 per cent of the victims registered across the country. A total of 20 per cent of these cases were attributed to community-based armed groups and militias, nine per cent to the MDSF and six per cent to regional and international forces. An emerging issue highlighted in the note is the lingering threat to the enjoyment of human rights and freedoms emanating from local “peace agreements” imposed on local communities by violent extremist groups, with women particularly at risk.

The HRPD brought documented cases of human rights violations and abuses to the attention of relevant authorities and actors, along with recommendations on actions to address them. More specifically, on 16 June, the Director of the HRPD held a working session with the Malian Minister of Justice and Human Rights and stressed the need for the Minister to support efforts in establishing a national mechanism to follow up on the recommendations outlined in the report of the International Commission of Inquiry for Mali. Other issues discussed included contemporary forms of slavery in the Kayes region, the lack of effectiveness of the formal judicial system in the northern regions and the consequential negative human rights impact. As a result of these discussions, on 11 November, the Minister issued a directive to prosecutors at the Courts of Appeal in Mali

to undertake “all necessary measures” to bring to justice any persons accused or suspected of involvement in acts linked to descent-based slavery, within the framework of existing laws, especially the Penal Code. The Minister also noted that the protection of victims of slavery should be given utmost consideration during the judicial processing of each slavery-related case. He warned that descent-based slavery, a practice denounced in all of national and international human rights organizations, “constitutes a phenomenon that undermines the efforts of the State of Mali in the promotion and protection of human rights.”

Finally, the HRPD continued to meet, on a bimonthly basis, with the legal adviser of the Chief of Army Staff in Bamako in order to share information and shine a light on alleged violations of human rights. In this regard, the HRPD shared a list of 11 cases of alleged forced disappearance that occurred between January 2020 and April 2021, mainly in the region of Ségou, and were attributed to the MSDF.

PS4 – The Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission (TJRC) fulfils its mandate and issues its final report. Malian authorities implement their key recommendations and prioritize victims’ rights, in accordance with Mali’s international obligations.

16

With technical support from OHCHR, transitional justice mechanisms in Mali increasingly operate in line with international human rights norms and standards.

The HRPD provided support through an international consultant who was deployed to assist the TJRC in the drafting of its final report. The HRPD also provided

support to the TJRC Working Group on reparation and for the preparation of the third and fourth public audiences, held on 3 April and 18 September, respectively. During both hearings, 14 victims, including two women and victims’ collectives, provided public testimonies on the mass atrocities that their family members were subjected to, such as summary executions and enforced disappearances. The key issues emanating from the public hearings included the importance of the fight against impunity; national reconciliation and social cohesion; full compensation for damages; the effective presence of the State throughout the territory to ensure the safety of all; ending stereotypes and the need to know the fate of missing persons.

Furthermore, the HRPD provided financial support for the broadcast of the event on national television. The Malian population, including victims, actively participated in the work of the TRJC, including as members of the public audiences.

PS5 – UN-led prevention and protection strategies more fully integrate human rights information and standards.

3 5 8 10 13 16 17

OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles into the work of the Peace Mission through technical support and advocacy.

The HRPD continued to work with the Protection Cluster through active participation in various activities in order to better integrate human rights standards into their programmes and activities. More specifically, the HRPD participated in 10 monthly meetings; four Peer

Exchange sessions on advocacy and human rights in the context of Protection Clusters; one training on human and migrant trafficking in Mali; and one open day of the Protection Cluster that enabled face-to-face meetings and discussions with partners. Further, the HRPD drafted early warning reports to draw the attention of the Mission and the UNCT to situations that could impact on human rights and the protection of civilians. Through its reports, the HRPD activated the Mission’s early warning mechanism, thereby contributing to the prevention of imminent attacks against civilians.

Additionally, the HRPD worked to strengthen its collaboration with the Protection Cluster through regular bilateral meetings with the Protection Cluster Coordination Committee to identify actions that could improve collaboration between the two entities. The HRPD presented its mandate and methodology for remote monitoring and investigation of human rights issues during a Protection Cluster monthly meeting with the aim of improving information sharing between the Cluster and the HRPD, particularly in relation to southern areas of Mali that are not monitored by the Cluster. After the HRPD shared information with the Cluster regarding the arrival of a large number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) from the regions of Sikasso and Kayes to Bamako, in May, the Cluster conducted a visit to the IDP site to assess the exact number of people and their needs.

Moreover, the HRPD advocated before the Project Review Committee of the United Nations Trust Fund for Peace and Security in Mali, which is coordinated by MINUSMA, to encourage the mainstreaming of human rights into projects that are funded through the Trust Fund.

The HRPD proposed the inclusion of a human rights scorecard, similar to a gender scorecard, in the Trust Fund application form. The proposal was approved, and the Secretariat of the Project Review Committee will consider this amendment and assess the extent to which human rights perspectives are taken into account in projects supported by the Trust Fund.

PS6 – National and regional security forces, law enforcement agencies and non-State actors seeking support from the United Nations, implement mitigation measures in accordance with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRRDP), most notably in programmes that are assessed to be high or medium risk.

16

Through support that was provided on the implementation of the HRDDP, OHCHR sought to establish procedures that would contribute to protection from human rights violations.

The HRPD continued performing its activities and tasks in accordance with the HRDDP and the MINUSMA standard operating procedure, including conducting risk assessments, providing and evaluating the implementation of mitigatory measures and enhancing awareness about the Policy. In 2021, the HRPD conducted 73 risk assessments related to support for non-UN security forces, including the G5 Sahel Joint Force. A total of 10 support requests were assessed as posing a high risk to the UN and the remaining support requests were assessed as posing a medium or low risk. Corrective and mitigatory measures were recommended for all support requests. These included the initiation of investigations for past human rights

violations, information-sharing on military operations and the provision of trainings on international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international refugee law. Regarding the follow-up on the implementation of mitigatory measures, the HRDDP successfully concluded five projects that were fully implemented by the initiating section and/or the benefiting unit. Furthermore, the HRPD successfully conducted four regional conferences aiming at sensitizing MINUSMA regional field offices, as well as the UN system, partners from the MDSF and signatory armed groups on the requirements of the Policy and the need for compliance to ensure continued support by MINUSMA within the framework of the implementation of its mandate. In addition, the HRPD provided several internal trainings on the Policy for MINUSMA staff and external trainings for members of the MDSF and the G5 Sahel Joint Force.

Accountability

A2 – Criminal courts increasingly process human rights-related cases promptly and in compliance with international due process standards. Serious violations that occurred after 2012 are prosecuted, regardless of whether they involved members of armed groups or the MDSE.

10 16

OHCHR monitored the trials of human rights violation cases to ensure their compliance with international human rights standards.

In 2021, the HRPD monitored three sessions of the Court of Assizes in Bamako and Mopti. During the special sessions of the Court, which were conducted with financial support from OHCHR, trials

were held for 47 cases involving 64 defendants (five women, 59 men). The cases included serious human rights violations, terrorism, human trafficking, drug trafficking and money laundering. Of the 64 defendants, 39 were convicted, including two who were sentenced to death, 29 who were sentenced to life in prison and eight who received prison sentences from five to 10 years.

During the special session, the HRPD highlighted its concerns regarding respect for procedural rights, particularly the right to effective assistance of counsel, the right to a fair trial and the prolonged length of pretrial detention. The issue of pretrial detention for terrorism suspects is of concern as some periods of detention are not taken into account when calculating the maximum length of detention. For instance, in one case, the lawyer noted that his client had been in detention since June 2015 and not August 2017, as it had been written in the indictment. Following a ruling that was handed down by the Indictment Chamber of the Bamako Court of Appeal, on 2 March 2021, on the illegality of detentions by the General Directorate of State Security (DGSE), the HRPD identified other cases of illegal detention by the DGSE, in cooperation with the lawyers representing the detained individuals. The case concerned six other individuals (three civilians, two soldiers and one police officer) who were arrested between September and October by the DGSE (now l’Agence nationale de la Sécurité d’État). The six individuals were indicted and remanded in custody by the prosecutor of the Commune VI of Bamako, on 3 November, on charges related to an attempt to overthrow established institutions and criminal association. On 30 November, the defendants’ legal counsel filed a motion to dismiss the charges. The Court has not yet decided

on the motion and the defendants are in detention at the Maison centrale d'arrêt de Bamako (three civilians) and at the gendarmerie of Commune I of Bamako (two soldiers and one police officer).

Mechanisms

M1 – Increased engagement of the Government with the international human rights mechanisms, in particular with regard to fulfilling its treaty bodies reporting obligations.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up on the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the Universal Periodic Review are in place and/or functioning.

The HRPD engaged with various State and non-State actors, including the NHRI and CSOs, to increase their knowledge about Mali human rights obligations and reporting to the international human rights mechanisms. In this regard, from 14 to 17 June, the HRPD held a session of exchange and reflection on human rights, the rule of law and the fight against impunity in Mali through a functional and efficient judicial system. Twenty judges from the Malian Supreme Court and 20 lawyers from the Malian Bar Association actively participated in the session. The discussions focused on the practices of international human rights bodies, sub-regional and regional human rights protection systems and the justiciability of human rights abuses perpetrated by non-State actors, as well as State omissions

concerning human rights protection. Discussions also identified the challenges faced in invoking international law before Malian judges and potential solutions to those challenges.

In addition, the HRPD took advantage of the commemoration of the seventy-third anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to engage with national authorities, CSOs and other relevant stakeholders on the principle of equality and key issues regarding respect for fundamental human rights in Mali. More than 300 participants, including officials from the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), members of the diplomatic community, HRDs, journalists and members of CSOs took part in the commemorative ceremonies, both in Bamako and in the regions.

Furthermore, the HRPD strengthened the capacities of the NHRC in fulfilling its mandate. More specifically, as the NHRC initiated the accreditation process with the GANHRI Sub-Committee on Accreditation, the HRPD provided technical advice and relevant documentation on its rules and procedures. The HRPD also supported an exchange visit of two NHRC members to the NHRC of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, from 2 to 8 October. As a result, the NHRC of Mali submitted a formal application for "A" Status. The application was reviewed by the Sub-Committee on 18 March. Moreover, with the support of the HRPD, a database on human rights cases was developed between June and November. Fifteen individuals (two women, 13 men) received training on the use of the database from 29 October to 1 November. The database will contribute to improving the Commission's reports on

human rights, including the drafting and submission of alternative reports to the human rights treaty bodies. A total of 25 NHRC members (seven women, 18 men) received additional training on alternative reports from 2 to 4 November.

Finally, the HRPD launched a pilot project to support the work of 55 HRDs (39 men, 16 women) in the district of Bamako and the regions of Mopti, Segou and Sikasso. Emphasis was placed on human rights monitoring, the investigation of serious alleged human rights violations and abuses and the preparation and publication of periodic reports, including alternative reports that were submitted to the international human rights mechanisms. The HRDs now constitute a pool of well-trained and experienced individuals who are qualified to identify, verify and report allegations of human rights abuses and violations.

MAURITANIA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
4.78 million	1,031,000 km ²	0.546 (rank: 157/189 in 2019)	"A" Status (2020)
Type of engagement		Country Office	
Year established		2010	
Field office(s)		Nouakchott	
UN partnership framework		Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development 2018-2022	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		15	
Total income		US\$1,473,188	
XB requirements 2021		US\$2,189,000	
XB expenditure		US\$1,554,956	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
62%	27%	11%	
\$959,892	\$416,169	\$178,895	

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Prison conditions increasingly comply with international standards due to monitoring and the coordination of assistance efforts.

16 

Through monitoring, technical support and advocacy activities, OHCHR contributed to the improved compliance with international human rights standards of detention facilities.

In 2021, OHCHR engaged with the Commissariat on Human Rights, Humanitarian Action and Relations

with Civil Society (CDHAHRSC) and the Ministry of Justice and advocated for the review of the visit protocol and a reduction in the number of detainees to combat the spread of COVID-19 in prisons. As a result, approximately 300 detainees were either released or provisionally released. In addition, the Office continued to advocate with the Ministry of Justice and the CDHAHRSC regarding specific cases, including those related to freedom of religion and the rights of LGBTI persons.

OHCHR also worked with the National Commission on Human Rights (CNDH) and the National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture (MNP) to reinforce

their respective mandates and provide them with technical assistance, including trainings on human rights, torture and methodology on monitoring and investigating cases of human rights violations. OHCHR, the MNP and the CNDH will undertake joint visits to place of detention in 2022.

Participation

P1 – When the Government develops and implements human rights-related national action plans and legislation, it adopts processes that enable meaningful participation by civil society.

16 

Rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, increasingly participated in selected public processes, due in part to OHCHR's advocacy.

OHCHR continued to support the Ministry of Social Affairs, Children and the Family to address issues pertaining to the rights of women and girls, in particular on gender-based violence. As a result, the observatory on the rights of women and girls, which was established following the adoption of a decree in July 2020, includes designated members from civil society and the Government. Despite COVID-19 restrictions, the Protection Team was able to expand its work to ensure access to services, including water and health care.

Non-discrimination

ND6 – Human rights institutions establish a mechanism to monitor the detention of migrants.



By providing recommendations and guidance, OHCHR supported the establishment and functioning of protection mechanisms that comply with international human rights standards.

Following the arrival of migrants in the northern parts of the country, OHCHR consistently incorporated the issue of migrants into training and engagement with relevant partners, such as the MNP and the CNDH, including in relation to the oversight of detention conditions and the transfer process. This work will continue in 2022 with the creation of a sub-office in Nouadhibou, which will enable engagement with local authorities and civil society in a key migration area.

MOZAMBIQUE

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
32.16 million	799,000 km ²	0.456 (rank: 181/189 in 2020)	-
Type of engagement	Project (Other type of field presence)		
Year established	2019		
Field office(s)	Maputo		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2017-2021		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	2		

XB income	US\$352,100		
XB requirements 2021	US\$1,012,000		
XB expenditure	US\$434,928		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
64%	25%	11%	
\$277,442	\$107,638	\$49,848	

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Mechanisms

M1 – Three countries strengthen or legally establish a National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up.

16 17

OHCHR advocated for the establishment of an NMRF on the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR continued to support the Government in its engagement with the international human rights mechanisms and advocated for the institutionalization of the NMRF. For most of the year, an OHCHR staff member was deployed,

on a part-time basis, to the Ministry of Justice and assisted the Ministry in its engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, including responding to a number of requests for information from special procedures, regarding arbitrary detention and freedom of opinion and expression. In addition, assistance was provided to the Government when it presented its UPR report to the Working Group, in May, and during a subsequent presentation when the Human Rights Council adopted its report, in September. Furthermore, OHCHR organized a three-day training for members of the interministerial group on human rights and international humanitarian law,

which was chaired by the Ministry of Justice. Participants included representatives from the Ministries of Justice, Foreign Affairs, Interior, Defence, Education, Health, Labour, Women and Social Affairs, the Office of the Prosecutor and members of the Office of the Ombudsperson, the Human Rights Commission, civil society and the UN.

The Government presented its report to the UPR Working Group, on 4 May, at a public event in Maputo. Attendees included representatives of the Government and the Parliament, the judiciary, the international community and civil society. OHCHR and UNDP supported authorities and local actors throughout the UPR process. The recommendations focused on issues such as accountability and protection in conflict, civic space and human rights, the rights of persons with disabilities and older persons. Based on these recommendations, OHCHR undertook advocacy and built the capacity of various national CSOs in relation to these issues.

M2 – More NGOs and the national human rights institution engage with the international human rights mechanisms.

17

With OHCHR guidance, CSOs and other actors increased their engagement with the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR continued to support the UN, the international humanitarian community, the NHRI and civil society in their engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, including in relation to the UPR process. In 2021, OHCHR supported trainings on the human rights system, in particular on the Human Rights Committee, and assisted NGOs,

the NHRI and the UN/international humanitarian community in making alternative submissions to the Committee prior to its preparation of the list of issues in relation to Mozambique. OHCHR continued to provide guidance and trainings on CRPD and human rights to organizations for persons with disabilities (OPDs).

OHCHR organized a six-week online training series for CSOs on human rights and international humanitarian law. OHCHR delivered the training over one week, during six sessions of two hours each. A total of 70 trainees participated in the session, including 47 women and 23 men, coming from Maputo, Inhambane, Sofala, Nampula and Cabo Delgado. The themes addressed international, regional and national mechanisms for the protection of human rights, international humanitarian law, internally displaced persons and the protection of special groups in the context of military conflict. In addition, OHCHR conducted a six-part training series for the Bar Association, organized in partnership with Diakonia, on international, regional and national human rights protection mechanisms.

Accountability

A2 – NHRIs and other national protection systems are established that comply with international human rights standards.

10 16

Through the provision of technical advice, OHCHR contributed to the establishment and functioning of the NHRI, which conforms to international human rights standards.

OHCHR helped to enhance the NHRI's capacity to review its foundational law and

launch its strategic plan for 2021-2025. More specifically, the Office provided assistance with promotional activities; delivered in-depth trainings on monitoring techniques, including in situations of conflict; offered technical assistance on engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, including by supporting the preparation and submission of an alternative report from the NHRI to the Human Rights Council; and provided resourcing and technical guidance for monitoring missions, particularly in relation to detention facilities and the armed conflict in Northern Mozambique.

OHCHR delivered training on ICCPR to 18 staff members, including 10 women and eight men, from the UN and the Human Rights Commission. The training outlined how to submit information to the Human Rights Committee, in anticipation of its preparation of the list of issues.

OHCHR supported the NHRI (Comissão Nacional de Direitos Humanos) in monitoring emblematic human rights cases, including following investigations in the Ndlavela case and monitoring missions of the conditions of detainees in Gaza and at the prison in Nampula Province.

In terms of accountability on business and human rights, OHCHR continued to engage with stakeholders and the private sector on key business and human rights issues, including in relation to the operations of extractive companies in Northern Mozambique and how these related to the voluntary principles of business and human rights. In June, OHCHR participated in a discussion, hosted by Total, with military and civil society on voluntary principles regarding security and human rights.

NIGER

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
25.13 million	1,267,000 km ²	0.394 (rank: 189/189 in 2019)	"A" Status (2017)
Type of engagement	Country Office*		
Year established	2019 (Country Office)		
Field office(s)	N'Djamena		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2017–2021		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	14		
Total income	US\$644,668		
XB requirements 2021	US\$686,000		
XB expenditure	US\$709,285		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
40%	48%	12%	
\$285,322	\$342,358	\$81,605	

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

* A Human Rights Adviser was established in 2008 and integrated into the Country Office in early 2021

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A2 – The action plan of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is updated and fully implemented.



OHCHR contributed to the functioning of the NHRC, in increased conformity with international human rights standards, including by providing technical support to the NHRC.

Following the designation of the NHRC as Niger's NPM through the adoption of Law No. 2020-02, OHCHR supported

the organization of two training workshops that informed key actors in the country's eight regions about the mission and mandate of the NPM. The aim was to strengthen national mechanisms providing redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations and in particular cases of torture. The first two-day workshop was held in Dosso, from 10 to 11 June, and the second was held in Zinder, from 24 to 25 June. The workshops were attended by representatives of the judiciary, defence and security forces and CSOs from Tillaberi, Niamey, Dosso, Tahoua, Agadez, Diffa, Maradi and Zinder.

In the context of the 2020-2021 elections, OHCHR carried out training activities to strengthen the capacity of the NHRC on monitoring and reporting on the human rights situation during elections. The NHRC played an important role in monitoring the situation of those detained following the post-election violence that took place in Niamey and in several regions of the country after the provisional results of the second round of presidential elections were announced.

Non-discrimination

ND6 – The Government and other relevant actors adopt a human rights-based approach to combat migrant smuggling and human rights violations associated with irregular migration. Particular attention is given to protecting women's rights and the rights of the child.



OHCHR contributed to the protection of groups in vulnerable situations from human rights violations by supporting the establishment of appropriate protection systems and procedures.

As part of the PROMIS project (on migration in the Sahel), a joint initiative between OHCHR and UNODC to ensure that the response to the smuggling of migrants is founded on an HRBA, OHCHR conducted a field mission in Agadez to support the collection of information. This information will be used in the context of two studies that are being undertaken by OHCHR on access to justice for migrants and the impacts of COVID-19 on the economic and social rights of migrants. This information will help identify and analyse human rights violations and protection

gaps for migrants in the Agadez region and will provide suggestions on how to improve migrants' access to justice and their enjoyment of economic and social rights.

In June, OHCHR organized a two-day workshop for 25 members, including seven women of the interministerial committee in charge of drafting Niger's initial and periodic reports to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR. A particular area of focus was the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families. The workshop aimed to familiarize participants with the provisions of the Convention and the previous recommendations issued by the Committee on Migrant Workers and to strengthen their report writing skills.

Peace and Security

PS6 – United Nations support to national security forces, law enforcement agencies and non-State actors integrates human rights and complies with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP).



OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, into the work of peace missions.

On 1 July, OHCHR launched the activities of a project entitled "International human rights law compliance of law enforcement operations in Chad, Mauritania and Niger: Strengthening the capacities of internal security forces" (ISF/police, gendarmerie, the national guard and customs officials). The project seeks to increase the

protection of the population, in particular women, children and youth, against the risk of serious human rights violations, including gender-based violence during law enforcement operations that are carried out by ISF.

Under the project, OHCHR organized a series of capacity-building workshops during the year. In April, three workshops were organized on respect for human rights in law enforcement operations. Of the 105 participants, 38 were members of the NHRC, including 11 women, 31 were members of CSOs, including 12 women, and 36 were representatives of magistrates, the gendarmerie, the national guard and the police, including four women. In June, OHCHR organized an awareness-raising campaign on respect for human rights and international humanitarian law in four communes of the Tillaberi region that are affected by insecurity. The campaign aimed to strengthen respect for human rights and international humanitarian law in the fight against terrorism by sensitizing defence and security forces, in particular the ISF, as well as community leaders.

Participation

P6 – Niger fully implements the human rights education programme and integrates human rights into the national education curriculum.



Through technical and capacity-building support, OHCHR contributed to increasing the use of national protection systems, in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

As part of the implementation of the human rights education programme, OHCHR partnered with the Ministry

of National Education to organize a two-day training workshop for teachers on inclusive education. The workshop, which was held in Niamey, in September, was attended by 28 teachers from various districts, including 21 women. The objective was to strengthen the capacities of teachers regarding the educational and pedagogical management of pupils with disabilities, the legislative and regulatory provisions in the field of education and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

NIGERIA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
211.40 million	924,000 km ²	0.539 (rank: 161/189 in 2019)	"A" Status (2016)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2014	
Field office(s)		Abuja	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework 2018-2022	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		1	

XB requirements 2021 **US\$349,000**

Key OMP pillars 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:
Accountability

A2 – Nigeria domesticates at least one human rights treaty and accepts at least two additional individual complaints and inquiry procedures by 2021.

10 16

Through technical support, OHCHR sought to influence the passage of legislation that complies with international human rights standards.

The Human Rights Adviser supported the National Assembly and state legislatures to align domestic legislation with international human rights standards. Emphasis was placed on the provisions of CEDAW and the prohibition of harmful practices, such as forced and early marriage and female genital mutilation, and gender discrimination, including SGBV in conflict and post-conflict situations. In addition,

the HRA undertook a human rights analysis of legislation on rape in a northern province and found that it failed to comply with international human rights standards. This guided advocacy efforts to discourage other states from adopting similar legislation in response to increased cases of rape and SGBV during the pandemic.

Mechanisms

M1 – Increase in the number of reports submitted, on time, to the human rights treaties bodies or the Universal Periodic Review.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to the timely submission of reports to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR.

The HRA supported the Government and other partners in strengthening the National Working Group on Treaty Reporting. More specifically, the HRA provided technical assistance to national authorities to develop an integrated approach to treaty body reporting and the implementation of their recommendations, with a priority focus on preparing a time-bound action plan for submitting outstanding reports. In addition, the HRA took steps to strengthen collaboration between the Government and the international human rights mechanisms, in particular for implementing the recommendations issued by the special procedures and the UPR.

Peace and Security

PS2 – Oversight and accountability mechanisms, including the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), the National Committee against Torture and the internal oversight mechanisms of the security agencies (the Human Rights Desk and court martials), are in place and functioning.

16

Through technical and financial support, OHCHR contributed to the functioning of the NHRC, in increased compliance with international human rights standards.

The HRA facilitated collaboration between the National Defence College and the NHRC to design and deliver training modules. This resulted in the development of a forum for the pre-deployment human rights training of security personnel.

The HRA also supported and managed the deployment of human rights officers, alongside personnel from the NHRC, to monitor and report on human rights

violations and support accountability efforts in Middle Belt Nigeria.

PS2 – Terrorism suspects are immediately brought before the courts upon arrest and delays in their trials are significantly reduced.

16

OHCHR contributed to the increased level of compliance legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards.

The HRA supported the drafting and adoption of a Code of Conduct and Rules of Engagement for security operations. It also provided assistance for the establishment of the Human Rights Desk by the Nigerian Army. Additionally, the HRA supported the operations and monitoring of these framework/mechanisms, including through the deployment of international and national human rights monitors.

Development

D7 – Human rights standards and principles guide the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework (UNSDPF).

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which UN common country programmes (i.e., the UNDAF) have satisfactorily integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

The HRA provided regular human rights situation analyses to the Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator, the UNCT, and supported programming of agency interventions that are founded

on an HRBA. The Adviser provided human rights capacity to various initiatives, including the ongoing review of the CCA, the preparation and implementation of the UNSDCF (2018-2022), the implementation of the UNDAF III (2014-2017) and the adoption of policies, such as the National Policy on Justice, which provides the context for reform of the administrative justice system in Nigeria.

RWANDA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
13.28 million	26,000 km ²	0.543 (rank: 160/189 in 2019)	"A" Status (2018)
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser		
Year established	2007		
Field office(s)	Kigali		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2018-2022		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	3		

XB requirements 2021 **US\$752,000**



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Mechanisms

M2 – NGOs and UN agencies increased their engagement with the human rights treaty bodies and the Universal Periodic Review.



Through capacity-building and technical support, OHCHR supported CSOs and UN entities in preparing submissions to the international human rights mechanisms.

The Human Rights Adviser and UNDP conducted capacity-building workshops for government representatives, including CSOs and members of the National Treaty Body Reporting Taskforce, and provided guidance documents on the UPR mechanism and good practices in order to support the UPR process. These efforts

contributed to the Government’s preparation and validation of its national report for the third UPR cycle. In addition, 21 alternative reports were submitted by CSOs, which is double the number of reports that were submitted during the second UPR cycle.

During the virtual validation meeting of the report, partners contributed to the improvement of Rwanda’s UPR State report. In April, a retreat was held to discuss the preparation of a road map for the implementation of the 160 UPR recommendations received. The UN Rwanda Human Rights Taskforce, chaired by the HRA, was entrusted with elaborating the road map to support the UNCT.

In line with UPR recommendations, the RC advocated for joint reporting on the UPR and the Voluntary National Review

(VNR) of progress made in the implementation of the SDGs. UNDP and the HRA will support the integration of human rights into the VNR report.

Development

D2 – By 2021, legislation regulates the compliance of business with human rights. OHCHR and the National Human Rights Commission help to train corporations in human rights, with the objective of ensuring that all economic actors and businesses adhere to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

Through advocacy and technical support, OHCHR improves compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards.

The HRA organized a capacity-building workshop on monitoring human rights in the mining and business sectors for 35 members of the National Human Rights Commission. The workshop included a mapping of stakeholders and national laws on business and human rights. Additionally, the HRA supported the Commission in the development of its Action Plan on Business and Human Rights.

D7 – Components of the United Nations Development Assistance Plan (UNDAP) comply with and take account of human rights principles and adopt a human rights-based approach. Human rights principles guide the State when it implements the Sustainable Development Goals and other development initiatives.

Through advocacy and technical support, OHCHR contributed to the integration of rights-based approaches into the programmes of UN entities.

The HRA organized four training workshops on an HRBA for 45 members of the UNCT and supported the integration of human rights into the CCA. Moreover, the HRA supported the inclusion of human rights monitoring in the implementation of the UNDAP II results and in the context of monitoring the impacts of COVID-19 on the human rights situation.

G5 SAHEL JOINT FORCE COMPLIANCE FRAMEWORK PROJECT

Type of engagement	Project (Other type of field presence)
Year established	2018
Field office(s)	Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger
Staff as of 31 December 2021	57

Total income 2021 **US\$4,864,144**
XB requirements 2021 **US\$15,246,000**
XB expenditure **US\$11,824,482**

Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
71%	22%	7%
\$8,380,726	\$2,597,649	\$846,107



⁴ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Peace and Security

PS2 – The G5 Sahel Joint Force has established monitoring, accountability and response mechanisms and procedures.



With substantive support from OHCHR and other partners, significant progress was made by the G5 Sahel Joint Force in establishing monitoring, accountability and response mechanisms and procedures that comply with international human rights norms and standards.

Under OHCHR’s project of support to the G5 Sahel Joint Force for the Implementation of its Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Compliance Framework (G5 Sahel project), the Office continued to work with the

Centre for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC) for the establishment and operationalization of the Casualty and Incidents Tracking and Analysis Cell (CITAC/MISAD in French). Since July, CIVIC has been in charge of monitoring the implementation of this important mechanism. OHCHR continued to work closely with CIVIC to ensure the overall coherence and interlinkages of the pillars of the Compliance Framework, including the pillar covering the CITAC. Following the formal launch of the CITAC/MISAD, in January, CIVIC carried out activities to implement the CITAC. OHCHR supported the Joint Force to develop the CITAC/MISAD manual, which is pending validation by the Force Commander, and participated in trainings for members of the CITAC/MISAD cell.

While the Joint Force has not yet established formal After-Action Reviews (AARs), with a focus on the protection of civilian aspects, the G5 Sahel Project Team has engaged the Joint Force in a review of operations. OHCHR advocated for formal AARs that prioritize the protection of civilian aspects and the operationalization of international human rights law/international humanitarian law principles and obligations, as contained in the Force's internal regulations. An AAR workshop was held in October, with the outgoing Poste de Commandement Interarmées de Théâtre (PCIAT). This resulted in a series of recommendations to strengthen the implementation of the Project, in particular to continue creating and enhancing local expertise within national armies on training issues, with a view to developing the concept of peer training. It was also recommended that the organization of AARs should be revisited to allow incoming and outgoing PCIAT officers to meet during rotation; that the revision of the CITAC/MISAD manual should be finalized; and that formal deconfliction should be initiated, pursuant to the discussions that were held with the former Force Commander, in May.

The progress of OHCHR's work with the G5 Sahel Joint Force was illustrated by the rapid response of the Joint Force to serious allegations of sexual violence by personnel of the eighth battalion of the Joint Force in Téra, Niger, in March and April. OHCHR's close engagement with Joint Force counterparts at the regional and country level enabled the Joint Force to promptly respond to allegations of violations involving soldiers operating under its mandate, in line with the measures and mechanisms of the Compliance Framework, and publicly communicated its actions in order to build the trust of local populations. Its decisions

to immediately establish a Commission of Inquiry, suspend personnel suspected of involvement in the incidents, rapidly deploy a delegation to Téra and publicly declare zero tolerance for sexual violence set a good example for security forces operating in the Sahel region and beyond. This response also demonstrated its commitment to applying the standards of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, which are integrated into its doctrine, procedures and internal mechanisms. Furthermore, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chad issued a press statement noting that immediate action had been taken to investigate and hold Chadian soldiers accountable. The Project Team continued to engage with relevant authorities in both countries, as well as with the victims, witnesses and other stakeholders regarding accountability. Rape survivors received medical and psychological care in Téra and Niamey. Several victims reportedly filed a complaint with the Nigerien National Gendarmerie against suspected Chadian soldiers. Local authorities in Niger informed the Project Team that all cases had been brought to the attention of Chadian and Nigerien Provosts. Nigerien judicial authorities transferred the cases to Chadian authorities in accordance with applicable judicial cooperation agreements between the two countries. It remains unclear whether the suspects are being investigated and if any of them have been dismissed from the army and handed over to the Chadian justice system. It also remains unclear whether financial reparations have been offered, paid to or accepted by the victims and their families.

PS2 – The G5 Sahel Joint Force has adopted an operational framework to integrate the mechanisms and measures of the Compliance Framework into their operations.

16

OHCHR contributed to the number of selected State institutions/programmes demonstrating significant improvement in their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR continued to support the Joint Force and the G5 Sahel countries with the operationalization of the Joint Force's Compliance Framework. Following each rotation, the Project Team established a good working relationship with the Joint Force leadership, including the Force Commander, the Legal and Police Advisers and the Commanders of the three sectors dividing the Force's operational zone. At the battalion level, the staff of the Project worked with the newly appointed Compliance Framework focal points, resulting in a strengthened collaboration at this level. These close contacts were instrumental in enabling the Team to support the Joint Force with strategic advice on the operationalization of the Compliance Framework.

This support was provided in close coordination with other technical partners and based on the Project's annual workplan, which was validated and endorsed during a Project Coordination Committee meeting that was held in March. The meeting brought together representatives of the G5 Sahel Executive Secretariat and Joint Force, the Barkhane Operation, the European Union Regional Advisory and Coordination Cell (EU-RACC), the European Union Training Mission Mali (EUTM), the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) and

UNODC, as well as the United States Embassy, the Royal Embassy of Denmark and G5 Sahel country NHRIs.

The Project Team worked closely with the G5 Sahel Executive Secretariat, based in Nouakchott, for the development of a Regional Strategy for the Protection of Civilians common to the G5 Sahel countries. With OHCHR's support, the Executive Secretariat and the G5 Sahel Joint Force organized a series of consultative workshops, which provided a discussion platform for relevant stakeholders to reflect on the causes and consequences of situations and issues pertaining to the protection of civilians in the five countries and to formulate possible solutions and priority actions that would feed into the Regional Strategy.

PS2 – UN Human Rights provides ongoing political and strategic support for the implementation and maintenance of the Compliance Framework.

16

Through advocacy and outreach, OHCHR helped to ensure that critical human rights issues were raised and taken up in international forums in a timely manner.

OHCHR continued to engage and advocate with partners to maintain political support for the Compliance Framework. Two reports of the Secretary-General on the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel were issued, with strong and positive references to the Joint Force's Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Compliance Framework. The report issued on 10 May (S/2021/442) underlines the positive reaction of the Joint Force in the context of the allegations of sexual violence committed by Chadian soldiers in

Téra, which, according to the Secretary-General, "attests to the progress made by the Force towards the implementation of the human rights and international humanitarian law compliance framework," and explicitly recognized the role of OHCHR in supporting the Force (18-22). The report issued on 11 November (S/2021/940) highlighted progress made on the operationalization of the Force's Compliance Framework.

As a result of OHCHR's advocacy, eight out of 12 Member States, including Chad (G5S Presidency), Estonia, France, Ireland, Mexico, Niger (representing the A+3), Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States referred to the Compliance Framework and OHCHR's work with the Joint Force in their interventions during the Security Council debate on the G5 Sahel, on 18 May. G5S Force Commander Namata and Under Secretary-General Lacroix also referred to OHCHR's support for the implementation of the Compliance Framework as part of the international community's support to the Force.

Furthermore, the importance of the Joint Force's Compliance Framework is acknowledged in Security Council resolution 2584 (2021), adopted on 29 June, which renews the mandate of MINUSMA for another 12 months. The resolution introduces, for the first time, a reference to OHCHR's support for the G5 Sahel Compliance Framework in paragraph 42, recalling "that adherence to the Compliance Framework referred to in resolution 2391 (2017) is essential in ensuring the required trust among the populations, and thus the effectiveness and legitimacy of the FC-G5S, and underlines the need for the continued support of UN OHCHR to the compliance framework's full operationalization."

Finally, the importance of the Compliance Framework and OHCHR's work was recognized during the UN's assessment of MINUSMA's support to the Joint Force, as requested by Security Council resolution 2584, of 29 June. The assessment encourages a more robust examination of alternative support to the Joint Force, with detailed and operational options. The final report includes a number of OHCHR's recommendations on how to enhance the human rights capacity of the G5 Sahel Joint Force and actors, in compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law. Some of these recommendations were in response to specific requests of G5 Sahel partners, including the need to reinforce the human rights capacity of the Executive Secretariat, which stressed its interest in a stronger collaboration with OHCHR in the implementation of the Compliance Framework, and the need expressed by the Joint Force for dedicated support for Civil-Military Cooperation (CIMIC) activities.

PS2 – The G5 Sahel Joint Force has integrated pre-deployment, preventative and mitigation mechanisms and measures.

16

OHCHR contributed to the number of key selected human rights areas for which human rights training has been institutionalized.

OHCHR continued to advocate, directly and through the G5S Executive Secretariat, with the Ministries of Defence and of Interior of G5 countries in order to encourage them to provide full lists of personnel to be deployed for service to the Joint Force. The selection and screening processes, however, are beyond the ambit

of the Force Commander General's power and national commands declined to provide such lists of personnel, reportedly due to security reasons. This hampered OHCHR's efforts to enable human rights screening and ensure strict UN compliance with the HRDDP obligations regarding support to non-UN security forces. Nevertheless, OHCHR managed to obtain the list of the Joint Force personnel that were nominated to attend training programmes. The Project Team developed a strategy paper and a detailed workplan for activities to be conducted on screening and selection, including a workshop envisaged for 2022.

To prevent human rights violations through the use of screening mechanisms, OHCHR mapped the existence of domestic human rights screening mechanisms in Chad, Mauritania and Niger, and continued to advocate for the establishment or reinforcement of such mechanisms, as appropriate.

OHCHR also mapped the presence of women serving in the Joint Force and continued to advocate for the increase of female personnel in the Joint Force and training activities. More specifically, it advocated for an increase in the number of female officers. In Mauritania, the Project Team undertook an analysis to identify the reasons for and implications of the weak participation of women in the Joint Force. It also examined their role within the Joint Force and revealed that there are no women in operations. In Niger, the situation is similar, with no women involved in operations. With a view to strengthening the involvement of women in the defence and security structures of the G5 Sahel, the Mauritania Team supported and participated in a gender training workshop for Heads of Service of the G5

Sahel Joint Force and the Defence and Security Forces at the College de Defence, in March, to enhance advocacy.

The Project Team continued to provide technical support for the drafting and revision of the Force's doctrine, namely, the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on capture, detention, transfer and release of persons apprehended by the Joint Force, in order to strengthen its human rights compliance. Furthermore, the Team supported the development of the CIMIC manual regarding the organization and structure of the CIMIC cell, which will serve as a guide for the Joint Force in its civil-military actions and collaboration with local and international organizations involved in this field. The draft manual was submitted to the Force Commander for review and validation. The Project Team contributed to the revision of the SOP, following the recommendations issued at the workshop on the judicialization of the field of operations, which was held in Niamey, in 2020. The document is being amended and will be submitted to the Force Commander for signature, pending discussions with the new Police and Legal Advisers. The Project Team participated in a regional workshop that was organized by the Executive Secretariat, in Bamako, to enhance the Police Directive. It will be submitted to the CDS for final approval.

The Project Team engaged in training initiatives throughout the reporting period, namely, pre-deployment trainings for the PCIAT on the Fifth Mandate and awareness-raising for the personnel of Sector East in N'Djamena, Chad and Sector Central in Niamey. In addition to the training of officers at the battalion level in Chad, the Team organized a training of rank-and-file soldiers for the second Chadian battalion, in February.

At the start of the Project, it was originally envisaged that a Mobile Training Team composed of staff of the Project, UNITAR, the College de Defence and CIVIC would be responsible for training a pool of trainers in each country. In 2019, the Mobile Training Team trained a total of 120 trainers in four countries, namely, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger. Yet, it appeared that the concept was misunderstood, and the candidates proposed for the training of trainers (ToT) by the FC-G5S and the Army Chief of Staff in most of the countries were not specifically responsible for training matters within their respective armies. In fact, the military hierarchy in most of the countries nominated officers that were deployed after the training as officers in charge of operations. With the outbreak of COVID-19 in 2020, the Mobile Training Team was unable to travel and ToT sessions could not be organized. In 2021, the Project Team organized two ToTs in Mauritania, in March, and Chad, in November, with a focus on national training academies/institutions and a view to ensuring that trainings could continue after the end of the Project. For this second round of ToTs, UN agencies operating in-country, such as UNICEF, IOM, UNHCR and the ICRC, were given a greater role in participating in the trainings by delivering specific sessions in line with their mandates. For example, on 2 June, 40 rank-and-files soldiers from the G5S military were trained by two trainees who had participated in the ToT at no cost for the Project. On 26 October, two of the trainees of the Mauritania ToT trained five officers and 10 non-commissioned officers at no cost for the Project, with the exception of local transportation for the two national trainers. In November, a ToT was delivered in Chad.

Project Teams have been supporting the Joint Force to ensure that international human rights law and international humanitarian law principles are taken into account in operational planning and are strictly applied, along with the Joint Force Rules of Engagement, to protect civilians during its operations.

PS6 – United Nations support to the G5 Sahel Joint Force complies with the HRDDP.

16

Through technical advice and training, OHCHR contributed to the increased compliance with the HRDDP by relevant actors.

MINUSMA completed 27 HRDDP risk assessments in response to the Joint Force's requests for United Nations support. A total of 13 measures were subsequently identified to mitigate the identified risks and enhance the human rights compliance and accountability of the Joint Force. These measures included updated information from the Joint Force on progress in internal investigations and judicial proceedings in relation to cases of grave human rights violations, the development of an SOP on casualties incurred during operations, the adoption of a soldier's manual on appropriate conduct and the timely sharing of information concerning major operations, as well as measures adopted in accordance with the SOP on the capture, detention, transfer and release of detainees.

SOMALIA: UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION IN SOMALIA (UNSOM)

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
16.36 million	638,000 km ²	-	-
Type of engagement	Peace Mission		
Year established	2008		
Field office(s)	Mogadishu, Jubaland, Puntland, Hirshabelle, Somaliland and South West State		
UN partnership framework	UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	26		

XB requirements 2021 **US\$543,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A2 – A functioning and independent National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is established. It reports annually on the human rights situation. At least two functioning rule of law institutions with oversight and accountability powers are established.

10 16

Through technical support and capacity-building, the UNSOM Human Rights and Protection Group (HRPG) contributed to strengthening oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms in conformity with international human rights standards.

The HRPG continued to strengthen national mechanisms that provide redress

to victims and ensure accountability for human rights violations. In 2021, the UNSOM HRPG provided technical support and advice to the Federal Ministry of Defence Child Protection Unit (CPU) and the Somali Police Force on the implementation of the 2019 road map to end the recruitment, use, killing and maiming of children, including through the implementation of the 2013 Joint Communiqué and National Action Plan to prevent and end sexual violence. In response, the Ministry of Defence CPU collaborated with the Somali National Armed Forces (SNAF) and conducted a screening of 3,153 SNAF soldiers in Jubaland and Puntland. One child was identified during the screening process and was turned over to UNICEF for reintegration.

On 25 May, the Minister of Defence adopted a human rights policy for the SNAF, which reaffirms the promotion and protection of human rights and urges their compliance to prevent all forms of CRSV. The document reflects HRDDP measures, which were highlighted as critical to strengthening oversight and accountability in a risk assessment that was sent to the Ministry of Defence and the SNAF in 2016 and 2021, respectively. The HRPG provided technical assistance for the development of the policy, including a review and recommendations to ensure its conformity with international human rights standard.

From 15 to 19 May, in South West State, the HRPG and the Iniskoy for Peace and Development Organization delivered a training designed to enhance the capacities of Members of Parliament and the judiciary to promote and protect human rights. A total of 18 officials (seven women, 11 men) from the State Assembly and the judiciary completed the training.

From 19 to 20 September, in Hargeisa, Somaliland, the HRPG held a training on human rights monitoring and reporting for 54 NHRC members (17 women, 37 men). The training included a session on the Paris Principles and used the Uganda Human Rights Commission's Tribunal as a case study. The NHRC Chair requested more such trainings, particularly for newly recruited human rights monitors.

To promote freedom of expression, the HRPG worked with the Somaliland Journalists Association and held a two-day training in Hargeisa, Somaliland, in November, for 30 security officials (11 women, 19 men). The training focused on freedom of expression and independence of the media and included sessions on the right to information under international human rights law, the Somaliland Constitution and the Somaliland Press Law.



Participation

P5 – Four thematic civil society networks are established or strengthened. Five civil society networks are able to effectively monitor, report on and advocate for human rights.

The HRPG contributed to the use of national protection systems, in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

In line with UNSOM's mandate emanating from UN Security Council resolution 2540 (28 August 2020) to support federal elections, the HRPG provided technical support to its partners, advocated for the participation of women and marginalized groups and raised awareness about human rights violations in the context of the electoral process that need to be closely monitored.

In January, the HRPG attended a consultative meeting to support minority candidates in parliamentary elections. Following sustained advocacy by the HRPG and its partners to promote the right of minorities to political participation, the Daami Youth Development Organization (DYDO) convened a consultation at which over 300 members of the rival Muse Deriyo and Madhiben sub-clans of the Gabooye minority agreed to support the five minority candidates who were vying for seats in the joint parliamentary and local council elections, in May.

In Mogadishu, the HRPG provided technical support to the Federal Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development to convene a roundtable discussion with national security institutions. Discussions focused on the security of women candidates and women voters during the upcoming electoral process. Participants agreed that security is essential to ensuring

women's participation in the process and that a 30 per cent quota of parliamentary seats should be reserved for women in the next federal election.

From 26 to 30 June, the HRPG held a training, in Mogadishu, for CSOs on monitoring and reporting on human rights concerns during the electoral process. Forty participants (18 women, 22 men) attended the training, which aimed to enhance their understanding of human rights violations in the context of the electoral process and to encourage advocacy with relevant authorities on human rights concerns, including the establishment of a 30 per cent quota for women's political representation.

From 4 to 5 July, the HRPG conducted a training on child protection, in Mogadishu, for 30 members (11 women, 19 men) of the Women and Child Cluster (WCC) of the Somali Civil Society Alliance from Banadir, Jubaland State, Hirshabelle State, Galmudug State and South West State. Participants were also provided with a child protection toolkit to guide them in monitoring and reporting on grave violations committed against children.



Non-discrimination

ND3 – The capacity of formal justice institutions to address cases of sexual violence is enhanced and the percentage of cases of sexual violence addressed within the formal justice system increases.

5 9 10

Through technical support, the HRPG contributed to the improved compliance of selected institutions/programmes with international human rights norms and standards.

The HRPG continued providing technical support to Somali counterparts to

establish measures for equal opportunities and protection, secure redress for violations and build capacities of formal justice institutions to address sexual violence cases.

On 10 January, the HPRG convened a meeting, in Somaliland, with the Somaliland National Human Rights Commission (SLNHRC), as part of joint advocacy efforts against the Rape, Fornication and Other Related Offences Bill, which contravenes international and regional human rights standards. The Commission engaged with relevant Somaliland ministries to jointly advocate for a common position on recommendations that were proposed by different stakeholders. Subsequently, a member of the Special Taskforce, headed by the SLNHRC, reported that assurances had been secured from the Somaliland Minister of Religion and Endowment and the Somaliland Upper House of Parliament (Guurti) to oppose the Bill and replace it with the Sexual Offences Bill of 2018.

On 21 March, in Jubaland State, the HRPG convened a meeting with the Jubaland Minister of Women, Family Affairs and Human Rights to discuss the ongoing development of the Jubaland Sexual Offences Bill. The Minister noted that OHCHR's inputs were incorporated into the Bill and that recommendations made by religious and traditional leaders are under consideration.

From 13 to 15 June, the HRPG and the WCC organized a workshop, in Mogadishu, on reviewing key policies and laws in Somalia. A total of 40 participants (21 women, 19 men) from civil society groups and representatives from the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development and other government offices participated in the workshop

and reviewed the draft Sexual Intercourse Related Crimes Bill, the 2018 Sexual Offences Bill, the Anti-Female Genital Mutilation Bill, the Disability Policy, the National Policy on Refugee-Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons (NPRRI) and the National Youth Policy. Participants identified gaps in existing laws/policies and inconsistencies with international human rights standards, developed recommendations for authorities and emphasized that discussions should continue with the new Parliament and the Government.

From 12 to 13 and 26 to 27 October, in South West State and in Jubaland State, the HRPG coordinated with the South West State Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development and the Jubaland Ministry of Women, Family Affairs and Human Rights to conduct two workshops to identify and address triggers that lead to devastating human rights violations against internally displaced children, particularly sexual violence and the recruitment of children in armed groups. At the end of the workshops, Community-Based Child Protection Networks were established in both regions, composed of participants from the workshops. The Networks will work closely with their respective ministries and the HRPG to identify, monitor and report on child rights violations.



Peace and Security

PS1 – National and regional security forces' policies, regulations and mechanisms for the protection of civilians and the mitigation of civilian casualties are formulated, revised and strengthened in line with international human rights law and international humanitarian law standards.

5 16

The HRPG contributed to the establishment/functioning of oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms that are in conformity with international human rights standards.

The HRPG conducted several trainings targeting national and regional security forces. In South West State, the HRPG trained 18 members of the Somali Security Forces (four women, 14 men; nine from the South West State Police Force; nine from the SNAF), in South West State. The training included sessions on international human rights law and international humanitarian law, the HRDDP, protection of civilians, CRSV, protection of children in armed conflict and the roles and responsibilities of the Somali Security Forces to protect human rights during elections and uphold human rights standards during arrests and detention procedures.

In Hirshabelle State, the HRPG collaborated with the Somali Police Force to deliver a two-day training for 30 participants (16 women, 14 men) from the Hirshabelle Police Force. The training focused on ending CRSV and grave violations committed against children and included a session to raise their awareness about the HRDDP and relevant mitigating measures. At the conclusion of the training, it was agreed that the Police Force

should re-establish the Women and Child Protection Unit to focus on the prevention of violations against women and children.

In Hirshabelle State and Jubaland State, the HRPG held a number of sessions to strengthen the knowledge and understanding of 40 participants (11 women, 29 men) regarding key line ministries in their respective States and civil society members working on child rights, including the Jubaland Child Rights Parliamentary Committee. The objective of the sessions was to strengthen their knowledge about combating CRSV. As a result, Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC) Sub-Working Groups were created to facilitate the implementation of the 2019 road map and 2012 action plans on ending and preventing child recruitment and the use and killing and maiming of children in their respective regions.

Furthermore, on 27 October, in Kismayo, Jubaland State, the HRPG cooperated with the Jubaland Ministry of Women, Family Affairs and Human Rights and held a two-day workshop on the establishment of Community-Based Child Protection Networks. Participants included members from CSOs and community leaders from IDP camps in Kismayo. On the final day of the workshop, an inclusive protection network was established to enhance the monitoring and reporting on grave violations affecting children in Jubaland.

PS6 – Six risk assessments are conducted and at least 40 per cent of mitigation measures are implemented.

16

The HRPG contributed to the integration of international human rights norms, standards, principles and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into the work of the Peace Mission.

The HRPG coordinated the development of risk assessments regarding the extension of support for 2,000 SNAF soldiers and 1,000 Somali Police Force elements by the UN Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS). The mitigation measures were communicated to the Federal Government of Somalia, in March.

In addition, the HRPG supported UN entities in assessing the HRDDP implications of political unrest and Somali security movements in Mogadishu that began in April. This work informed advocacy that was undertaken by the UN with Somali authorities.

Further, the HRPG co-convened a series of online meetings (4 August, 27 September, 23 November) of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM)-UN HRDDP Technical Working Group, composed of representatives of AMISOM, UNSOS and the HRPG. The participants discussed allegations of violations attributed to AMISOM and related accountability initiatives, synergies on training for Somali Security Forces, pre-deployment training and the review of SOPs on air assets.

Finally, the UN HRDDP Task Force met in December to adopt the National Intelligence and Security Agency Risk Assessment and discussed ways to strengthen the monitoring of mitigation measures, including through tracking tools.

 **Mechanisms**

M1 – Increased engagement of the Government of Somalia with the international human rights mechanisms, including by interacting with the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia, and fulfilling its reporting obligations to the human rights treaty bodies.

16 17

OHCHR supported the increased engagement of the Government and civil society with the international human rights mechanisms.

In May, Somalia participated in its third cycle of the UPR. The Human Rights Council examined the country's human rights records and progress made since the second cycle review in 2016. The HRPG assisted the Federal Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development with drafting its State report and conducted consultations through the Joint Programme on Human Rights, which was jointly implemented by the Government, the HRPG, UNDP and UNICEF.

The Government's State report to the UPR provided updates on the implementation of the UPR recommendations that Somalia accepted, and the progress achieved since it submitted its State report in 2015. Achievements include: the ratification of CRPD; the establishment of the National Disability Agency; the development and endorsement of human rights priorities that were incorporated into the ninth National Development Plan; Somalia's re-commitment to implementing the National Action Plan on Ending Sexual Violence in Conflict and the Action Plan on Children and Armed Conflict and its road map. These achievements demonstrate Somalia's ongoing

commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights in the country. The report also recognized the challenges faced in the implementation of the UPR recommendations issued in 2016.

In October, the HRPG held a meeting with the UPR Task Force, in Jubaland, to brief its members on the 273 UPR recommendations that were issued during the third UPR cycle. The Government committed to implementing 246 of the recommendations. The UPR Task Force agreed to coordinate with CSOs to disseminate the recommendations and undertake activities that contribute to the effective implementation of the UPR, including monitoring and reporting.

In addition, the HRPG expanded its work to support CSOs/networks in the creation of a UPR Task Force, in August, which is composed of 24 CSO partners. The main objective of the Task Force is to monitor, document and advocate for human rights and influence laws and policies. It is also working to strengthen its relationship and engagement with national institutions, in accordance with UPR recommendations that were issued during the third cycle.

Finally, the HRPG provided training to CSOs to familiarize them with the third UPR recommendations and to build their capacities to monitor and report on their implementation. In Dhusamareb, Galmudug State, the HRPG delivered a two-day training for 21 civil society representatives (seven women, 14 men). In Mogadishu, the HRPG conducted a one-day training for 13 representatives from CSOs. During the training, it was agreed that cooperation should be promoted among CSOs working in the area of human rights.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office		
Countries of engagement	Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe		
Year established	1998		
Field office(s)	Pretoria		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	12		
Total income	US\$1,064,278		
XB requirements 2021	US\$2,328,000		
XB expenditure	US\$1,120,471		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
62%	27%	11%	
\$696,420	\$304,874	\$119,177	
RB expenditure	US\$169,226		
Personnel			
100%			
\$169,226			

Key OMP pillars in 2021 

⁴ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

 **Non-discrimination**

ND1 – At least three countries adopt legal and policy measures, in alignment with international human rights standards, that prevent discrimination against women, migrants, persons with albinism and persons with disabilities.

5 10 16 

UN Human Rights continued to work towards advancing the protection of women from GBV and population groups that experience discrimination, such as

persons with disabilities and migrants in the region.

OHCHR strengthened its collaboration with the South African Judicial Education Institute (SAJEI), which recently celebrated its tenth anniversary. The Office continued to provide technical assistance on the promotion and protection of human rights as part of its work to enhance equality and counter discrimination in the region and to address GBV. OHCHR continued to support the SAJEI in building the capacity of the judiciary to

tackle gender stereotyping and encourage judicial activism to address GBV and sexual and reproductive health and rights. In August, OHCHR and UNFPA supported the SAJEI in a series of workshops on Family Court Skills related to GBV and femicide for magistrates in **South Africa**.

As part of its technical support to address GBV in the Southern Africa region, OHCHR continued to strengthen its partnership with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Parliamentary Forum on the development of the SADC Model Law on GBV. The Model Law is a critical tool for triggering policy reform and the development or revision of substantive laws in the SADC Member States and the SADC Parliamentary Forum-affiliated parliaments. It will also serve as a tool to inform, guide, improve and strengthen the implementation of national legislation and policies on GBV. As a member of the technical working group, OHCHR supported the consultation process on the Model Law with various stakeholders, including women's rights organizations, law enforcement, GBV survivors, faith-based organizations, NHRIs, judicial actors, lawyers, youth organizations and UN agencies. The Model Law was adopted at the fiftieth Plenary Session of the SADC Parliamentary Forum, on 11 December.

In addition, the Office supported South Africa's implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP). This is being facilitated through the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) Migration Project, a joint programme which is led by IOM, in partnership with OHCHR, UN Women, UNDP and UNHCR, the South African Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, the Department of Social Development and the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture. The objective

of the NAP is to achieve social cohesion in light of the widespread instances of xenophobia, hate speech and racism in the country over the past few years. In the context of the Project, OHCHR collaborated with civil society to address hate speech and its root causes and develop a capacity-building training that changes the narrative, promotes the human rights of migrants and shares the message of unity. To this end, OHCHR partnered with Lawyers for Human Rights and the Centre for Analytic Behaviour and Change in South Africa, both of which have significant experience in human rights training and monitoring online hate speech and discrimination.

In 2021, OHCHR established a partnership with the South African Disability Alliance (SADA). SADA is a voluntary consultative forum of national disability organizations that aims to advance the rights and freedoms and quality of life of persons with disabilities in South Africa. OHCHR and SADA collaborated to host a virtual training, from 19 to 21 October, for OPDs on monitoring the implementation of CRPD. The training was provided within the context of the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) in South Africa.

In November, the Office participated in a dialogue on migration and disability, organized by IOM and the South African Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, entitled "Addressing challenges faced by migrants with disabilities." OHCHR's intervention focused on disability rights, with reference to CRPD, migration, multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination faced by migrants with disabilities and the principle of Leaving No One Behind.

On 30 July, OHCHR co-hosted a webinar in partnership with the South African

Department of International Relations and Cooperation and the University of Johannesburg to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the World Conference against Racism and the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action under the theme "Durban+20: Reflections on youth and racism twenty years later." The webinar included a panel discussion on the contemporary challenges facing young people, both nationally and globally, and highlighted how young people can be agents of change in the fight against racism. Key speakers at the webinar included the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, the Regional Representative of OHCHR, members of the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development and the South African Human Rights Commission and civil society representatives.

Peace and Security

PS5 – In at least four countries, UNCTs integrate human rights into their early warning, prevention, preparedness and response plans.

3 5 8 10 13 16 17 

OHCHR supported the incorporation of a human rights-based approach into programmes of UN entities.

The Emergency Response Team (ERT) undertook one mission to **Zambia**, in May, and met with CSOs, the NHRI and UN agencies to get a better understanding of the potential human rights risks during the forthcoming electoral period and to finalize the process of setting up a Prevention Platform ahead of the elections. To this end, the ERT provided technical

support to the UNCT in Zambia, made presentations, prepared terms of reference (TORs), including for the establishment of an Inter-Agency Technical Team and a Core Team for data analysis and reporting, developed indicators, a glossary of terms and a monitoring framework and trained members of the Technical Team. The ERT worked closely with the UNDP Crisis Bureau, in New York, on the use of their tools for capturing, storing, analysing and visualizing data. Four situational reports were produced and shared with the RC in Zambia through the Prevention Platform. An additional 16 media monitoring reports were shared with the RC.

The ERT provided technical support to UNCTs in **Botswana**, **Eswatini** and **Zambia** in the development of their respective CCAs and UNSDCF. The ERT contributed to an LNOB analysis of the Zambia CCA, provided inputs on civil and political rights-related risks and concerns and developed a multidimensional risk analysis framework/matrix. Further, the ERT produced three human rights analytical updates on human rights concerns and key issues to watch, including during the electoral period, as well as on socio-economic risks due to COVID-19, which were widely disseminated by the RC to relevant stakeholders. The ERT produced two country risk assessment and timelines of events for Angola and Eswatini and nine media monitoring reports of the situation in Eswatini were produced for OHCHR's internal use. The ERT also contributed to UNOCC's enhanced monitoring before and after the elections in Zambia.

With regard to work with the humanitarian community, the ERT participated in the risk analysis of **Zambia** and made contributions on specific human rights issues in relation to **Madagascar** and

Zimbabwe. The ERT further strengthened its work with the OCHA Regional Office for Southern and Eastern Africa and met to discuss countries of concern (i.e., Eswatini and Zambia), exchange human rights and humanitarian information and identify avenues for collaboration on needs assessments, contingency planning and protection issues. The ERT continued to participate in the UN Protection Working Group in South Africa and provided it with regular human rights analysis and advisory support. Moreover, the ERT provided technical support for the establishment of the Social Protection Group, which is part of the UNSDCF in South Africa. The ERT virtually participated in the first Humanitarian-Development Nexus Thematic Group Meeting in Zambia to ensure the integration of human rights dimensions into the Group's TORs.

Mechanisms

M1 – Three countries strengthen or legally establish National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up.

16 17

OHCHR strengthened reporting to the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR strengthened the capacity of **Botswana** to implement recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. OHCHR and UNDP collaborated to provide technical support to the Government through the development of a plan to implement recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and the use of the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD).

The Office prepared and launched a report on the status of NMRFs in the subregion,

which highlights good practices, challenges that may be faced and recommendations for effective functioning. As such, it will serve as a useful resource and advocacy tool to inform discussions around the operation of NMRFs in Southern Africa.

Human Rights Council resolution 42/30 requested that OHCHR organize five regional consultations, with all relevant stakeholders, to exchange experiences and good practices relating to the establishment and development of NMRFs and their impact on the effective implementation of international human rights obligations and commitments. OHCHR organized a two-day Africa regional consultation on NMRFs, from 2 to 3 December, which was attended by representatives from States, NHRIs, CSOs and the UN. A final report will be presented to the Human Rights Council to inform OHCHR's future engagement and technical support to States on the establishment and strengthening of NMRFs.

OHCHR and the Human Rights Adviser in **Lesotho** provided technical support to the Government regarding the establishment of an NMRF. From 5 to 6 May, OHCHR collaborated with UNDP Lesotho and the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights, Correctional Services, Law and Constitutional Affairs to facilitate a two-day workshop on this issue. After the workshop, the Office offered assistance and guidance on drafting the TORs for the NMRF, which were submitted to the Cabinet for approval. In August, the Cabinet approved the creation of an Interministerial Committee that will serve as the NMRF and coordinate State Party reporting and the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR provided technical guidance and advisory services to the **South**

African Human Rights Commission in relation to selecting the members of the Advisory Committee of the Independent Monitoring Mechanism (IMM) under CRPD. In collaboration with the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC), OHCHR will deliver a training to new members in 2022. It has also been working with SAHRC on the establishment of a National Preventive Mechanism (NPM). On 30 June, OHCHR delivered opening remarks at a conference that was organized by the SAHRC to mark the second anniversary of the ratification of OP-CAT and the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. Conference participants took stock of South Africa's implementation of OP-CAT and brought together NPMs from Morocco, Rwanda and the United Kingdom to share their lessons learned and good practices in adapting their operations in the context of COVID-19. The outcome document includes proposals on sustaining collaboration and cooperation among NPMs, innovative ideas for NPMs to strengthen the protection of persons deprived of their liberty and recommendations on ensuring the availability of vaccinations for people deprived of their liberty.

Accountability

A2 – NHRIs and other national protection systems are established that comply with international human rights standards.

10 16 

OHCHR increased the capacity of NHRIs and relevant stakeholders to promote and protect human rights with a focus on accountability and economic, social and cultural rights.

UN Human Rights continued to provide support to NHRIs in **Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Madagascar, Malawi and Mozambique** to ensure their compliance with the Paris Principles.

OHCHR engaged in dialogue with the **Eswatini** Commission on Human Rights and Public Administration on draft legislation to align the Commission's mandate with the Paris Principles. The draft seeks to harmonize the Commission's overlapping mandate with the Eswatini Anti-Corruption Commission. OHCHR provided additional technical guidance on the draft, in June, and shared model legislation from countries with "A" Status NHRIs. In September, the Office facilitated a one-day training on the preparation of reports for members of the Commission, which resulted in the issuance of a report on the civil unrest. The Commission recommended that the Government initiate independent, thorough, credible, transparent and impartial investigations by experts into allegations of human rights violations and abuses and to bring those responsible to justice.

In **Botswana**, OHCHR provided inputs on draft legislation for establishing an NHRI in Botswana. The draft was published in the National Gazette, in June,

and is currently being considered by the Botswana Parliament. While progress has been slow, the Office continued to engage with the UNCT to advocate for the adoption of the legislation.

In **Zambia**, OHCHR provided comments on a draft strategic plan and road map for the Zambia Human Rights Commission. The Commission is in its earliest stage, which presents a great opportunity for engagement and support. The draft plan was developed to guide the Commission in the execution of its mandate over the next five years. OHCHR also provided technical guidance to the Commission on the submission of information to the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions in relation to the killings of two Zambian men, Nsama Chipiyoka and Joseph Kaunda, on 23 December 2020.

Participation

P6 – CSOs are able to participate in public affairs and advocate for democratic space.



OHCHR's capacity support to regional networks and national CSOs and human rights defenders contributed to enhancing their participation in public processes and addressing protection gaps.

UN Human Rights forged new partnerships with CSOs in **Eswatini**, including with the Multi-Stakeholder Forum, human rights lawyers, the Open Society Initiative for South Africa and the Foundation for Socio-Economic Justice and in **Zambia**, with ActionAid Zambia, the Alliance for Community Action and academics from the University of Zambia.

With regard to WHRDs, OHCHR provided ongoing support to the

informal network of Southern Africa Women Human Defenders, particularly in the context of its #IStandWithHer campaign, through the development of a toolkit for WHRDs and women-led CSOs on engagement with regional and international human rights mechanisms. The toolkit will be used during the 2022 regional meeting with WHRDs in Southern Africa on this issue.

OHCHR co-sponsored the Southern Africa Human Rights Defenders Summit, from 2 to 3 December, which was organized by the Southern African Human Rights Defenders Network (SAHRDN), OHCHR, Amnesty International, the Mozambique Human Rights Defenders Network and the Advancing Rights in Southern Africa (ARISA) project. The theme of the Summit was "Defending rights and protecting democracies in the face of rising inequality and authoritarianism." Participants were encouraged to use the meeting to provide input to the High Commissioner's report on civic space, as mandated by the Human Rights Council, and to follow-up on the recommendations in the OHCHR report on civic space in Southern Africa.

Partnerships with various regional CSOs were strengthened to support protection for HRDs. For example, the Office liaised with UNHCR and the special procedures on a high-profile case of refoulement of a politician from Comoros seeking asylum in Madagascar. On 9 December, his lawyer and son were granted access to the military jail where he was being held. He had been unlawfully extradited from Madagascar to Comoros where he had been subjected to enforced disappearance until his whereabouts were confirmed in April. His lawyer informed him of the advocacy undertaken by OHCHR and the special procedures on his behalf.

Development

D7 – All United Nations Development Assistance Framework roll-out countries adopt a human rights-based approach to programming and link the Sustainable Development Goals to international human rights standards.



OHCHR continued to support the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles in the implementation of the SDGs and other development efforts.

OHCHR successfully integrated human rights and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into the CCA and UNSDCF documents of **Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Zambia**. A multidimensional risk analysis was introduced, for the first time, into the CCAs in Eswatini and Zambia. OHCHR provided an LNOB analysis for Zambia, which included an holistic assessment of who is being left behind and who is the furthest behind in Zambia. The analysis considered five intersecting factors that constitute central driving forces of exclusionary processes, namely, discrimination, geography, vulnerability to shocks, governance and socio-economic status. OHCHR also conducted an LNOB analysis for Botswana and Eswatini, with a focus on vulnerable and marginalized groups.

Finally, the Office participated in the UNCT retreat in Zambia, from 2 to 3 March, which focused on: strategizing on to the elaboration of the UNSDCF, in alignment with the National Development Plan (NDP); the implementation of UN reform; strengthening UN coordination structures in the implementation of the UN Partnership Framework; and

validating the UNCT annual workplan. OHCHR also generated support for a recommendation to develop a UN Prevention Platform ahead of the elections.

SOUTH SUDAN: UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SOUTH SUDAN (UNMISS)

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
11.38 million	659,000 km ²	0.433 (rank: 185/189 in 2019)	-
Type of engagement	Peace Mission		
Year established	2011		
Field office(s)	Aweil, Bentiu, Bor, Juba, Kuajok, Malakali, Pibor, Rumbek, Torit, Wau, Yambio and Yei		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2019-2021		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	104		

XB requirements 2021 **US\$135,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – South Sudan authorities release individuals who are arbitrarily detained or held incommunicado, provide information on disappeared persons and grant access to rule of law institutions, including detention facilities.

16

State institutions sought to improve their compliance with international human rights norms and standards with the support of OHCHR.

The Human Rights Division (HRD) of UNMISS continued to regularly monitor and investigate cases of prolonged and arbitrary detention in civilian detention facilities across South Sudan. Over 390 visits to places of detention were

undertaken. When in-person visits were not possible due to COVID-19 restrictions, human rights officers conducted remote monitoring with relevant officials, justice sector actors and other sources. More specifically, the HRD advocated with justice sector actors to secure the release of detainees who have been subject to arbitrary arrest and detention and to ensure respect to due process and fair trial for detainees in compliance with international human rights standards. Alleged cases of torture and ill-treatment were also documented and brought to the attention of national authorities. As a result, 669 individuals, including 80 women and 26 juveniles, were released from arbitrary detention. In other cases, joint monitoring visits were conducted with justice sector actors, providing an

important opportunity to raise human rights concerns with relevant justice sector actors.

In cooperation with other components of the Mission and UN entities, the HRD promoted the development of stronger linkages across the justice sector, including law enforcement authorities, especially in areas where justice sector actors are absent. Such linkages are key to enabling these actors to work in compliance with human rights norms and standards. For example, within the framework of a project funded by the Reconciliation, Stabilization and Resilience Trust Fund entitled “Mitigating livestock-related violence in the border areas of Western Bahr el Ghazal and Warrap,” UNMISS supported formal and traditional authorities to develop lasting coordination mechanisms for the referral of serious crimes. This resulted in the establishment of a Special Court that was founded on a national model wherein traditional leaders serve as advisers to a statutory judge. As a member of the project’s coordination mechanisms, the HRD provided technical advice and participated in capacity-building activities that were conducted under the project, including for law enforcement authorities working with the Special Court.

In addition, the HRD provided technical support to the South Sudan Human Rights Commission (SSHRC), human rights defenders and CSOs on human rights field monitoring, investigations and reporting missions, including consolidating checklists and tools for human rights inspections of detention facilities. The HRD assisted the SSHRC with the development of a human rights field investigation and monitoring toolkit checklist. It subsequently carried out three field investigation and detention

monitoring missions to Yei, Malakal and Rumbek and drafted the monitoring reports, which included key recommendations. The reports were shared with the Government of South Sudan and will be used as an advocacy and engagement tool for addressing the identified human rights violations and abuses, as well as raising the need for accountability for the identified perpetrators.

A3 – Monitoring, investigating, verifying and reporting abuse and violence against women, including conflict-related sexual violence, are strengthened. Formal justice institutions increase their capacity to address cases of sexual violence and the proportion of cases they address increases.

5 10 16 

Through reporting and advocacy, OHCHR contributed to the functioning of accountability and protection mechanisms.

In 2021, the HRD submitted quarterly reports and an annual report to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (SRSG-SVC). A total of 93 incidents of CRSV against 174 victims (115 women, 32 girls, 26 men, one boy) were documented. An additional 15 incidents involving 20 survivors (15 women, four girls, one man) that occurred prior to the reporting period (between June and December 2020) were documented and verified.

Furthermore, the HRD continued to support survivors of CRSV, in particular those who were previously held in captivity by the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement/Army-in-Opposition (SPLM/A-IO) in Western Equatoria. Survivors were provided with capacity-building

training on CRSV prevention, leadership, legal awareness related to sexual violence, livelihood support and training of trainers. Medical and psychosocial support services were also provided.

The HRD assisted with the development and consolidation of the Joint Action Plan and provided technical support to the Joint Implementation Committee (JIC) of the Joint Action Plan of the Armed Forces on CRSV, which is composed of the South Sudan People’s Defence Forces (SSPDF), the SPLM/A-IO and the South Sudan Opposition Alliance (SSOA). The Committee was officially launched on 30 November. The Office provided technical assistance and facilitated a series of meetings to assist the JIC in developing approaches and strategies to fulfill its mandate to lead and oversee the implementation of the Joint Action Plan.

The HRD also organized a workshop on survivor-centred fact-finding/investigation skills in relation to allegations of sexual violence, which was delivered to 37 staff (four women, 33 men) from the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare (MCGSW) and officers of the South Sudan National Police Service (SSNPS) who investigate, address and respond to cases of SGBV. Participants shared their experiences and learned techniques to carry out investigations on CRSV and support other investigative bodies/teams to document incidents of sexual violence, especially CRSV.

The HRD documented the situation of children born as a result of rape in counties with a high prevalence of SGBV/CRSV, namely Rubkona, Leer and Koch, in Unity State. The aim of the research was to document the current situation of children born as a result of rape and their families to assess their needs and define priorities, enhance the protection of

victims and survivors of SGBV and CRSV and raise awareness with institutions and partners of the South Sudan Government.

Participation

P2 – Institutional, judicial and civil society mechanisms that protect human rights defenders are strengthened at all levels and operate in compliance with international standards.

Through technical support and capacity-building, OHCHR contributed to strengthening protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights norms and standards.

In engaging with NHRIs, the HRD provided technical support to the SSHRC, human rights defenders and CSOs to undertake human rights field monitoring, investigations and reporting missions. In particular, the SSHRC was supported to compile human rights field investigation and monitoring toolkit with a checklist. It carried out three field investigation missions to Yei, Malakal and Rumbek and drafted the mission reports with recommendations. The reports were shared with the Government of South Sudan and will be used as an advocacy and engagement tool for addressing the identified human rights violations and abuses, as well as raising the need for accountability for the identified perpetrators.

The HRD supported the SSHRC and CSOs in convening 11 virtual and in-person human rights forums for 566 participants (200 women, 366 men), at national and state levels, to assess the situation of human rights and make relevant recommendations.

Peace and Security

PS1 – The Government and opposition parties adopt mechanisms and initiatives that increase the protection of civilians in the context of conflict, in compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

5 16

Through capacity-building, OHCHR strengthened selected State institutions/programmes in their compliance with human rights norms and standards.

The HRD delivered a series of trainings to strengthen the capacities of parties to the conflict on SGBV/CRSV, which were provided to 755 members, including 182 women, from the SSPDF, the SSNPS, the SPLM/A-IO, the NSS and the fire brigade.

Following the 2020 development of a comprehensive training curriculum on the prevention and response to sexual violence, the Office supported SSPDF military training institutions by creating a pool of instructors that are trained to deliver a CRSV module during capacity-building activities for the Necessary Unified Forces (NUF). The SSPDF instructors were equipped with the curriculum and training tools and materials on CRSV.

PS4 – The Transitional Government of National Unity (TGoNU) identifies human rights violations and takes administrative and legal action to hold perpetrators accountable. It establishes transitional justice institutions that comply with international human rights norms, standards and good practices.

16

Through technical and capacity-building support, OHCHR contributed to

strengthening oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms in conformity with international human rights standards.

Within the framework of the joint Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law project, the HRD and the Rule of Law Section, UNDP and the United Nations Police provided technical support to the national government and parties to the conflict in South Sudan with a view to developing and implementing holistic plans, legal frameworks and other commitments to address CRSV. This involved initial steps to develop system-wide guidelines and/or policies to protect victims, witnesses and other actors across the judicial process. The HRD contributed to the preparation of a background paper on victim and witness protection in South Sudan, which will guide the development and implementation of a system-wide framework on victim and witness protection in the country. The document offers a detailed assessment of existing legal and policy frameworks, as well as models from the region. The HRD participated in a five-day consultative workshop for CSOs, independent legal practitioners and other stakeholders to discuss the implementation of witness and victim protection measures in South Sudan. A second workshop for policymakers will take place in 2022. The main objective of the workshop was to obtain consensus on the next steps to formulate and implement a comprehensive victim and witness protection framework in South Sudan that would be applicable to all existing and planned justice mechanisms.

Within the framework of the “Breaking the cycle of violence” project, the HRD worked with implementing partners to establish victims’ and survivors’ networks in Leer, Bentiu and Bor. These networks

are a crucial tool to empower victims and survivors to articulate their needs and demands with regards to accountability and transitional justice. The project includes capacity-building and training activities, including on witness and victim protection and empowerment, that will be available for CSOs working with them.

PS6 – UNMISS and UN agencies apply the standards set out in the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy when they provide support to security actors in South Sudan, as well as political, administrative and traditional leaders that have effective command and control of security forces or armed militias.

16

UNMISS HRD serves as the Secretariat of the HRDDP Task Force and supports the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles into the work of UNMISS and the UNCT in South Sudan.

As the Secretariat of the HRDDP Task Force, the HRD reviewed 63 risk assessments relating to the support provided to non-UN security forces and facilitated their clearance by the Task Force and endorsement by the UNMISS Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General (DSRSG). The HRD promoted and supported the consistent implementation of the HRDDP by all UN entities and components, including through the implementation of a new SOP that was approved by the UNMISS SRSRSG, in June. The SOP applies to all UN entities operating in South Sudan. The HRD worked closely with the UNCT on mechanisms to harmonize the implementation of the HRDDP. Implementation of the HRDDP ensures a consistent approach by all

UN entities in South Sudan in leveraging support to engage the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (R-TGoNU) and security forces to adhere to international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including mitigating measures to address human rights concerns and accountability and corrective measures for prior human rights violations.

Additionally, the HRD delivered five workshops to raise awareness on the HRDDP to the staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and senior commanders from the SSPDF, the SSNPS and the South Sudan National Security Service (NSS).

SUDAN

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
44.91 million	-	0.510 (rank: 170/189 in 2019)	-
Type of engagement		Country Office	
Year established		2019	
Field office(s)		Ad Damazin, El Fasher, Kadugli and Khartoum	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2021	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		31	

Total income	US\$4,350,156		
XB requirements 2021	US\$9,952,000		
XB expenditure	US\$4,452,653		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
60%	31%	9%	
\$2,675,873	\$1,395,275	\$381,505	
RB expenditure	US\$1,315,688		
Personnel	Non-personnel		
82%	18%		
\$1,085,236	\$230,452		

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – The new, independent National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is established and effectively complies with the Paris Principles.

16

Through technical advice and advocacy, OHCHR supported the establishment of an NHRI that is in conformity with international human rights standards.

OHCHR supported the preparation of draft legislation on the NHRC. Following six months of close collaboration with OHCHR and UNDP, the Ministry of Justice finalized the first draft and publicly presented it, on 28 February, to over 100 attendees, including representatives of CSOs, human rights defenders (HRDs), academics, legal professionals, media professionals, representatives of political parties, including parties to the Juba Peace Agreement, State institutions and UN agencies. During the consultation,

the Office delivered presentations on the compliance of the NHRI legislation with the Paris Principles and shared relevant information, including a compilation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms in relation to Sudan, on the status of the NHRC.

OHCHR also supported the Ministry of Justice in addressing feedback received on the draft to ensure the inclusion of recommendations. On 15 March, OHCHR facilitated an interactive dialogue on the draft between civil society representatives, women activists, academics and journalists and a delegation of the GANHRI. Furthermore, the Office organized an online interactive session, on 8 April, on the compliance with the Paris Principles of the NHRI's appointment process for the ministerial drafting committee.

From 18 to 19 October, OHCHR and UNDP supported the Ministry of Justice in organizing a two-day consultative workshop on the second draft, in Khartoum. More than 150 participants, half of whom were women, attended the consultation, including representatives of the country's 18 states, CSOs, academics, lawyers, HRDs and journalists. Participants welcomed the revised draft and its incorporation of key recommendations raised during public consultations. They provided further recommendations on the Commission's autonomy in relation to the Government, particularly regarding the appointment process and administrative autonomy. Feedback also focused on ensuring that the geographical and cultural diversity of Sudanese society is reflected in the Commission's membership. The Ministry of Justice committed to finalizing the draft law.

In anticipation of the creation of the new NHRC, OHCHR enhanced the capacity

of 12 professional staff members from the NHRC's Steering Committee and eight HRDs, including six women, on monitoring, documenting and report human rights violations through a four-day, in-person training workshop from 25 to 29 April. The training, which was jointly organized with the Sudanese Observatory for Human Rights, aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skills of HRDs and staff from the NHRI to monitor and report human rights violations and advocate on behalf of victims with duty-bearers.

A2 – Transitional justice mechanisms that conform to international human rights norms and standards and are victim-centred are established and have the capacity to implement their respective mandates.

10 16 

OHCHR provided technical support to government institutions to contribute to the creation of transitional justice mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards.

OHCHR extended technical advice to the Ministry of Justice on the draft law establishing the Transitional Justice Commission (TJC). During a series of eight working sessions, the Office assisted the Ministry in compiling the consultation outcomes and integrating relevant concerns and recommendations of the CSOs into the final draft. Technical advice focused on ensuring minimum guarantees for the independence and autonomy of the TJC, strong civil society representation and a minimum representation of at least 40 per cent women on its Board. The TJC legislation was adopted on 24 April, with a clear mandate to lead consultations on

defining transitional justice approaches for the Sudan.

OHCHR also extended technical advice to the Transitional Government of Sudan to adopt a proper vetting process to help prevent the recurrence of violations. In September, the Office organized a two-day workshop on “International good practices and lessons learned in vetting processes” for professional staff supporting the Dismantling Committee, established to dismantle the previous regime and recover public funds, and its subnational and specialized committees in 16 regions, including six female staff members. At the end of the workshop, the Dismantling Committee committed to reviewing and improving its work, in line with international human rights standards and good practices on vetting.

Furthermore, OHCHR focused on strengthening the ability of CSOs to contribute to and monitor transitional justice and relevant decision-making processes. On 15 July and 17 August, the Office collaborated with its civil society partner, Al-Khatim Adlan Centre for Enlightenment (KACE), and organized two consultative meetings for the Transitional Justice Alliance, a network of 35 CSOs working on transitional justice, to foster a better understanding of the TJC law and the role of CSOs in the process of selecting the TJC Board members. The two meetings brought together 70 participants, including 35 women, representing civil society, families of victims, academia, as well as lawyers and journalists. From 12 to 13 October, OHCHR organized a two-day workshop on the role of civil society in transitional justice processes. The workshop brought together 25 representatives of CSOs and the Ministry of Justice, whose representative outlined the nomination and selection process for

members of the TJC Board. OHCHR delivered a presentation on the comparative experiences of CSOs that are working on transitional justice. On 9 August, the Office hosted and facilitated a meeting between the Ministry of Justice and 13 international NGOs (INGOs) working on the transitional justice process in Sudan. The objective was to develop a common understanding and coordinate support for local civil society and state actors.

Finally, OHCHR continued monitoring criminal prosecutions for past human rights violations, in cooperation with the Bar Association, and reporting on their compliance with international human rights standards. Following the coup of 25 October, the Office monitored cases of arbitrary arrest and detention, verified allegations of torture, other ill-treatment and enforced disappearances and an excessive and disproportionate use of force during crowd control, as well as accountability initiatives. The Office engaged with the Attorney General's Office (AGO) to follow up on cases of mass arbitrary arrests and incommunicado detentions and emphasize the AGO's responsibility to ensure respect for due process and the rights of those detained in order to prevent violations and strengthen protection for those in detention. With a view to strengthening the capacity of HRDs to report cases of enforced disappearance to CED, on 7 December, the Office delivered a training to five HRDs on how to engage with the Committee by using the urgent action mechanism.

A5 – The UN Country Team increasingly uses a human rights-based approach in its efforts related to the rule of law and justice.

16 

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which the UN guidelines on incorporating an HRBA have been applied by specific programmes of UN entities.

The Office supported the UNCT to integrate human rights into the preparation of the CCA and the UNSDCF. More specifically, OHCHR strongly advocated for and contributed to the discussions of the five focus working groups on People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnerships and provided written inputs that resulted in the UNCT's finalization of the CCA, which includes sound human rights information and analysis. Furthermore, OHCHR collaborated with UN Women to design and implement a two-day training workshop on the HRBA and gender mainstreaming for 15 participants from UN agencies, funds and programmes.

In 2021, the Office worked closely with the UNCT and UNITAMS to develop a standard operating procedure on the application of the HRDDP to guide requests for UN support for non-UN security forces. OHCHR will establish and maintain a database of information on members of armed groups, military and security forces who are alleged to have committed or have been implicated in serious human rights violations and abuses. This will ensure the consistent application of UN human rights policies, including the HRDDP, in the context of UNCT programmes and activities, particularly those linked to peacebuilding and sustaining peace in Sudan. The Office will also ensure that the implementation of the National Action Plan on Civilian Protection is compliant with the HRDDP.

From March to August, as a member of the UNCT Peacebuilding Group, OHCHR provided inputs and comments to the Sudan Integrated Strategic Framework (ISF) entitled “Peacemaking, peacebuilding and the stabilization programme” (SPPSP) to ensure the application of the three-pillar approach to the joint programmatic framework for the UNCT and UNITAMS. The SPPSP, finalized in August, reaffirms the intrinsic linkages between human rights, sustainable development and sustaining peace and includes a stand-alone component on transitional justice, which highlights OHCHR's comparative advantage over the implementation of the overall programme in Sudan.

Participation

P5 – International, regional and national protection mechanisms are responsive to the particular protection needs of CSOs and individuals, which are not limited to the context of political participation.



OHCHR contributed to the extent to which oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards are in place and/or functioning.

OHCHR supported the increased engagement of Sudanese civil society with the UPR of Sudan as a tool for monitoring and reporting. With capacity-building support from the Office, 26 CSOs established four thematic coalitions that submitted four joint reports on civic space, accountability and impunity, economic and social rights and the rights of women and of the child. The reports were based on their monitoring of the implementation of UPR recommendations from the previous UPR

cycle and current human rights challenges. As a result of the strengthened capacity and coordination among coalition members, they presented concrete recommendations to diplomatic missions at a preparatory meeting for the UPR in Khartoum, in October. Sudan's UPR was scheduled on 3 November but following the military coup, was postponed to January 2022, at the request of the Government.

In 2021, 43 individual and joint stakeholder reports were submitted in relation to Sudan's third UPR cycle, 18 of which were prepared by or in cooperation with local CSOs. This marked a significant increase from the second UPR cycle when 24 individual and joint stakeholder reports were submitted, only two of which were prepared by or in cooperation with local CSOs. This demonstrated increased monitoring by civil society of the human rights situation as a result of their engagement with the international human rights mechanisms.

In light of growing threats against journalists in Sudan for exercising their freedom of expression and the absence of a protection mechanism and journalists' union, OHCHR facilitated a regional exchange between the National Union of Tunisian Journalists (SNJT) and a core group of 12 journalists representing media practitioners, bloggers, unionists, academics and journalist associations and networks. The Sudanese journalists discussed their experiences with mobilizing various actors, including in the Tunisian media landscape, to enhance their ability to protect journalists. Following the meeting, three press associations that participated in the exchange established a unified Sudanese Journalists Union, which is pending the adoption of a Trade Union Law.

In addition, in November, following the coup, the Office referred its first case of a

HRD under imminent threat to an INGO specializing in the protection of HRDs and helped that person to secure a three-month grant to support their safe relocation.

P6 – Rights-holders participate meaningfully in the design of public policy and processes, in compliance with international standards.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the level of meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes.

OHCHR cooperated with the Ministry of Culture and Information, the University of Khartoum and UNESCO to conduct consultations on three key media laws, namely, the Access to Information Act, the Press and Publication Act, and the Radio and Television Corporation law. The first consultation gathered together more than 100 stakeholders, including youth, women and media workers. OHCHR's advocacy on the safety of journalists was instrumental to the Ministry's commitment to developing a draft law on the safety of journalists.

Furthermore, to ensure stronger participation by marginalized rights-holders, OHCHR facilitated advocacy meetings for LGBTI defenders and other human rights organizations. This marked their first participation in human rights forums with other civil society groups in Sudan. The establishment of the Civil Society and Human Rights Forum, in June, in collaboration with a number of CSOs and HRDs, including victims' rights groups, women, tea and food sellers, lawyers, young artists, academics and faith-based actors, enabled the stakeholders to exchange

ideas on a human rights agenda and a strategy to enhance civil society participation in Sudan.

Peace and Security

PS5 – Human rights information and analyses are integrated into early warning and analysis systems.

3 5 8 10 13 16 17 

The extent to which critical human rights issues/situations raised by OHCHR have been taken up in international forums in a timely manner has increased.

Throughout 2021, OHCHR conducted regular monitoring and reporting on human rights issues, including those related to SGBV and ESCRs. Based on the monitoring and documentation of human rights violations, various updates and reports were prepared, including daily and weekly updates, monthly reports, flash reports, updates on the situation of human rights for the High Commissioner for Human Rights and contributions to the report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council, as well as press statements.

At the request of the Human Rights Council in resolution 45/25 (2020), OHCHR supported the preparation of a report on the human rights situation in Sudan, which was presented to the Council at its forty-eighth session, in September. The Office also supported the High Commissioner's report on the situation of human rights, following the military takeover of 25 October, which will be presented at the Council's fiftieth session, in May 2022.

Finally, through its sub-offices in the three regions of Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile, OHCHR conducted field missions, including fact-finding missions, visits to detention facilities and prisons and

advocated on behalf of victims with local, regional and national authorities.

Mechanisms

M1 – Increased engagement by Sudan with international and regional human rights mechanisms.

16 17  

OHCHR advocated with national authorities for the country's increased engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, including by providing support for the establishment of an institutionalized structure to facilitate reporting on and the implementation of recommendations issued by these mechanisms.

In June, with OHCHR's support, the National Council for Persons with Disabilities participated in regional consultations, led by CRPD, to develop a guidance note on the rights of persons with disabilities, especially in the context of emergencies, such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Moreover, in a landmark development and following consistent advocacy by OHCHR, the Government of Sudan established its permanent National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-Up (NMRF), in January. Since its establishment, the Office provided capacity-building and technical assistance to support its effective operationalization. In August, the first national consultations on Sudan's participation in the UPR process were launched. The consultations brought together 65 civil society representatives, such as youth, journalists, persons with disabilities, academics and artists, from across the country, including from the conflict-impacted areas of Darfur, Blue

Nile, East and South Kordofan. This was also the first time that state authorities genuinely consulted CSOs on the UPR process, thereby enhancing a sense of national ownership. In October, Sudan submitted its national report in anticipation of its third UPR cycle.

M1 – Increased ratification of international and regional human rights instruments.

16 17 

OHCHR contributed to the ratification and accession of two international human rights conventions by the Government of Sudan.

On 11 August, following OHCHR's extensive advocacy efforts, Sudan ratified CAT and acceded to ICPPED, both of which entered into force on 9 September. In addition, the Council of Ministers endorsed a recommendation, pending the approval of the Joint Council, to accede to CEDAW and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (the Maputo Protocol). This endorsement includes reservations to articles 2 (policy measures), 16 (family and marriage life) and 29(1) (arbitration of dispute) of CEDAW.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – National laws, policies and practices increasingly combat discrimination against women and minorities.

5 10 16  

OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of two selected policy areas with international human rights norms and standards.

The Office supported the Government of Sudan in drafting legislation on violence against women (VAW) through the provision of legal advice to the Unit for Combating Violence against Women under the Ministry of Social Development, which is responsible for drafting the legislation. During regular meetings, OHCHR reviewed the draft and shared UN guidance on provisions related to the judicial process and VAW legislation and past recommendations issued by relevant international human rights mechanisms. In cooperation with the Unit for Combating Violence against Women and the active participation of UNFPA, OHCHR organized a "Civil society meeting on law on combating violence against women," on 9 June. The meeting provided civil society representatives with an opportunity to share their recommendations with the Unit on improving justice processes to address GBV, as well as protection and prevention mechanisms. The cooperation between OHCHR and UNFPA paved the way for a consultation with other UN agencies and INGOs that was held on 8 August. This additional consultation workshop, co-organized with UNFPA and UNITAMS, provided an opportunity to discuss strengthening justice mechanisms to more effectively combat SGBV. The Office also contributed to drafting the National

Standard Operating Procedures for the Prevention of and Response to Gender-Based Violence in Sudan, which was led by the Unit and supported by UNFPA. The SOPs are expected to be expanded to the state level, which will strengthen the capacity of state and local actors to establish gender-sensitive procedures.

Furthermore, OHCHR contributed to enhancing the capacity of national authorities to adopt laws to combat discrimination against women and girls, including through their engagement with members of the National Committee, which was established by the Ministry of Justice to prepare a new 1991 Muslim Personal Status Law that was widely criticized for its discriminatory provisions against women and girls. The Office provided the members with past recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies and the last UPR cycle to ensure that the revision is in compliance with international human rights norms and standards. The Office also advocated for engagement with members of civil society that are working to combat discrimination against women and girls. In addition, on the occasion of International Women's Day, OHCHR organized a "Civil society workshop on family law in Sudan: What is a human-rights based approach?" on 4 March. The members of the Committee benefited from recommendations provided by civil society participants and survivors of SGBV who are affected by the current legislation. Similar meetings were held between the members of the Committee, civil society and other UN agencies, including UNICEF, on 31 May, 30 June and online. These activities contributed to the capacity of the Committee to consider and integrate the perspectives of survivors and civil society members into their revisions of the draft law.

UGANDA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
45.12 million	242,000 km ²	0.544 (rank: 159/189 in 2019)	"A" Status (2018)
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	2005		
Field office(s)	Gulu, Kampala, Moroto		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2016-2020		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	38		
XB income	US\$4,321,408		
XB requirements 2021	US\$5,590,000		
XB expenditure	US\$3,767,855		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC⁴	
54%	35%	11%	
\$2,051,375	\$1,301,184	\$415,296	

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – State and non-State actors enhance their capacities to institute legal and policy reforms and implement and enforce existing laws. They improve the investigation and adjudication of cases that entail human rights violations, including within their own ranks.

16

With technical support from OHCHR, selected policies were amended to enhance their compliance with international human rights standards.

OHCHR engaged in various activities to support the effective implementation of

transitional justice initiatives in Uganda. In August, the Office drafted a section of an amicus curiae brief for the International Criminal Court (ICC) Trial Chamber with regard to the Dominic Ongwen case. The brief focuses on the long-term harm caused by the conflict in northern Uganda, particularly for survivors of CRSV and their children. It also outlines concrete recommendations to inform the Trial Chamber's deliberations on reparations for Ongwen's victims.

In September, OHCHR and the Uganda Law Reform Commission (ULRC) organized consultation meetings to develop the *Manual for Adjudication of Traditional*

Justice (MATJ). The MATJ aims to support the implementation of commitments undertaken by the Government during the Juba Peace Talks with the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). A total of 160 respondents (63 women, 97 men), including judicial officers, traditional, religious and community leaders, were consulted in Luwero, Fort Portal, Jinja, Arua, Gulu, Lira, Moroto and Soroti. A meeting with the judiciary will be held in May 2022 to build synergies between formal and traditional justice sectors. Once approved by the Office of the Attorney General, the MATJ will be printed and disseminated across the country.

In November, OHCHR partnered with Avocats Sans Frontières (ASF), International Centre for Transitional Justice (ICTJ) and Refugee Law Project (RLP) to conduct regional consultation meetings on the preparation of the National Victims' Manifesto for Traditional Justice (NVMTJ). The NVMTJ seeks to add the voices of victims to the implementation of the National Transitional Justice Policy (NTJP), which was adopted by the Cabinet of Uganda in 2019. A total of 157 respondents (68 women, 89 men) participated consultation meetings that were held in Karamoja, Teso, Lango, Rwenzori, Hoima, Luwero, Gulu and West Nile. The NTJP was circulated among the participants who attended the consultation meetings. OHCHR drafted a public report on the needs of the victims of SGBV during the conflict between the Government and the LRA. The NVMTJ will be produced and launched in 2022.

OHCHR provided technical support to UN Women to review the Sexual Offences Bill (2019). This joint OHCHR-UN Women engagement identified key human rights issues to be integrated into the Sexual Offences Bill, which were

presented during the first reading before the Parliament. The adoption of the Bill is pending.

A2 – National justice and human rights mechanisms, including the Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC) and the judiciary, provide redress and accountability to victims in an increased number of reported cases.

16

Through advocacy and technical cooperation, OHCHR contributed to strengthening national accountability and protection mechanisms to ensure that they are functioning in increased compliance with international human rights standards.

In July and October, OHCHR collaborated with the Uganda Law Society (ULS) and the UHRC to deliver trainings to State and non-State actors to improve their capacity to monitor, respect, investigate, adjudicate and provide redress for human rights violations. It also sought to build the capacities of the general public to claim their rights. In the regions of Arua, Lira, Mbale, Soroti, Masaka, Jinja, Kampala and Hoima, an estimated two million people were reached through radio talk shows; 48 paralegals (17 women, 29 men) were trained on pretrial detention rights; and 140 participants (61 women, 79 men) from the justice system, including the judiciary, police and prison officers, lawyers, State attorneys, human rights officers, probation officers, law students and HRDs were trained on the 2019 Human Rights Enforcement Act (HREA). The training provided a unique opportunity to operationalize the HREA among key actors in the criminal justice system.

OHCHR also provided technical support for the development of the Training Manual and Facilitators Guide for Lawyers

on Procedural and Constitutional Rights in the Administration of Criminal Justice in Uganda.

In Guru, the Office conducted training on the Human Rights Enforcement Act (2019) to enhance the understanding of 40 criminal justice actors (14 women, 26 men) from the Lango and West Nile subregions.

In Gulu, the Office supported the Uganda Law Reform Commission to undertake a consultative meeting on the contents of a manual on adjudication within traditional justice mechanisms for the West Nile, Lango and Acholi subregions. The event was attended by 60 participants, including 13 women.

In Moroto, OHCHR undertook in-person monitoring and provided technical guidance to three court martial sessions. During the sessions, procedural due process was observed, guaranteeing the protection of the rights of alleged suspects. Additionally, 16 detention facilities (seven army, nine police) were visited through remote or in-person monitoring and inspection. Advocacy contributed to the release of 31 detainees (two women, 11 men, 18 male juveniles). Cooperation between OHCHR and various stakeholders, such as the Justice, Law and Order Sector, CSOs and the Karamoja District Local Government, was strengthened.

In Karamoja, individuals working with the army, police and Heads of departments at the district level reported allegations of human rights violations and abuses committed by their respective institutions or individuals in their agencies to OHCHR and other institutions for appropriate redress action. Unlike the past, the responsible institution now informs OHCHR about allegations and any short-term action that was taken. In one example, the army is more receptive to discussions

about the allegations attributed to them more than five years ago. Despite this increased awareness, human rights violations and abuses have not decreased. Impunity and the protection of alleged perpetrators under their command remains a concern.

Participation

P2 – The UHRC continues to implement its mandate, in compliance with the Paris Principles.

Through capacity-building, OHCHR contributed to strengthening the ability of the NHRI to monitor and raise critical human rights concerns and respond to human rights violations in a coordinated manner.

OHCHR continued supporting the UHRC to perform its duties according to the Paris Principles, with a focus on four areas, namely, monitoring and reporting on the human rights situation in the context of the electoral period 2020-2021, engagement in the UPR process, joint OHCHR-UHRC monitoring and joint capacity-building activities.

In January, OHCHR organized a training workshop for 137 UHRC staff members (66 women, 71 men) on monitoring and reporting human rights concerns arising from the general elections in January. Following the workshop, and in the context of COVID-19, the Office supported the UHRC with information technology and telecommunications equipment to establish three Situation Rooms in the Central and Rwenzori subregion.

OHCHR also provided financial support to the UHRC for the deployment of 180 staff members during four days of national polling for the presidential and parliamentary elections of 14 January. As a result, the UHRC monitored 1,830 polling

stations. Furthermore, at the UHRC's request, OHCHR supported the development, printing and publishing of a report on the human rights situation related to the electoral period 2020-2021.

OHCHR assisted the UHRC through a national consultant to support the drafting of the UHRC submission to the UPR. It also organized a national virtual consultation, in July, prior to the elaboration of the report, with the participation of 126 attendees (59 women, 65 men) from the UHRC, State institutions and CSOs.

In December, OHCHR collaborated with UN Women, UNFPA, UNODC, UNICEF and UNAIDS to deliver a three-day orientation for the newly appointed Chair and commissioners of the UHRC. This enabled the UNCT to demonstrate its commitment to work with and support the UHRC in delivering its constitutional mandate to promote human rights and gender equality in Uganda and raise awareness and promote engagement on human rights and gender equality.

P4 – Civil society monitors more systematically raise human rights concerns. Women human rights defenders are able to raise concerns affecting them and improve their ability to seek redress for threats and attacks against them.

8 16

OHCHR contributed to building the capacities of civil society, especially women and discriminated groups, to participate in selected public processes.

OHCHR continued to build the capacity of civil society, with a focus on reporting on the human rights situation in the context of the electoral period 2020-2021 and the development of alternative reports.

Within the framework of providing support to civil society to monitor, report on and advocate for accountability in relation to alleged human rights violations that were committed during the 2020-2021 election period, OHCHR is assisting the CSO Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) to conduct nine nationwide field missions in order to conduct confidential interviews with victims and witnesses of human rights violations that were perpetrated by State officers during the electoral period. In 2022, the FHRI will publish and disseminate a report on its findings.

To build the capacity of CSOs to prepare alternative reports, the Office organized two activities with the National Coalition of HRDs (NCHRDs), which brought together HRDs from across the country. The first event convened 150 participants (56 women, 94 men) to elaborate a common civil society strategy on engagement with the UPR process. The second meeting brought together 70 participants to raise human rights concerns before the diplomatic body based in Kampala.

In May, OHCHR cooperated with UN Women to organize three training workshops for members of the WHRDs network in Karamoja, Rwenzori and the West Nile subregions. A total of 95 participants (93 women, two men) acquired knowledge and skills on human rights monitoring, reporting and advocacy.

To build the capacities of security and law enforcement agencies to adhere to human rights standards in their operations, OHCHR supported the organization of a community dialogue on human rights between the Uganda Police Force (UPF), youth leaders and civil society in Wakiso Division, in March. A total of 58 participants (22 women, 36 men) attended the dialogue that focused on building

community-based partnerships and fostering the engagement of youth and around human rights, crime prevention and public safety.

Furthermore, OHCHR organized five workshops for senior officers of the UPF from the Kampala, Wakiso, Masindi, Kasese, Bundibugyo, Kabarole, Ntoroko, Gulu and Kyengera districts. A total of 228 participants (49 women, 179 men) were trained on human rights concepts, gender mainstreaming and human rights standards that are applicable to security and law enforcement operations when engaging with youth.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – National laws, policies and practices increasingly comply with international human rights norms and standards on equality and non-discrimination, in particular with regard to persons with disabilities, minorities and women's rights.

5 10 16 

Through advocacy and by building the capacity of relevant stakeholders, OHCHR sought to contribute to the improved compliance of selected legislation and policies with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR collaborated with the Open Society Initiative for East Africa to support the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD), the Equal Opportunities Commission and the albinism community during the preparation of the National Action Plan (NAP) on Albinism, which was validated in 2021. The Ministry committed to the adoption of the NAP in 2022, though no specific date was given. Once adopted,

the NAP will contribute to the National Comprehensive Action Plan on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2020-2024), which will guide strategic actions to combat and eliminate albinism in Uganda.

OHCHR also provided assistance to the 2021 National Symposium on Disability, with the theme, “Not all disabilities are visible.” The Symposium called on stakeholders to ensure that all persons with disabilities, especially those with invisible disabilities, can enjoy rights on an equal basis with others and can access services, including medical services, and that educational, general information and communication materials are available in accessible formats.

OHCHR transcribed the amended Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (1995) into Braille for the National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD) in Uganda. Fifty copies of the transcribed Constitution were distributed to the NCPD, the Uganda National Association for the Blind and local governments. This will promote access to information and human rights for persons with disabilities and uphold the principle of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) by enabling persons with visual impairment to read the Constitution.

In Gulu, OHCHR and UN Women worked together during engagements with the Government, CSOs and other stakeholders to promote gender equality in addressing gender-based violence (GBV). In 2021, two meetings were held in the Lango and Acholi subregions, in November, to review progress and challenges faced in the implementation of recommendations that were agreed upon during a 2019 dialogue on addressing GBV and implementing the 2010 Domestic Violence Act (DVA). The dialogues were attended by 54 participants (30 women, 24

men). The two subregions reported similar challenges due to COVID-19, including an increased rate of teenage pregnancy, family neglect, child marriage and case adjournments due to the lockdown. Both meetings illustrated that there is limited knowledge of the DVA among key stakeholders.

In December, OHCHR supported the MGLSD and the NCPD to hold a consultative meeting on the drafting of a Disability Status Report, that will contribute to the Government's combined second, third and fourth periodic State Party report due for submission to the CRPD Committee in October 2022. The meeting was attended by 22 participants (eight women, 13 men) who were selected from OPDs. Representatives from Karamoja noted that OPDs were excluded from programmes during the pandemic and generally have limited access to justice, information and communications technology services and social, economic and financial projects.

Development

D2 – The Government approved a dedicated National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights. National programmes and mechanisms are increasingly compliant with international human rights norms and standards on business and human rights, including the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

1 2 3 5 8 9 13 16 17

OHCHR contributed to improving the compliance of selected State institutions/programmes with international human rights norms and standards.

In Moroto, OHCHR conducted four field missions to monitor and document

allegations of human rights violations in the mining areas of Karamoja and interviewed 279 people (199 women, 80 men), who are engaged in the extractive industry and working with the Government. OHCHR also provided sensitization on human rights issues and the UNGPs and observed an improvement in the capacity of artisanal miners and local communities to report allegations of human rights and seek redress from human right organizations and legal aid agencies.

In August, OHCHR conducted a field mission to the Albertine and Greater Masaka regions to assess the human rights concerns arising from oil and gas activities. During the mission, the Office documented cases of alleged human rights violations, including rights to property, threats to HRDs and environmental rights concerns. Subsequently, the Office held briefings for two CSOs and five diplomatic missions to share its findings and establish potential areas for joint collaboration to address these concerns. In 2022, OHCHR will organize dialogues between the Government, business entities, project-affected communities and CSOs.

At the request of the MGLSD, OHCHR facilitated the printing of 1,700 copies of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights and supported the official launch of the NAP, in Kampala, on 28 October. The launch was broadcast live on television and attended by more than 50 participants from the Government, civil society and academia. OHCHR also supported the MGLSD to organize workshops and disseminate the NAP in three subregions, namely, Karamoja, Acholi and Bugisu.

In November, OHCHR hosted the third National Symposium on Business and Human Rights, in collaboration with Resource Rights Africa and partnership

with the UHRC. The Symposium celebrated the adoption of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights and laid the foundation for its effective implementation through commitments undertaken by the Government, the UN and CSOs. The meeting was attended by more than 80 participants from civil society, government agencies and the media.

D7 – The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and UN agencies, funds and programmes increasingly comply with international human rights norms, standards and principles.



OHCHR contributed to the incorporation of an HRBA into the operations and guidelines of UN entities.

As co-Chair of the Human Rights and Gender Advisory Group (HRGAG), OHCHR provided analysis and guidance to the CCA Review Team on sectors which require additional gender analysis and data disaggregation. It also contributed specific gender and human rights data and analyses to strengthen the revised CCA across all sectors. In addition, the Office provided a detailed analysis of and briefings on opportunities to increase the number of gender-sensitive indicators in the UNSDCF indicator matrix, including through sex disaggregation of all population-based indicators.

Furthermore, OHCHR participated in the development of the Joint Workplans and extended advice on the inclusion of human rights, including LNOB, and gender mainstreaming activities across outcomes. OHCHR provided inputs into the draft UNCT Uganda System-wide Strategy and Action Plan on Gender

Parity. It also delivered human rights briefings to the HRGAG on an HRBA, the UPR and business and human rights.

Finally, OHCHR launched a booklet on the HRBA aimed at assisting UN agencies and implementing partners to integrate HRBA principles into their programming, plans and activities. In October, OHCHR delivered a presentation to development partners on the application of an HRBA to development.

WEST AFRICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Ghana, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo
Year established	2007
Field office(s)	Dakar
Staff as of 31 December 2021	19

Total income	US\$2,691,714
XB requirements 2021	US\$6,447,000

XB expenditure			US\$1,914,578
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
42%	49%	9%	
\$807,184	\$931,907	\$175,487	

RB expenditure			US\$827,476
Personnel	Non-personnel		
88%	12%		
\$727,791	\$99,685		

Key OMP pillars in 2021



⁴ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P1 – Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.



OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards.

In Senegal, OHCHR engaged with women human rights defenders to enhance their

capacity to claim their rights. In particular, efforts focused on strengthening their knowledge and understanding of human rights, encouraging coordination and creating space for their voices to be heard. As a result, a young woman activist was selected, for the first time, as the civil society spokesperson during celebrations of Human Rights Day. This signalled an important development in a country where the right of eldership is deeply entrenched. The Office also contributed to increasing awareness about the international human rights mechanisms among women and youth HRDs, particularly those working

on the protection of the rights of LGBTI persons. In addition, OHCHR continued to interact with HRDs through quarterly virtual meetings. The Office supported the establishment of the Thematic Group on Disability and will support its Secretariat.

OHCHR assisted the Observatoire national de la parité (ONP) with the implementation of its mandate through the organization of a workshop on strategies for women leaders, elected women and potential candidates to ensure that women are at the top of lists for local elections. It also helped to prepare brochures on electoral disputes related to the application of the parity law and on legal decisions that were made after previous elections.

Moreover, OHCHR commissioned a study on lessons learned through a watchdog system that was developed in Senegal, 10 years ago, to monitor the enjoyment by women of their rights in the context of elections. The system was replicated in several countries in Africa and a repository of good practices is being finalized. Before the repository is finalized, a regional meeting will be organized in early 2022 for women human rights activists from several countries of the region to seek their inputs.

In the Gambia, OHCHR supported CSOs to create their own platforms and partner with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). Through the provision of training on hate speech, the Office supported media partners to better understand their responsibilities within the framework of the presidential elections in the Gambia, which were held on 4 December.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – In one country, the number of selected policy areas that comply with international human rights norms and standards has significantly improved. In Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) countries, national laws, policies and programmes increasingly protect children from abuse and exploitation.

5 10 16

OHCHR contributed to strengthened legal, political and institutional frameworks for the protection of the rights of the child.

Through PAPEV, OHCHR supported the Governments of **the Gambia, Mali and Niger** to finalize and validate country-specific studies entitled “Analysis of national and international legal frameworks on child protection,” which identify gaps and proposed legislative and institutional revisions to comply with international and regional human rights standards. In **the Gambia**, the results of the study were shared with parliamentarians, in July, sensitizing them to the challenges of protecting children, especially those who are on the move and are victims of trafficking and abuse through forced begging.

In **Senegal**, the report on the evaluation of the legal framework was updated to take into account the latest recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, notably the UPR, CEDAW and the Committee against Torture. In **Guinea**, guidelines for foster families were developed, validated and adopted by the Government. In **Guinea-Bissau**, support was provided to the Institute of Women and Children to carry out a consultation on the potential integration into the Constitution of specific articles

on the rights of the child. Furthermore, in collaboration with UNICEF, the Office supported the process of elaboration, sharing and validation of the Code for Integral Child Protection, which was adopted by the Council of Ministers of **Guinea-Bissau**, in October.

In **Senegal**, as part of World Children’s Day, OHCHR cooperated with the Ministry of Justice to organize a meeting that brought together key actors involved in combating child trafficking (the judicial system, the anti-trafficking committee, the NHRI and the police brigade for minors), as well as ambassadors of the countries affected by mobility, to discuss a coordinated strategy to effectively address this issue. Despite OHCHR’s advocacy efforts at the highest level, a code on child protection has not yet been adopted.

Through PAPEV, OHCHR continued to build the capacity of States in relation to child protection. Particular emphasis was placed on the roles and responsibilities of actors in the judicial system, including magistrates, police officers, gendarmes, penitentiary guards and social workers. A total of 326 actors, including 200 in **the Gambia** and 126 in **Guinea**, were trained between June and November on the national and international legal framework for the protection of the rights of the child, listening techniques, needs assessments and psychosocial support for child victims, the processing of children’s cases, governance and cooperation in national child protection systems. In **Senegal**, a project was established to support the Ministry of Education in conducting an inventory of school and para school initiatives in 35 schools, with the objective of promoting human rights education. In addition, the Office took steps to strengthen services for the care of child victims through the provision of

equipment to eight reception facilities in **Senegal**.

Throughout the year, OHCHR strengthened its partnerships with youth groups, including in **Burkina Faso, Senegal and Togo**. To understand why some countries of the region have limited civic space, a regional workshop was organized and a study was launched to analyse the role of women and youth human rights defenders in the context of COVID-19. The study is being undertaken to identify key recommendations to facilitate an increased involvement of HRDs in efforts to build back better and stronger societies that are more respectful of human rights. The study, which is primarily focusing on **Côte d’Ivoire, Senegal and Togo** is being finalized and a workshop for HRDs from across the region is planned for early 2022 to discuss the recommendations.

ND6 – Legal frameworks and protection mechanisms promote and protect the human rights of migrants in their countries of origin and in transit.

1 2 3 4 5 6 8 10 11
13 16

OHCHR supported participatory processes to contribute to the functioning of oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms, with a focus on the human rights of migrants.

Through the PROMIS project, OHCHR contributed to updating legal frameworks and increased protection capacities in the West African region to ensure the efficient promotion and protection of the human rights of migrants in their countries of origin and during their migratory movements. More specifically, PROMIS supported the elaboration and validation of laws

related to the smuggling of migrants in **the Gambia**, in alignment with international human rights standards, and supported the Ministry of Justice of **Niger** with the revision of Law No. 2015-36 on the smuggling of migrants. Furthermore, six grantees completed their projects after receiving financial and technical support over 18 months, which led to strengthened access to justice for 3,688 migrants in **Côte d’Ivoire, the Gambia, Niger and Senegal**. In addition, PROMIS worked with the Mixed Migration Centre on a snapshot that illustrated the impacts of COVID-19 on the economic and social rights of migrants in **Mali**. It also produced a report on COVID-19 and the socio-economic situation of migrants in **Niger**, providing insights on the profiles of respondents and an analysis of the impacts of COVID-19 on their mobility, livelihood situation and certain socio-economic rights, namely, access to health services, sanitation, housing and education. Moreover, PROMIS finalized research on access to justice for migrants in **Mali and Niger** and research on the human rights of migrants in **Niger**. Through PROMIS, 919 representatives from civil society, the NHRI and legal/paralegal institutions received support to help improve the protection of the human rights of migrants and their access to justice in workshops, training and/or mentoring. In 2021, PROMIS trained nine NHRCs on the application of an HRBA to migration. PROMIS actively supported the Global Compact for Migration review processes at the national (**the Gambia, Niger**), regional (**West Africa**) and continental (**Africa**) levels, including by organizing effective stakeholder consultations and supporting the ECOWAS Member State consultations, while ensuring that an HRBA was applied to migration processes and that all stakeholders were consulted and heard.

Mechanisms

M1 – National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up are established or strengthened in four countries in the region (Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, the Gambia, Senegal); NMRFs set out plans for the implementation of recommendations.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to the functioning of NMRFs in relation to the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the UPR.

Due to COVID-19-related travel restrictions, OHCHR remotely enhanced the capacity of members of the NMRFs in the region, including through the preparation of the CED report that was submitted by **Benin**, in September. The Office also responded to specific requests for in-person capacity-building workshops for members of the NMRF in **Mali** to report to CRC; for members in **Niger** to report to CEDAW and CMW; and for members in **Guinea-Bissau** to report to CRC. OHCHR reinforced the capacities of members of the NMRF in **Senegal** to draft a report on the implementation of ICRMW.

In **the Gambia**, OHCHR continued to advocate for the establishment of a NMRF. A task force was created but its mandate and functioning have not yet been institutionalized.

Peace and Security

PS3 – National policies and programmes comply with international human rights standards and principles and integrate the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

16

OHCHR contributed to early warning and risk analysis, thereby improving levels of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights standards.

OHCHR contributed to fostering joint integrated analysis, exchanged information and fed human rights concerns into the larger UN processes through regular participation in regional working group meetings of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), the Protection Working Group and the Emergency Preparedness and Resilience Working Group.

OHCHR also continued to engage with the West African Network for Peacebuilding through the provision of weekly and monthly early warning analysis reports on **Burkina Faso, Guinea, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo** to facilitate the creation of an early warning network in the region and to integrate human rights analyses into the reports of partners.

Moreover, OHCHR contributed to enhancing the capacities of the NHRCs in **Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, the Gambia, Niger and Senegal** through training on human rights monitoring, with a focus on the rights of migrants, risk analysis and early warning.

Furthermore, OHCHR developed and maintained a dashboard on the COVID-19 situation, including vaccinations, to provide daily updates in each country of the region, with reference to

vulnerable groups, such as older persons and health-care workers.

OHCHR fostered the sharing of situational analyses between OHCHR and UN colleagues working on West Africa through regular analytical early warning outputs on regional trends. This enhanced daily media monitoring relied on the Regional Monthly Reviews (RMR) risk framework to elaborate an annual West Africa Early Warning Media Analysis. In the Gambia, OHCHR collaborated with the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), UNDP, the United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect and the Resident Coordinator's Office to provide support to the Gambia Press Union (GPU) by training 75 journalists to identify and counter inciteful language and hate speech, particularly during their coverage of the elections. The training was aimed at equipping media practitioners from broadcast, online and community radio media platforms with the knowledge and skills required to identify, address and monitor hate speech. It also developed their capacity to effectively engage communities on this issue, in line with relevant professional ethics and international human rights standards.

As recommended by the RMR on the Gambia, held on 29 September, and at the request of the Resident Coordinator and the UNCT, an OHCHR Surge Support Team was deployed to conduct early warning, awareness-raising, advocacy and human rights capacity-building activities for CSOs that are active in the country. The Surge Support Team arrived on 27 November and compiled reports on the human rights situation, monitored the environment, contributed to the UNCT Speech Strategy and Plan of Action and interacted with various stakeholders, such as CSOs and the NHRC. They also contributed to the preparation of UNOCC reports. In addition, following a meeting on the CRD with the UNCT in the Gambia, OHCHR worked closely with UNDP and created an incident tracking page on the CRD. The platform is a tool that provides timely and accurate information that can inform UN advocacy for strategic decision-making and joint early action and thereby consolidate peace and strengthen democracy in the context of the 2021-2023 electoral cycle. A UN Situation Room was set up on election day (4 December).

ZAMBIA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
18.92 million	753,000 km ²	0.584 (rank: 146/189 in 2020)	"A" Status (2016)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2021	
Field office(s)		Lusaka	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2016-2021	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		1	

XB requirements 2021*

US\$ -

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

* New presence since August 2021

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P5 – More systematic monitoring, human rights information and analyses are used to advocate for early, preventive actions.



OHCHR's continued monitoring was integrated into the UN's mediation efforts, which contributed to a peaceful transfer of power in the country.

A comprehensive risk analysis of the country situation, which was conducted in September 2020, emphasized the need for more concerted, integrated prevention efforts in 2021. OHCHR increased its support to the RCO/UNCT by providing strengthened remote monitoring for the identification of emerging trends and the provision of periodic human rights analysis and early warning recommendations.

To this end, it established a Prevention Platform in June. In addition, the Office's media monitoring and situation reports (which were issued before, during and after the elections) helped to maintain a focus on the issues, tensions and violence and informed scenario-based planning and prevention interventions. In August 2021, OHCHR deployed a HRA to the RCO/UNCT in Zambia. The HRA worked closely with the RCO, the UNCT and other stakeholders, thereby contributing to the UNOCC monitoring and reporting procedures for Zambia and in relation to key issues during the electoral period.

OHCHR's monitoring and reporting and the collaborative efforts of the UN contributed to the eventual peaceful transfer of power in Zambia and prevented further

violence and insecurity. The HRA led an After Action Review of the Zambia elections, which was concluded on 18 March 2022, with the identification of lessons learned and a report to inform future and other electoral contexts.

Development

D7 – Human rights norms, analyses and action points are included in key processes, including the Common Country Analysis and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.



The Office continued its advocacy efforts to protect human rights in all government actions, including the budget.

The HRA ensured that the latest CCA reflects Zambia's international human rights commitments and the human rights areas of work that need to be addressed in the coming years. The HRA has been heavily involved in the development of the new UNSDCF in order to ensure that human rights are mainstreamed into the various pillars and that key issues for action are included. The UNSDCF is expected to be finalized in May 2022 and will serve as the basis for the UN's work from 2023 to 2027. In addition, OHCHR's Surge Initiative and the HRA contributed to the COVID-19 Recovery Needs Assessment, which is now with the new Government for follow-up.

The HRA provided advocacy messaging for UN high-level meetings with Cabinet Ministers, including the Ministers of Finance and of Justice, on preventing

retrogression of economic, social and cultural rights in debt review and social protection discussions in order to tackle inequalities that have been exacerbated by the pandemic. Other areas of focus included: ensuring human/environmental safeguards in future economic growth initiatives, such as in the mining sector; the national budget as a tool to promote sustainable development, protect human rights and prioritize support to the social sectors; and working with the Ministry of Finance in future annual budgets to facilitate the increased realization of human rights for the benefit of all Zambians. These events and messages were also disseminated across social media platforms.

ZIMBABWE

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
15.09 million	391,000 km ²	0.571 (rank: 150/189 in 2020)	"A" Status (2016)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2018	
Field office(s)		Harare	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2016-2021	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		1	

XB requirements 2021

US\$264,000

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Mechanisms

M1 – National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and the implementation of their recommendations.

16 17

OHCHR supported the two key national human rights mechanisms that were established in 2018 by facilitating the mid-term evaluation of the National Human Rights Action Plan and building capacities for enhanced engagement with the international human rights mechanisms.

With the HRA's technical support, in collaboration with UNDP and other UN entities who supported the Government with essential resources, the Government undertook local and provincial consultations with CSOs and various government departments to gather inputs

and contributions to the State report to the UPR. Due to COVID-19 restrictions and limits to physical participation, virtual participation was facilitated. At the end of the process, the Government convened a workshop with key government entities to consolidate and draft the report, which was submitted to the Human Rights Council. Zimbabwe underwent its third UPR cycle in January 2022.

M2 – Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes.

17

UN Human Rights contributed to an increase in the number of alternative

reports submitted to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR.

In the context of the Human Rights Working Group and the Programme Management Team, the HRA led the process of elaborating the consolidated UPR submission of the UNCT, with the cooperation and participation of all UN entities. The HRA also facilitated extensive collaboration between UN entities to provide technical assistance and ensure the engagement of various stakeholders in the UPR process through the submission of alternative reports. The HRA worked closely with UN Women to support CSOs in conducting consultations, including through the provision of technical expertise during the drafting process of the report. A total of 68 CSOs contributed to the joint submission. CSO participation in the third UPR cycle increased with a total of 23 joint submissions and 16 individual submissions compared to eight joint submissions and eight individual submissions in the second UPR cycle.

The HRA also cooperated with UNESCO, as the lead of the UNPRPD, to assist OPDs through the provision of resources and technical expertise on the preparation and submission of the first thematic consolidated UPR report on disability issues. A total of four umbrella OPDs, representing a membership of over 55 organizations, contributed to the drafting of the submission. The HRA also collaborated with UNESCO to deliver a briefing on the UPR for representatives of the Media Institute of Southern Africa-Zimbabwe and the Media Association of Zimbabwe. Following OHCHR's technical expertise, two organizations submitted a thematic report to the UPR on the media and freedom of expression in Zimbabwe.

In cooperation with UNDP, which provided the Zimbabwe NHRI with resources, the

HRA offered technical expertise during the drafting process of their UPR submission. Though not considered NHRIs within the scope of the Paris Principles, the Zimbabwe Gender Commission (ZGC) and the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC) participated in the UPR process, for the first time, by providing inputs for the UPR, which were in turn utilized for the UNCT's UPR submissions. The HRA collaborated with UN Women to conduct a training on the UPR process for ZGC staff and commissioners and provided technical support on the drafting of their inputs for the UPR. Similar support was provided by the HRA for ZACC during the preparation of their UPR inputs.

With the HRA's advocacy and technical expertise, Zimbabwe drafted and submitted its common core document and three overdue reports to the human rights treaty bodies, namely, CERD, CESCR and the Human Rights Committee. Submission of these reports will pave the way for CSOs to engage in the treaty reporting processes.

The HRA supported the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, which took place in October. It facilitated her engagement with various stakeholders, including the UNCT and CSOs representing different constituencies through meetings and the submission of inputs on issues of concern. The Adviser also provided support and technical advice to CSO actors on engagement with the Human Rights Council and the special procedures. As a result, communications were issued on behalf of individuals whose rights were alleged to have been violated by the Government and an increased number of inputs and reports were shared with special rapporteurs that highlighted human rights issues of concern in the country.

Accountability

A2 – NHRIs and other national protection systems are established in compliance with international human rights standards.

10 16

OHCHR provided technical support to empower rights-holders to participate in public processes and engage with the international human rights mechanisms to claim their rights.

Under the leadership of the RC, the HRA provided technical advice and worked in collaboration with UNDP, UN Women and UNESCO to develop a project to address the specific needs of the five independent constitutional commissions, namely, the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission, the ZGC, the Zimbabwe Media Commission, the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission and the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission. The objective of the project was to strengthen their institutional capacities to discharge their respective mandates in relation to respect for the rule of law, accountability, democracy, human rights, gender equality and social cohesion. Initial funding was secured to identify the major challenges that the commissions face and the critical actions that need to be undertaken to ensure the effective delivery of their respective and collective mandates.

Participation

P6 – CSOs are able to participate in public affairs and advocate for democratic space.



OHCHR provided technical support to empower rights-holders to participate in public processes and engage with the international human rights mechanisms to claim their rights.

The HRA facilitated CSO consultations with the UNCT during the drafting of the CCA, with a view to informing its analysis. It undertook similar activities during the development of the UNSDCF, to ensure that civil society partners are informed about its expected results, implementation modalities, engagement strategies and any partnership opportunities. The HRA held human rights trainings and briefings for CSO partners to strengthen their capacities to conduct advocacy on human rights issues. Moreover, it facilitated meetings between the RC and human rights CSOs to enable exchanges on key human rights issues of concern and strategies to address those concerns and to serve as the basis for advocacy, particularly with Government authorities that are supported by the RC and the UNCT.

Development

D3 – State authorities adopt and implement laws, policies and strategies on land and housing that increasingly comply with human rights.

OHCHR contributed to ensuring that national legislation and development policies are in compliance with international human rights norms and principles, notably with regard to land and housing.

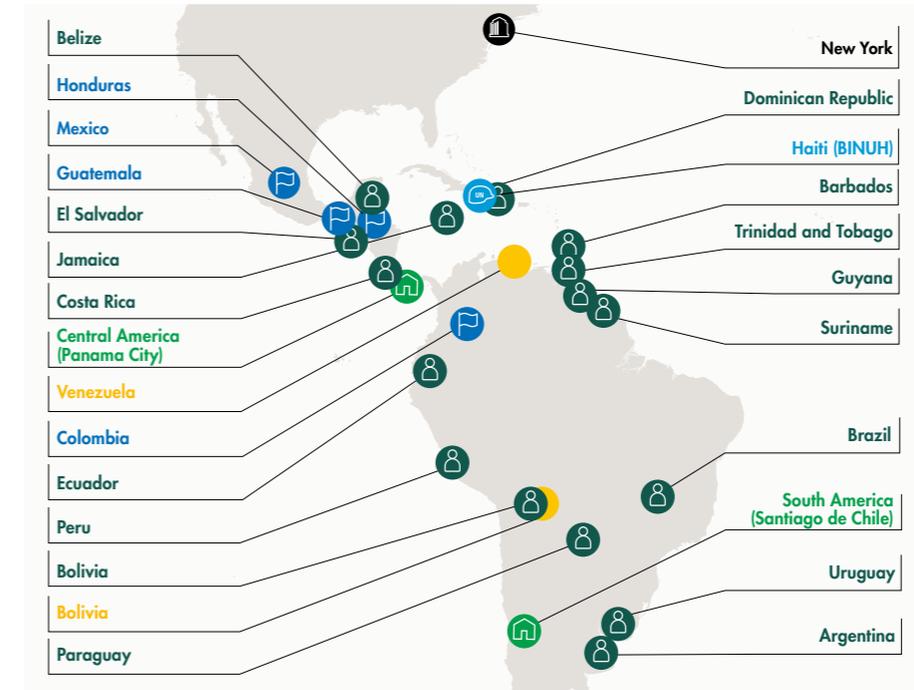
In Zimbabwe, following a spate of evictions and demolitions conducted in parts of the country resulting in displacement and increasing vulnerability of hundreds of people during the rainy season and at a time when the pandemic had hit the country, the HRA led and supported the development of position papers by the UNCT outlining the human rights and protection impact of evictions and demolitions in urban informal settlements and making proposals on possible short and long term interventions by the UN in collaboration with the Government. In the immediate term and through the Resident Coordinator’s intervention and advocacy, the Government ceased evictions. With the HRA’s support and in collaboration with UN-Habitat, the UN is currently engaged in discussions with the Ministry of Housing to support a comprehensive assessment of the housing sector, as well as the regulatory and policy frameworks on forced evictions and demolitions, with a view to providing a basis for medium- and long-term solutions to this problem. The Government is committed to addressing the mushrooming informal settlements and streamlining land and housing allocations, as witnessed through the National Development Strategy, which identifies delivery on housing as one of the 11 priorities.

D7 – All United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) roll-out countries adopt a human rights-based approach (HRBA) to programming and link the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to international human rights standards.

UN common country programmes integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles resulting from technical advice provided by OHCHR.

The HRA provided technical advice during the elaboration of the CCA, leading to the mainstreaming of human rights into the document. Similarly, following the Adviser’s technical support, human rights were integrated into the UNSDCF. The HRA continued to deliver trainings on human rights issues for programmatic structures to encourage the application of an HRBA to programming.

UN Human Rights in the Americas



TYPE OF PRESENCE

- Headquarters
- Country/Stand-alone Offices/Human Rights Missions
- Regional Offices/Centres
- Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions
- Human Rights Advisers*
- Other types of field presences

LOCATION

- New York
- Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico
- Central America (Panama City, Panama) and South America (Santiago de Chile, Chile)
- Haiti (BINUH)
- Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador**, Guyana, Jamaica, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname***, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay
- Bolivia and Venezuela

* Human Rights Advisers deployed under the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group.
 ** Senior Human Rights Adviser/Officer linked to the Regional Office in Panama.
 *** Approved in late 2021 for deployment in 2022.

LEGEND:

Spotlights:

- Disabilities
- Youth
- Women

Shifts:

- Global constituency
- Prevention
- Civic space
- Climate change
- Corruption
- Inequalities
- New technologies
- People on the move

SDGs:



In 2021, UN Human Rights' work in the Americas region covered 35 countries and consisted of 25 field presences: two regional offices (in Panama and Santiago de Chile); four country offices (Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico); one human rights component in a peace mission (United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH)); one technical mission (Bolivia); one operation under a Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) (Venezuela); and 16 human rights advisers (HRAs): three international HRAs in Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica and 13 national HRAs deployed in Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, El Salvador,¹² Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay.

The Americas region continued to register one of the highest numbers of COVID-19 cases and deaths in the world. The socio-economic effects of the pandemic affecting specific groups, compounded with heavy-handed responses from governments, exposed persistent structural inequalities and fragile democratic systems. Rates of poverty (33.7 per cent) and extreme poverty (12.5 per cent) across the region reached levels that have not been seen for 12 and 20 years, respectively. The Latin America and Caribbean region's economic and social development is projected to decelerate for at least a decade, impacting on populations that were already dealing with the disproportionate impacts of the pandemic, including indigenous peoples, people of African descent, women, persons in detention, persons with disabilities and people on the move.

UN Human Rights led monitoring efforts on the impacts of COVID-19 on

the human rights situation in the region. It conducted advocacy and strengthened its alliances with UN Country Teams (UNCTs) and key partners, focusing on vulnerable populations and highlighting the need to ensure equal participation and access to information, respect for civic space and accountability to guarantee the non-recurrence of human rights violations. The capacities of field presences to support the Common Country Analysis/United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (CCA/UNSDCF) processes and Socio-economic Response Plans (SERPs) was enhanced in 2021. This was achieved through the deployment of an economist in Chile and the deployment of a Human Rights Officer with specific expertise on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Panama to support the work of the field presences on economic, social and cultural rights (ESCRs), SDGs and the right to development.

Throughout the year, unprecedented social protests erupted across the region. OHCHR strengthened its monitoring and reporting capacities and enhanced dialogue with national authorities to promote protection and accountability and respect for the rights of freedom of peaceful assembly and association.

Human rights defenders (HRDs) and journalists in the region faced some of the highest risks of attacks in the world, including killings and enforced disappearance. Defenders of land and environmental rights and the rights of indigenous peoples were at particular risk. Women human rights defenders (WHRDs) were subject to a differentiated and disproportionate impact of these attacks. There has been an increase in the

adoption of regulations that restrict the rights to freedom of expression, participation, peaceful assembly and association. OHCHR collected human rights data on the situation of HRDs and journalists, including from a gender perspective, and provided technical support to authorities to enhance prevention, protection and accountability mechanisms. It strengthened its strategic partnerships with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR).

The pandemic exacerbated the vulnerable situation of persons on the move. Migrants were hindered from crossing international borders and were strongly affected by the socio-economic consequences of the pandemic and climate change, within the larger context of increasing stigma and discrimination. OHCHR monitored and promoted the protection of migrants' rights in the region, including human mobility in Central America and Mexico through the so-called migrant caravans and in the Caribbean, in cooperation with other UN agencies. For instance, the OHCHR team working closely with the Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants monitored the situation of Venezuelan migrants in the region, addressed protection concerns with other UN agencies through the Regional Protection Sector groups and provided assistance to national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and civil society networks.

Towards the end of 2021, both Regional Offices in the Americas established Emergency Response Teams (ERTs), thereby strengthening OHCHR's capacity to respond to emerging crises within the framework of its early warning and

prevention strategies and in line with the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights. Field presences in the region strengthened their capacity to identify and respond to risks of violence and human rights violations during electoral processes, including in Honduras, Mexico and Nicaragua.

Surge capacity was provided to Haiti to support the integration of human rights analysis and data into humanitarian action, following the devastating earthquake that hit the country in August, and to develop a Protection Strategy. An internal assessment mission was undertaken in Peru to enhance dialogue and cooperation with authorities and strengthen OHCHR's prevention work in support of the RCO/UNCT. In light of growing demands from States and UN partners, OHCHR increased its engagement in the English-speaking Caribbean.

In 2021, OHCHR strengthened its cooperation with governments in the region by renewing agreements and consolidating its presence in Bolivia, Guatemala and Venezuela. OHCHR engaged with the United States of America on issues relating to racial justice and equality. It also enhanced dialogue with Cuba and provided technical advice on legislative reforms.

OHCHR continued its engagement with Member States and CSOs in relation to Human Rights Council (HRC) mandates on Nicaragua and Venezuela and Security Council mandates on Colombia and Haiti.

OHCHR strengthened its support to CSOs, HRDs and NHRIs across the region.

BOLIVIA (PLURINATIONAL STATE OF)

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
11.83 million	1,099,000 km ²	0.718 (rank: 107/189 in 2019)	"A" Status (2017)
Type of engagement		Technical mission (Other type of field presence)/ Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2019 (technical mission)/2018 (HRA)	
Field office(s)		La Paz	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		5	

XB requirements 2021

US\$2,447,000

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A2 – Strengthened independence of the judiciary and increased efficiency and conformity with human rights standards of the Attorney General's Office (AGO), the Protection Programme of Victims and Witnesses and the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM).

10 **16** 

Through advocacy and technical support, OHCHR contributed to the increased conformity of accountability and protection mechanisms with international human rights standards.

Under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator (RC), OHCHR has been a key partner in the implementation of the UN system-wide approach to support a judicial reform initiative proposed by the Ministry

of Justice. More specifically, OHCHR is part of a team of international experts that is advising the Government, providing technical and policy advice and seeking consensus between the Government and civil society-based platforms. It is anticipated that these activities will culminate in a reform package for the judiciary by mid-2022. To this end, OHCHR monitored select legal proceedings, including those related to serious human rights violations that were committed during the 2019-2020 crisis, enabling it to provide the Government with evidence-based analyses that underscored the need for judicial reform. Emphasis was placed on strengthening respect for due process, judicial independence and justice for victims.

With regard to the Protection Programme of Victims and Witnesses, OHCHR conducted a comprehensive analysis about

¹² A senior Human Rights Officer is linked to the Regional Office in Panama, with a technical assistance team in the country supporting the Resident Coordinator and the UN Country Team on human rights mainstreaming.

how it operates and its shortcomings and outlined recommendations, which have not yet been fully implemented.

Furthermore, OHCHR took steps to strengthen the capacity of the NPM by enhancing its ability to act independently and formulate recommendations based on international standards and norms and by carrying out joint visits to places of detention. OHCHR was accompanied by experts of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture, who reinforced legal standards and outlined good practices. As a result of these efforts, as well as OHCHR's advocacy, the NPM was moved from the Ministry of Justice and integrated into the NHRI, in November, in accordance with recommendations issued by several international human rights mechanisms.

Participation

P1 – States have adopted laws and taken measures to protect human rights defenders (HRDs).

16

The proportion of human rights violation cases flagged by OHCHR that have been positively addressed has increased.

OHCHR monitored the situation of HRDs and journalists in Bolivia and documented numerous cases of attacks and intimidation. Based on its monitoring, OHCHR issued public statements and brought the incidents to the attention of competent authorities. The police organized a number of subsequent workshops, during which OHCHR informed participants about international human rights standards, including on the use of force and the need to protect the work of HRDs and journalists.

Based on the analysis and data collected, OHCHR initiated a consultative process

with approximately 100 journalists and media workers in the nine departments of Bolivia, with a view to identifying prevention and protection measures for their work. It was concluded that a protection mechanism, including a platform for further and systematic monitoring and reporting of incidents affecting the work of the media, should be created and operated by journalists. OHCHR committed to supporting this mechanism, which should be in place by mid-2022.

Furthermore, the Office engaged with various public institutions to advocate for the key role of HRDs and journalists, in particular by recommending the adoption of relevant legislation, in line with the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Defenders. Although the Minister of Justice pledged to submit a draft law to the Legislative Assembly, this has not happened.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – State institutions responsible for meeting the needs of vulnerable groups have been strengthened and receive adequate funding and political support.

5 10 16

OHCHR contributed to enhancing the compliance of regulations and practices with international human rights standards by advocating for the rights of persons deprived of their liberty.

OHCHR supported the Penitentiary Regime under the Ministry of the Interior in drafting COVID-19 guidelines to limit its transmission in places of detention, while also protecting the human rights of persons deprived of their liberty. As a result of this work, some categories of prisoners, including persons with

disabilities, prisoners with HIV/AIDS, elderly persons and those with chronic illnesses, were included in the priority list for vaccination. Moreover, resulting from the Office's advocacy efforts, LGBTI inmates were able to change their names in public registries and be treated in a non-discriminatory fashion while in detention.

Peace and Security

PS3 – Strategies to prevent and respond to conflict consistently integrate human rights protection.

3 5 8 10 13 16 17 

OHCHR contributed to enhancing the integration of human rights protection into efforts to prevent unrest and conflict in the context of elections.

Within the context of the UN Initiative for the Consolidation of Peace in Bolivia, OHCHR monitored the human rights situation during the subnational electoral process that took place in April. Following a series of incidents of violence and discriminatory speech in the pre-electoral phase, the Office shared its concerns and analysis with the international community and deployed teams to six departments to monitor and report on the situation during the pre-electoral, electoral and post-electoral phases. OHCHR's engagement with several authorities and social actors contributed to the conduct of peaceful elections. No major incidents of violence were reported.

OHCHR monitored at least four major protests and strikes that took place in different parts of the country after the elections. During a nationwide strike, in November, OHCHR monitored and documented more than 125 cases of arrests

and detentions, including of protesters and journalists covering the events, as well as the death of one person. This information was used in public and private advocacy with relevant authorities to recommend preventive measures, which contributed to the release of the majority of persons, without legal charges.

In addition, OHCHR regularly supported victims of serious human rights violations, which occurred from 1964-1982 and during the 2019-2020 crisis, in their pursuit of justice, truth and reparation. The Office engaged in public and private advocacy efforts with the Ministry of Justice, resulting in its decision to initiate a participatory process for victims to access reparations on the basis of international standards. OHCHR is working closely with the Ombudsperson and other government authorities to implement this process.

ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN

Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser for English-speaking Caribbean
Countries of engagement	Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, the Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago
Year established	2012
Field office(s)	Bridgetown (Barbados), Georgetown (Guyana), Kingston (Jamaica), Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago)
UN partnership framework	UN Multi-country Sustainable Development Framework (UN MSDf) in the Caribbean 2017-2021
Staff as of 31 December 2021	4

XB requirements 2021

US\$918,000

Key OMP pillars in 2021



PILLAR RESULTS:

Development

D5 – In at least two countries (Antigua and Barbuda, and Dominica), disaster risk and response strategies and environment and climate change policies safeguard the rights of affected populations, including vulnerable groups.

13 14 15 

With advocacy activities, UN Human Rights sought to encourage the increased compliance of climate-related policies with international human rights norms and standards.

In November, the HRA provided technical and logistical support for the official visit of the Special Rapporteur on the issue

of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean and healthy and sustainable environment to **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**. Following the visit, the Special Rapporteur issued a report emphasizing that climate change is wreaking havoc on farms, forests, fisheries, housing, infrastructure and communities in the country, which negatively impacts on the enjoyment of many human rights. In addition, the report increases the awareness of key stakeholders in the Government about the human rights implications of climate change and the role of the Escazú Agreement in analysing environmental decision-making processes and information.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – In at least three countries (Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago), laws and policies protect the rights of women, persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV, LGBTI persons and religious minorities.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the level of compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights standards in relation to the rights of migrants and persons with disabilities.

The HRA continued to monitor the situation of Venezuelan migrants in **Trinidad and Tobago**. It issued two public statements expressing its concerns about the deportation of migrants while calling on the Government to provide legal pathways for migrants to regularize their status. The HRA's advocacy resulted in a decision by the Government to allow registered Venezuelan migrants to legally live and work in the country and have access to COVID-19 vaccines, regardless of their status.

With the HRA's support, proposals were submitted to the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) and included initiatives to be implemented in **Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Trinidad and Tobago** to improve data collection and support the development of legislation to protect the rights of persons with disabilities. The projects were postponed until 2022 due to COVID-19-related restrictions.

Accountability

A1 – At least three countries (Bahamas, Grenada and Jamaica) have begun to design or have established a national human rights institution (NHRI) that operates in compliance with the Paris Principles.

16

OHCHR contributed to engagement in two Caribbean countries around the establishment of NHRIs that are compliant with international standards.

In **Jamaica**, the HRA, Jamaicans for Justice and UNAIDS undertook analysis and joint advocacy regarding the creation of an NHRI with the Ministry of Justice. This resulted in a written declaration by the Minister, on 23 February, that the Office of the Public Defender would be transformed into an NHRI. The establishment and operationalization of the new institution has been delayed due to budgetary limitations. The HRA continued to engage with the Government of **Trinidad and Tobago** on the transitioning of the country's Equal Opportunity Commission into an NHRI. In **Guyana**, the HRA worked closely with the Government, resulting in a project on strengthening the four existing constitutional commissions (Ethnic Relations, Women and Gender Equality, Rights of the Child and Indigenous Peoples) and drafting of a human rights action plan.

A1 – In at least one country (Jamaica), law enforcement authorities and the judiciary have adopted in-house training on human rights. Barbados, Grenada, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines have taken steps to provide human rights training to law enforcement officials.

16

OHCHR's technical assistance contributed to the institutionalization of human rights training in a number of key areas.

In **Jamaica**, the HRA provided technical assistance and advice to the Government in its efforts to introduce criminal justice legislative reforms to address the increase in violent crimes throughout the country. The proposed legislative changes included a new Firearms Act, amendments to anti-gang legislation and regulations for the Major Organized Crime and Anti-Corruption Agency. The Office provided resources and materials on relevant international standards.

Mechanisms

M1 – At least four Caribbean countries (Antigua and Barbuda, Jamaica, Saint Lucia and Suriname) have established mechanisms for human rights reporting and follow-up.

16 17

The Office advocated for the creation of National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRFs) and the drafting of national action plans for the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, including through awareness-raising and capacity-building.

The HRA contributed to a project in **Guyana** that aimed to develop a draft National Human Rights Action Plan focused on the implementation of recommendations issued during the third cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). The Government is strongly committed to developing such a plan with the engagement of all stakeholders.

CENTRAL AMERICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Panama
Year established	2007
Field office(s)	Regional office located in Panama City (Panama), with Human Rights Advisers in Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic and El Salvador
Staff as of 31 December 2021	25

Total income	US\$2,463,723		
XB requirements 2021	US\$4,149,000		
XB expenditure	US\$1,104,712		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
63%	26%	11%	
\$690,748	\$287,088	\$126,876	
RB expenditure	US\$997,200		
Personnel	Non-personnel		
88%	12%		
\$879,824	\$117,376		

Key OMP pillars in 2021



⁴ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – A mobile monitoring team has been established that strengthens OHCHR's capacity to gather information on the human rights situation in countries of the region and report on cases and situations. Its work enables the international community to make more effective representations to the Government on a wide range of concerns.

16

OHCHR enhanced its capacity to gather information, analyse and report on human rights situations and follow-up on the status of implementation of key recommendations issued by the international and regional human rights mechanisms.

The Human Rights Adviser's team in **El Salvador** continued strengthening its work to gather information on the human rights situation in the country in order to report on and raise awareness about cases and/or situations of concern.

The HRA collected, analysed and reported information and issued early warnings to prevent human rights violations. The information shared with the special procedures informed and shaped the positions and statements issued by the mandate holders, particularly in relation to the protection of HRDs and journalists. The team also monitored the enjoyment of ESCRs and other pressing issues, such as enforced disappearance, civic space, mobilization, the right to peaceful assembly and the State's response to these issues.

The team provided technical support to the Office of the Human Rights Ombudsperson to ensure the application of a human rights-based approach (HRBA) to investigations in cases of extrajudicial executions and torture. A manual was subsequently developed and disseminated throughout El Salvador to relevant institutions, including the national police and the Institute of Forensic Medicine. NHRI officials received training on the application of the manual and participated in a series of practical workshops to review selected cases on extrajudicial executions allegedly committed by the police and armed forces. The HRA provided technical assistance to the 13 NHRI offices located in the interior of the country, and reviewed cases submitted by each office.

In 2021, the HRA identified a number of human rights issues of concern in El Salvador, including potential constitutional reforms; the discovery of a clandestine grave with more than 30 bodies of disappeared women; the proposal for a general law on water resources; and the draft Foreign Agents Law. These issues were shared with the RCO to inform joint responses from the UNCT, which resulted in early warning alerts for the Office of the Human Rights Ombudsperson and

various special procedures mandate holders.

For the first time, the HRA provided technical support to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the review and implementation of recommendations issued by the UPR process in relation to El Salvador. The Ministry is responsible for collecting information from other State entities that have reporting commitments to the international human rights mechanisms. The HRA classified and prioritized 152 recommendations that were issued by the UPR and accepted by the State, along with 50 other recommendations issued by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, to develop an implementation strategy, which is expected to be finalized and approved in 2022.

The policy on “Criminal prosecution of war crimes and crimes against humanity” was revised with OHCHR’s technical support. The objective of the revision was to contribute to the improvement of investigative work being carried out by the Office of the Prosecutor on the armed conflict.

A3 – The decisions of judicial institutions increasingly reference international human rights standards and principles of gender equality in cases of femicide and violence against women.



OHCHR contributed to aligning national protection systems with international human rights norms and standards.

The El Salvadoran National Protocol on femicide was updated. It included the incorporation of new criminal categories, such as attempted femicide, and a strong emphasis on securing greater inter-institutional coordination.

The Protocol was validated through extensive consultations with key institutions involved in the investigation of these cases. The HRA will cooperate with UN Women in El Salvador to call for an official endorsement of the Protocol and will continue to advocate for its implementation among key officials dealing with femicide cases.

In December, the HRA, UN Women and the Ibero-American Association of Public Ministries launched a virtual self-learning course on the regional Protocol. The course is a practical tool to strengthen the capacity and improve the practices of justice operators, forensic experts and other specialized personnel who are involved in the various stages of investigating and ruling on femicide cases, including reparations for victims. The HRA contributed to developing the course contents to ensure its alignment with international human rights standards.

The HRA provided support to the Technical Secretariat for Gender and Access to Justice in Costa Rica in the development of draft guidelines on incorporating a gender perspective into sentencing. The guidelines will now be subject to a consultation process before official approval is sought from the Judiciary Commission on Gender in Costa Rica in 2022. The HRA and the Technical Secretariat organized two workshops for judicial officials during the drafting process and stressed the efficacy of the guidelines to address gender stereotypes and ensure that women have access to justice in relation to domestic violence and criminal justice cases, including sexual offence cases. A total of 147 magistrates and judges (102 women and 45 men) from various regions and jurisdictions participated in the workshops.

The HRA delivered a series of four training sessions for key public officials in El Salvador on women’s rights and gender

stereotyping as an obstacle to access to justice and other essential services. A total of 62 officials participated from the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, the Office of the Ombudsperson, the national police, the Institute of Forensic Medicine and the Attorney General’s Office. The training series included theoretical and practical exercises. The practical exercises focused on gender stereotyping related to women who were incarcerated for abortion and had been violated of their right to due legal process. The sessions were positively evaluated by participants, who emphasized the importance of further training on due diligence and gender stereotyping.

Participation

P6 – Individuals that suffer discrimination, including women, LGBTI persons, people of African descent, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities, have increased their capacity to undertake advocacy and are able to exercise their right to participate in decision-making processes.

In Belize, the HRA facilitated the engagement of indigenous peoples, OPDs, women’s groups and civil society organizations with the UNCT, thus enabling them to contribute to human rights assessments, project development and programme planning. During the year, these actors participated in consultations on the SERP for COVID-19, the CCA and the United Nations Multi-country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UN MSDCF).

The HRA also supported the development and implementation of a workshop for women’s organizations and other organizations working with vulnerable women. The two-day event aimed to develop the capacity of CSO and NGO representatives to fully assess the challenges and level of

discrimination they continue to face, particularly during the pandemic, so that they could increase their advocacy efforts. Women participants also had the opportunity to improve their knowledge about economic and social rights, the COVID-19 recovery process and how this can affect their livelihoods, especially in the tourism sector.

Through a series of webinars, LGBTI defenders enhanced their capacity to use United Nations and Organization of American States (OAS) protection mechanisms and document human rights violations. In addition, the Office organized an academic visit to El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, in October, by the UN Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). The objective of the visit was to promote the Special Rapporteur’s latest reports to the Human Rights Council, engage with local stakeholders, listen to their concerns and increase the visibility of SOGI-related issues in the region.

The Office contributed to the empowerment of LGBTI persons to advocate for legal changes and public policies related to the COVID-19 response in Panama. It also underlined the importance of ensuring that the Government’s policies and practices are fully aligned with international and regional standards on the promotion and protection of the rights of LGBTI persons. A joint virtual forum entitled “Human rights, equality and non-discrimination towards LGBTI persons as foundations of the rule of law in Panama” was organized on the occasion of International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia, in cooperation with the Office of the Ombudsperson and the Office of the Administrative Procurator of Panama.

In November and December, the Office strengthened the capacity of the Central American Network of Women’s NGOs working on sexual and reproductive health and rights (La Sombrilla Centroamericana), to carry out advocacy work in Central America and the Dominican Republic. The Office supported the production and dissemination of radio spots to raise awareness about the negative impacts of the pandemic on sexual and reproductive health and rights and the challenges to overcoming them.

The Office facilitated the participation of the LGBTI community in the Free & Equal global campaign, thereby generating increased visibility of the human rights concerns of LGBTI persons (i.e., same-sex marriage) and supporting the advocacy of LGBTI groups for legislative amendments and more inclusive public policies, particularly in the context of the pandemic.

Non-discrimination

ND6 – Official migration policies and programmes are in place to protect the human rights of migrants, especially those who are in situations of vulnerability.



OHCHR contributed to ensuring the compliance of selected State institutions/programmes with international human rights norms and standards by enhancing the capacity of national and regional CSOs to advocate for the human rights of migrants and conduct systematic monitoring of human rights violations faced by migrants. It also contributed to increasing the knowledge of relevant national and regional actors on international human rights standards and strengthened the

capacity of NHRIs to analyse and monitor human rights violations, trends and concerns related to migration.

The monitoring of migrant human rights violations has developed and evolved due to HRA’s recent efforts with NHRIs and CSOs to strengthen their capacity to confront the migration crisis. It also highlighted the actions that States need to take in order to meet their international obligations, particularly demographic groups with pre-existing vulnerabilities. The Office has encouraged the integration of key standards into regional migration policies and programmes.

The Office monitored and analysed regional migratory trends throughout 2021, which was converted into an informative bulletin that identified where the most concerning human rights violations against migrants were taking place and outlined a series of recommendations, with the aim of informing decision-makers and promoting the integration of human rights in public policies and migration governance. The bulletin was created during the last semester of the year and was published at the end of December.

In an emblematic migration case before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, *Velez Llor v. Panama*, precautionary measures were awarded to the plaintiffs, who were migrants in border areas in the context of the pandemic. Throughout the process, OHCHR delivered technical assistance to the Office of the Ombudsperson in Panama to develop and implement a guide on monitoring the violations of migrant rights and provide information on the migrant population at reception stations in Panama during the pandemic. For the first time, the Office of the Ombudsperson presented its special report on migration to the Congress of Panama, which also served as a key input in the case of *Velez Llor v. Panama*.

OHCHR supported NHRIs and CSOs to participate in the regional review of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, in April. The Office facilitated the discussions leading to the drafting of a preliminary report on the review of the implementation of the Global Compact, which was published in April.

Peace and Security

PS5 – The Regional Office has increased its capacity to gather, analyse and manage information relevant to early warning, advocacy and response to critical situations of violence and insecurity. As a result, it has significantly contributed to key regional and national processes and discussions. Relevant security institutions receive political and technical advice, enabling them to better protect the security of citizens in a manner that complies with international human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to the integration of human rights information and analyses into early warning and analysis systems. It also influenced policymaking, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflicts.

In **Costa Rica**, the HRA contributed to the development of a UNCT prevention strategy on land access rights for indigenous leaders that was included in the CCA. The HRA coordinated the Prevention Group that drafted the CCA chapter on prevention. The prevention strategy was built around five key areas related to economic, political, social, environmental and security risks. Going forward, it will be implemented in coordination with the recently established ERT.

In **Nicaragua**, the Office's early warning activities drew international attention to the political repression that occurred in the context of the elections, including the detention of 39 HRDs, political opponents and journalists. In its report to the Human Rights Council and the oral updates it delivered in June, September and December, OHCHR warned that an increasing number of human rights violations were inhibiting the free exercise of civil and political rights during the electoral process. These reports provided relevant information to the international community, which took actions such as international sanctions and statements by Member States and international organizations that condemned the Government's actions and demanded the liberation of imprisoned social and political leaders.

As a result of its analysis and public statements, the Office became the leading early warning voice in the international community on the deteriorating human rights situation in Nicaragua. The Office submitted more than 23 daily internal reports in 2021, including legislative developments, announcements of international sanctions, arrests of political leaders, journalists and HRDs, to the UNOCC. The reports highlighted cases that demonstrated a deterioration of the human rights situation in the country, with particular emphasis on the electoral process. OHCHR's early warning work provided valuable inputs and proposed further action that should be taken by the UN system.

In **El Salvador**, the HRA provided technical support to the Office of the Human Rights Ombudsperson in preparation for an evaluation of the Office of Attention to Victims and its subsequent restructuring. It also reviewed and provided inputs during the drafting of the country's

UNSDCF, ensuring that the HRBA was integrated into each of its pillars, including peace and security.

Due to severe governmental reactions in **El Salvador** and **Nicaragua** to pandemic-related protests, the Office organized a forum with security and human rights experts to develop practical guidance for governments and authorities on responding to protests in accordance with international human rights standards. As a result, a new initiative was developed on aligning protest responses with international instruments and standards, which will be implemented in 2022.

An ERT was fully operational in November. With the establishment of the ERT, the Office began taking initial steps towards creating a tracking system in prioritized countries that can produce risk analysis and feed into the UN early warning system. The new response team will also strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to develop their own emergency response systems. To date, the ERT has created infographics and charts to illustrate the human rights situation in Nicaragua. Some of these charts were disseminated, in November, alongside a statement from the Office to raise international awareness about the human rights violations that took place during the elections in Nicaragua.

The HRA also prioritized human rights analysis in relation to **El Salvador** due to the increased risk of human rights violations resulting from the concentration of power in the executive branch. The HRA increased its monitoring and follow-up in the wake of unconstitutional events that took place in May, when the pro-Government majority in Parliament removed, without due process, the Attorney General and all of the magistrates of the Constitutional Chamber.

The HRA worked towards developing and operationalizing a monitoring system that can inform early warning actions. It is anticipated that a preliminary system will be in place in 2022.

Mechanisms

M1 – Structures to report to the international human rights mechanisms and follow up on their recommendations have been established or strengthened. They are equipped to manage information and consult and engage with these mechanisms and relevant national actors, including authorities and the public. National Preventive Mechanisms have been established and are effectively fulfilling their mandates. Countries have ratified some outstanding international human rights treaties.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to the establishment and functioning of mechanisms for integrated reporting and the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the UPR.

In **Belize**, the Government maintained its commitment to developing and submitting its reports to the human rights treaty bodies. Government officials sought clarification and assistance from the HRA in the preparation of the Government's State Party reports. State Party reports. To build national reporting capacities, the HRA provided thematic support, training and technical assistance. A webinar was held on the drafting and presentation of the Government's State Party report under the simplified reporting procedure.

A training for public officials and CSOs was delivered on CAT. Following the training, a technical working group was established to draft and submit the State Party report under the Convention. The Office also responded to a request from the Parliament to deliver a presentation on the requirements, procedures and obligations of reporting to the UPR and supported the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to lead the Government's response to the recommendations. Belize is working towards the creation of an NHRI, in compliance with the Paris Principles, with support from the HRA. Once approved by the Parliament, Belize will have fulfilled one of the key recommendations issued by the UPR and a number of the human rights treaty bodies.

In **Panama**, the Office supported the preparation of the Government's periodic report to CRPD. OHCHR organized two meetings and a webinar for members of the NMRF. The State requested OHCHR to provide inputs before its final submission.

In **El Salvador**, the HRA assisted officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in analysing and systematizing UPR recommendations. The HRA organized three workshops to develop the workplan of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Human Rights Directorate in order to follow up on recommendations issued by the UPR, the human rights treaty bodies and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. Moreover, the HRA helped the Human Rights Ombudsperson and CSOs to build their capacity to collect and record evidence-based information for their alternative reports.

The Office systematized recommendations issued in relation to migrant populations as a tool to help strengthen the capacity of States to respond in accordance with international human rights standards. The tool was provided to Belize, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Panama. It was also converted into a digital publication that covers all specific recommendations and observations issued by the international human rights mechanisms on human mobility in relation to these countries. This publication will serve as a key input to improve the engagement of governments and other stakeholders with the international human rights mechanisms and enhance follow-up to their recommendations.

COLOMBIA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³	
51.27 million	1,142,000 km ²	0.767 (rank: 83/189 in 2019)	"A" Status (2017)	
Type of engagement	Country Office			
Year established	1997			
Field office(s)	Bogotá, with field presences in Arauca, Barranquilla, Cali, Cúcuta, Medellín, Neiva, Pasto and Villavicencio			
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2020-2023			
Staff as of 31 December 2021	65			
XB income	US\$9,220,552			
XB requirements 2021	US\$12,326,000			
XB expenditure	US\$8,239,630			
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC⁴		
69%	20%	11%		
\$5,708,755	\$1,595,601	\$935,274		

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P1 – Relevant regional, national and local institutions apply a human rights-based approach to public policies and programmes related to the implementation of the Peace Accords and emphasize participation and accountability.



OHCHR continued to support the enhanced compliance with international human rights standards of the policies of national and local institutions through technical assistance, guidance and monitoring of activities.

OHCHR observed during the national strike, which began on 28 April, that dialogue between authorities, protesters and other actors was the most effective practice to prevent, avoid or neutralize situations of violence, including in response to roadblocks. OHCHR participated in seven working groups to promote dialogue between protesters and local authorities, specifically in the district of Bogotá and the municipality of Cali. Furthermore, OHCHR worked with the NHRI, the National Protection Unit and the Attorney General's Office (AGO) to strengthen their capacities to prevent violations and protect HRDs.

On 10 December, the Ministry of the Interior presented the “Public policy on guarantees and respect for the work of human rights defenders and social leadership.” Before its publication, the Office shared with the Ministry its observations and recommendations, some of which were taken into account, in particular those related to the incorporation of an HRBA.

OHCHR provided national authorities and social actors with ongoing assistance for the preparation of the National Action Plan on Human Rights. The Office shared its comments on the document and facilitated 10 meetings between the parties to promote dialogue, which contributed to the Government's document entitled “Government guidelines and actions to ensure respect for and guarantees of human rights in Colombia 2021-2022.” According to the Office of the Presidential Adviser, the document has two objectives. The first objective is to provide the Government with a road map to ensure that human rights in Colombia are respected, protected and guaranteed and the second is to outline a proposal for the joint formulation of the National Action Plan on Human Rights.

P1 – Strengthened laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.



OHCHR continued to support national authorities in their efforts to comply with international human rights standards related to the protection of civic space.

The AGO continued to apply Directive No. 002, which establishes guidelines

for the investigation of crimes committed against HRDs and assigned special officials to cases of attacks against defenders. OHCHR exchanged information with the AGO in relation to specific cases and ensured the protection of witnesses who provided testimony. This contributed to promoting the investigation of crimes against HRDs and violations of other rights, such as those that occurred during national strikes. The establishment of a group of prosecutors that is responsible for investigating threats against HRDs was an important step in the fight against impunity. OHCHR is planning joint activities with this group of prosecutors in 2022 to further clarify these violations.

P6 – Victims, indigenous peoples and women participate more fully in decisions that concern them.



Through technical assistance and capacity-building, OHCHR advocated for the expansion of civic spaces for the meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women, in various public processes.

In 2021, OHCHR delivered 21 workshops to 237 women from 118 organizations in Bogotá, Bolívar, Caquetá, Cesar, Huila, Magdalena and Nariño to increase their knowledge about their rights and how to claim them. More specifically, the workshops focused on international standards on gender-based violence in the context of the armed conflict, the right to health, women's right to participation, self-care and self-protection for WHRDs, international standards for the protection of indigenous WHRDs and international mechanisms to defend women's human rights. As a result of these activities, for

example, a Bogotá-based organization of internally displaced survivors of CRSV was able to draft and present a report to the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP) describing these violations.

In addition, women who participated in the municipal roundtables of Tumaco, Barbaças and Bajo Mira y Frontera (Nariño) improved their access to justice through the presentation of a report by the JEP on the differentiated impact of the armed conflict on women's rights, including as a result of SGBV. In addition, OHCHR provided technical assistance regarding the identification, documentation and systematization of cases of CRSV.

Development

D2 – The National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights (PNA) is fully implemented. The institutions responsible for economic and investment policies and for departments, districts and municipalities, including indigenous territories, are more fully engaged.



OHCHR contributed to improving the compliance of State institutions and programmes with the UNGPs and other international human rights standards.

During the year, the Presidential Council on Human Rights promoted the implementation of the second PNA on business and human rights, which was approved in December 2020. The Presidential Council requested OHCHR's support with the implementation of the PNA in 2021, in particular regarding training on the international normative framework on business and human rights. Due to the national strike, the timeline was

delayed and the agreed activities will be carried out in 2022. The PNA's baseline on business and human rights, which was developed by OHCHR and two universities (Universidad Javeriana and Universidad del Rosario), will feed into the development of the third PNA. It is anticipated that this will begin in 2022.

With regard to human rights due diligence, OHCHR provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Mines and Energy in the development of a strategy that aims to protect social leaders in the areas of influence of mining and energy projects. The strategy, including some comments from OHCHR, was approved and is being piloted by the Ministry in two communities in Magdalena Medio.

D2 – Business actors effectively implement the UNGPs.



The Office provided technical assistance regarding international standards on business and human rights to all parties in the context of consultation and mediation processes.

During the 2021 national strike, peasant communities affiliated with the Ríos Vivos community organization blocked the entrance of the tunnel to the Ituango Dam engine room, in Antioquia Department. The Commander of the National Army and the departmental police asked the Office to intervene. OHCHR initiated mediation talks between the Mayor's Office of Medellín, Empresas Públicas de Medellín (EMP) and the Ríos Vivos community organization. During nine meetings, the community presented its petitions, most of which were addressed by EMP in the course of the negotiations.

D4 – The policies and programmes of the comprehensive health assistance system (MIAS) and the comprehensive indigenous intercultural health system (SISPI) increasingly comply with international human rights standards.

3 5

OHCHR continued to support the Government's efforts to increase the compliance of policies on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) with international human rights standards, including through technical advice and advocacy.

OHCHR participated in eight meetings of the sub-Cluster on maternal health, sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence to discuss strategies with the Ministry of Health that were implemented to tackle sexual and reproductive health care. The Office prepared a document on SRHR in Colombia and the impacts of the pandemic and measures that restricted access to the enjoyment of these rights. This document will serve as a tool for engaging with the Ministry in 2022.

Peace and Security

PS1 – All actors involved in peace operations increasingly recognize and comply with international human rights standards and international humanitarian law and enhance the protection of civilians.

5 16

By documenting and analysing human rights violations, the Office was able to identify the structural factors that are driving violence and provide technical assistance to relevant national institutions that are tackling these violations.

In 2021, OHCHR documented 78 massacres, a number that is similar to 2020. In most cases, the alleged perpetrators were non-State armed groups or criminal groups fighting for the control of illicit economies.

The Office provided technical assistance to the National Security Guarantees Commission (CNGS) on the draft design of a policy and action plan to dismantle the criminal organizations that are responsible for massacres and the murder of HRDs, social leaders and persons participating in the implementation of the Peace Agreement. The Office accompanied the CNGS to 11 technical roundtable sessions, including those carried out in the regions, and advocated for the equal participation of women and men and the inclusion of gender, ethnic and age-related approaches in the discussions. The policy has yet to be approved.

PS4 – Transitional justice mechanisms increase accountability for conflict-related violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

16

OHCHR contributed to strengthening the capacity of transitional justice mechanisms to incorporate international standards on the participation of victims into their rules of procedures.

The Constitutional Court extended the mandate of the Commission for the Clarification of Truth, Coexistence and Non-recurrence (CEV) for an additional nine months, which includes two months for the dissemination of its final report to be published in June 2022. OHCHR contributed to strengthening the capacities of the CEV to enable it to incorporate

international standards into its final recommendations, including in relation to security, justice, extrajudicial executions, education and culture, State presence, corruption, victims and land. The Office also increased the understanding of regional and national officials of the CEV about human rights violations, with a territorial perspective, by facilitating 35 technical assistance sessions on international norms and standards. In addition, OHCHR provided technical assistance to the CEV to facilitate the organization of regional truth-seeking dialogues and consultations with communities and victims. The CEV held 13 such events in 2021.

The Unit for the Search of Disappeared Persons (UBPD) received 19,608 search requests and determined that the total number of victims who have been disappeared is 99,235. The Unit recovered 337 bodies and five people were found alive. In a noteworthy accomplishment, the second phase of the National Search Plan was developed and 20 regional search plans were implemented. OHCHR helped to strengthen the UBPD's coordination strategy with regional institutions in order to contribute to the search for disappeared persons. The Office also provided technical and methodological assistance to the UBPD and sponsored the realization of two regional pacts, in which 1,000 people participated, including relatives of victims and State officials. It also monitored the impact of two of the regional plans (Antioquia and Buenaventura).

Finally, in January, the Government sanctioned the legislation that extends the duration of the Victims' Law (Law No. 1448 of 2011), thereby guaranteeing the reparation and land restitution processes for the next 10 years. The Office contributed to its extension, including through its participation in a public hearing at the

Constitutional Court, in 2019, in which it reiterated the international norms and standards on victims' rights. The Court subsequently determined that the law should be extended.

Accountability

A1 – The Government adopts or strengthens policies that prevent human rights violations from occurring in the context of the justice system. For instance, it limits military criminal jurisdiction in cases of gross human rights violations, limits the selection and accumulation of cases by the AGO and orients prosecutorial policy to strengthen the operations of the JEP.

16

Through technical assistance, OHCHR aimed to support the increased compliance of selected policies with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR provided technical guidance to a magistrate of the JEP through a document that addresses the participation of ethnic peoples in the territorial macro-cases of northern Cauca and the Pacific coast of Nariño and outlines how to incorporate an ethnic approach into protection measures for victims and their communities. OHCHR also provided technical cooperation to the JEP's Section of Acknowledgment of Truth on the incorporation of standards on the prosecution of international crimes in macro-case 003, on extrajudicial executions, thereby contributing to the first decisions made, in line with international standards, in relation to the determination of facts and conduct in such cases.

A2 – The Government strengthens the mechanisms for collective reparation and land restitution.

10 16

With OHCHR's support, accountability and protection mechanisms functioned in conformity with international human rights standards.

In 2021, the Office worked on four priority cases with the Land Restitution Unit, namely, the case of the Hitnü in Arauca, the Jiw and the Nukak in Guaviare and the Barí in Norte de Santander. OHCHR supported indigenous authorities in the preparation of two petitions related to the Hitnü case that were presented to the Land Restitution Unit and the National Land Agency. The petitions requested an update on the processes being carried out and the implementation of precautionary measures that were ordered by a land restitution judge in Norte de Santander. The National Land Agency responded positively to this request and solicited support from OHCHR to hold four meetings with the authorities of the Hitnü people. The Office made further progress on the delimitation of the territory, including the indigenous reservation that is being expanded by the Hitnü people and the installation of fences and boundary stones as requested by the Land Restitution Unit.

With regard to the Barí case, OHCHR participated in the only territorial roundtable session that was held in 2021 between Barí indigenous representatives, the National Land Agency and National Natural Parks of Colombia. The National Land Agency shared the progress made in the production of the socio-economic, legal and land ownership study, yet to be finalized, and the Office monitored compliance with the commitments undertaken.

GUATEMALA			
Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
18.25 million	109,000 km ²	0.663 (rank: 127/189 in 2019)	"A" Status (2018)
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	2005		
Field office(s)	Guatemala City		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2020-2024		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	33		

XB income	US\$4,483,875		
XB requirements 2021	US\$6,542,000		
XB expenditure	US\$4,036,113		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
74%	15%	11%	
\$2,978,195	\$626,051	\$431,867	

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1 2 3 4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Non-discrimination

ND1 – Indigenous peoples, women and others who are subject to discrimination make use of strategic litigation to demand their rights and hold individuals and institutions to account for human rights violations.



OHCHR provided methodological and legal support to enhance the knowledge of CSOs and human rights defenders working on the rights of indigenous peoples, thereby increasing the use of national protection systems in compliance with international human rights standards.

OHCHR collaborated with the University of San Carlos' Western University Centre and the Izabal University Centre to deliver a training programme on strategic litigation related to the rights of indigenous peoples. The programme incorporated a gender-based approach and was attended by 125 people (73 women, 52 men), including indigenous leaders, lawyers, students and teachers. All participants completed 140 hours of online classes and 21 students completed 500 hours of internships. They have continued to provide support to rights-holders in defining strategic litigation road maps regarding their respective cases. As a result of the

training programme, a judicial process related to the denial by the authorities to use development funds at the community level was raised by students and the University's Law Faculty and the District Court decided in favour of an indigenous community against the municipality of Momostenango in Totonicapán. This was the first time that a public university presented a case through the Court supporting the collective rights of indigenous peoples.

In addition, OHCHR provided technical assistance to seven national counterparts that received favourable judgments in their cases before the Constitutional Court. More specifically, the Office supported the development of road maps, timelines and tools for the implementation of the rulings. Further, OHCHR supported the definition of the territorial governance and revised community regulations for the management of communal lands with San José Poaquil Ancestral Authorities; the validation and dissemination of a tool to carry out a community cadastre of the Maya indigenous community of Sierra Santa Cruz; and the development of protection protocols for social communicators facing stigmatization.

Indigenous women leaders developed a draft bill on intellectual property and the rights of indigenous peoples to culture and self-determination. OHCHR engaged the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and an international expert to review, revise and provide commentary on the bill, with reference to international human rights standards. In May, OHCHR and WIPO organized an online regional seminar to enable the exchange of experiences on the drafting and practical application of collective intellectual property laws for the protection of traditional knowledge and cultural expressions of

indigenous peoples. This seminar aimed to provide the Guatemala National Weavers Movement with relevant inputs in the preparation of a final version of the draft bill to protect indigenous intellectual property rights.

ND6 – Institutions that implement migration policies adopt a human rights-based approach. CSOs, State institutions, UN agencies and other relevant actors cooperate to monitor, ensure and enforce respect for the human rights of migrants.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms to identify, address and defend the human rights of migrants.

The UN Humanitarian Inter-Cluster Coordination Group addressed the situation of the January 2021 migrant caravan and OHCHR, as a member of the Protection Cluster, advocated for the incorporation of an HRBA into the humanitarian response. The Office also finalized a regional monitoring strategy, being implemented by four OHCHR field presences in Central America, regarding the human rights situation of people on the move which includes, among other activities, the provision of technical assistance to the Guatemalan Migration Institute.

ND7 – The general public speaks out on critical human rights issues, reports abuses, demands necessary changes and participates in decision-making processes.



Selected national actors developed the capacity, with OHCHR's support, to improve the narrative on human rights issues.

As a follow-up to the capacity-building process carried out by the Office in 2020, 12 new workshops were held for communications officers working for indigenous organizations (15 women, 11 men). The workshops focused on international human rights law, the design of communications campaigns, international human rights protection mechanisms, the preparation of press releases and access to information. As a result of these activities, participants produced more strategic and focused communications, campaigns and press releases.

In addition, the Office provided technical assistance to organizations of indigenous peoples to enable them to update their communications strategies and effectively implement specific communications campaigns highlighting indigenous rights, particularly regarding the implementation of judicial sentences regarding the rights of indigenous peoples.

Participation

P2 – Institutional mechanisms to protect HRDs are robust, comply with international standards and are appropriately sensitive to gender and culture.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening the compliance of oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms with international human rights standards, including those aimed at protecting HRDs and journalists.

The Office documented 103 new cases of attacks against HRDs and continued to follow up on and advocate for protection measures with relevant authorities in relation to 100 cases (73 from 2019-2020 and 27 from 2021). The Office also documented 33 new cases of attacks against journalists and violations of the right to freedom of expression, representing a significant increase over previous years. The Office further reported an increase in online attacks and threats directed against HRDs during the pandemic.

In January, OHCHR launched an online educational platform (www.participa-promueveprotege.org), which seeks to strengthen the knowledge of State institutions and civil society actors on the promotion and protection of human rights. This platform has enabled OHCHR to facilitate six training workshops in 2021. The Office also facilitated a six-week workshop on the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders for 20 officials (14 women, six men) from the Attorney General's Office (AGO), the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Energy and Mining, the National Civilian Police, the General Procurator's Office and the judiciary. Through two virtual sessions, the Office strengthened the knowledge

of 16 staff (nine women, seven men) of the Presidential Commission on Human Rights (COPADEH) on the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders and the right to defend human rights. At the regional level, OHCHR and the IACHR worked closely to strengthen the capacities of 25 people (12 women, 13 men) from CSOs and State institutions from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua on the protection of HRDs.

P6 – Rights-holders, especially women, youth, indigenous peoples and other underrepresented groups, defend human rights and make their voices heard.



Through training and awareness-raising activities, OHCHR built the capacity of young people to support their meaningful participation in public processes.

In March, OHCHR and DEMOS co-produced and published communications products concerning human rights, with a focus on young people and the right to defend human rights. Six posters were created to promote human rights for young people, in five Maya languages and Spanish, and two videos were produced on the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.

The Office provided guidance to the Young HRDs Network for the development of their annual workplan and extended technical assistance to five organizations from the Network through a workshop for 75 members (57 women and 18 men) on the implementation of a HRBA. In addition, the Office connected with the Network of Young Communicators of Polochic and invited them to participate in the Young HRDs Network. Some of them joined the Network.

In May, the Office enhanced the knowledge of 62 young people (46 women, 16 men) at a virtual forum on the Escazú Agreement, with an emphasis on the environment, access to information and the defence of human rights. A total of 10 visual materials portraying key messages from the forum were created by young artists and distributed among youth organizations supporting the Escazú Agreement.

Accountability

A1 – The AGO, the Public Defence Institute, the judiciary, the Constitutional Court, the Congress and State institutions increasingly integrate human rights standards into their policies and decisions. National and international CSOs, Congress and other actors advocate for the abolition of the death penalty and the ratification of ICCPR-OP2.



OHCHR contributed to improving the compliance of State institutions with international human rights norms and standards.

With technical assistance from OHCHR, the Constitutional Court published a compilation of judgments on the rights of indigenous peoples; a pedagogical mediation of four rulings on the rights of indigenous peoples; and a child-friendly version of the Constitution in the indigenous Xinka language. These publications were launched through hybrid events with in-person attendance of 47 people (25 women, 22 men) including magistrates from the Constitutional Court, the Ministers of Health and Education, representatives of the NHRI, members of the diplomatic community, indigenous authorities and Maya women's organizations.

Furthermore, the Office developed the capacity of prosecutors (14 women, 16 men) on international human rights standards and mechanisms and on transitional justice and 50 judges, prosecutors and members of the Institute of Criminal Public Defence (25 women, 25 men) were trained on the international mechanisms for the protection of the human rights of indigenous peoples.

Development

D3 – State institutions more consistently incorporate international human rights standards into their interventions and policies on land, housing, poverty and related rights.



OHCHR contributed to improving the incorporation of international human rights standards into the policies and practices of State institutions on land, housing and work.

The Ministry of Energy and Mines coordinated with authorities of the Xinka People's Parliament to develop the pre-consultation process related to the extractive activities of the San Rafael Mine, in accordance with the September 2018 judgment of the Constitutional Court. The Ministry of Culture and Sports, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, the Presidential Commission for Dialogue, the University of San Carlos, the NHRI and community and municipal authorities are participating in the process. OHCHR is closely monitoring the consultations and is in regular contact with the parties. The Office strengthened the knowledge of 24 stakeholders (14 women, 10 men) on free and informed consultation to enable them to meaningfully participate in the process.

In addition, OHCHR concluded the consultation process in selected municipalities (Santa Apolonia, Santa Cruz La Laguna, Santa Maria Chiquimula, Santa Lucia la Reforma, San Gaspar Ixchil and San Bartolomé Jocotenango) on the Social Registry of Households (SRH), during which rights-holders presented their recommendations. This information was sent to the Ministry of Social Development and will be incorporated into the SRH. The Office also strengthened the capacities of 34 ministry officials (10 women, 24 men) to incorporate a gender approach into the SRH.

D3 – Rights-holders, especially rural dwellers, women, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities and groups affected by discrimination, actively participate in preparing laws, policies and strategies related to food, housing and land.



OHCHR contributed to improving the capacity of rights-holders to meaningfully participate in selected public processes.

The Office conducted three focus groups with 36 Mayan people (22 women, 14 men) from the towns of Q'anjob'al, Kaqchikel and Ixil, where information was collected on various good practices employed by indigenous peoples to address the COVID-19 pandemic, including traditional medicine, health measures and management of water and food supplies. The information was incorporated into a final document and video, which will be disseminated to various stakeholders in the country. Moreover, OHCHR field presences in Latin America and the Caribbean held a virtual forum, in March, on the needs and contributions of indigenous peoples in the region during the

pandemic. The inputs gathered were used to produce a final document and a video.

OHCHR prepared a toolbox with printed and digital information materials with the aim of disseminating the international standards on ESCRs in a pedagogical manner. The toolbox includes six brochures on the rights to food, water, social protection, decent work, the rights of persons with disabilities and business and human rights. The toolbox will be used to raise awareness and strengthen knowledge among State entities, CSOs, HRDs, academic institutions, the business sector and research centres, among other stakeholders.

Peace and Security

PS3 – The policies and practices of State institutions that are responsible for the security of citizens increasingly comply with international human rights standards and pay special attention to the rights of indigenous peoples, women, children, migrants and others who are subject to discrimination, including CSOs.



OHCHR increased the capacity of State institutions to comply with international human rights standards by providing technical assistance and documenting human rights concerns.

The Office monitored, documented and followed up on 33 cases of human rights violations committed by public security forces, including reported cases of excessive use of force, extrajudicial executions and torture. In January, the Office participated in a technical roundtable, convened by the National Civilian Police, to begin work on updating the protocols for police action during demonstrations and ensuring their alignment with international standards. During the year, OHCHR monitored 105 demonstrations (seven in situ, 98 remotely). During the monitored in situ demonstrations, the Office provided technical assistance to the National Civilian Police regarding the implementation of the protocols.

HAITI: UNITED NATIONS INTEGRATED OFFICE IN HAITI (BINUH)

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
11.54 million	28,000 km ²	0.510 (rank: 170/189 in 2019)	"A" Status (2013)
Type of engagement		Special Political Mission	
Year established		2004 as MINUSTAH; as MINUJUSTH since 2017; BINUH since July 2019	
Field office(s)		Port-au-Prince	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2016-2021	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		6	

XB requirements 2021 **US\$1,136,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:**Accountability**

A1 – The Inspectorate General for Police and the Conseil Supérieur du Pouvoir Judiciaire (CSPJ) functions effectively and consistently investigates and prosecutes serious violations.

16

OHCHR supported the Haitian National Police (IGPNH) to improve the compliance with international human rights standards of its investigation procedures and prosecution of human rights violations.

BINUH's Human Rights Service (HRS) held regular meetings with the IGPNH and shared information on cases of human rights violations attributed to members of the police. From January to November, the HRS reported 189 cases

to the IGPNH, 53 of which were investigated. The IGPNH recommended 34 cases for disciplinary measures and forwarded seven cases to the judiciary. The justice system failed to investigate these cases due to institutional dysfunction and insecurity caused by criminal violence in a number of jurisdictions.

In Haitian prisons, approximately 82 per cent of the prison population is composed of pretrial detainees and the occupancy rate is 343 per cent of its capacity. The HRS conducted 12 visits to detention facilities across the country, including a prison for women and girls and a detention centre for boys. In the course of these visits, the HRS conducted 229 individual interviews. This led to the publication, in June, of a report on detention conditions in Haiti, which notes the widespread

prevalence of illegal and arbitrary arrests and detention and situations of extreme overcrowding, resulting in serious human rights violations. Following the release of the report, the HRS assisted the Ministry of Justice to develop a strategic plan to reduce illegal and arbitrary detention in Haitian prisons. The HRS is part of a steering committee that was established to implement the strategic plan.

Participation

P1 – The Office de la Protection du Citoyen (OPC) retains its legal standing and receives the necessary resources to operate independently in all departments.

16

OHCHR contributed to the effective functioning of the OPC, in conformity with international standards, by providing technical assistance and training.

The HRS continued to monitor the human rights situation in Haiti, either directly or through the OPC and other civil society partners. To enhance its reach, and in response to prevailing insecurity, the HRS reinforced its remote monitoring approach and established seven networks among HRDs, journalists and police officers. The objective of the networks is to facilitate the collection and verification of information, particularly in hard-to-reach areas under gang control.

Regarding civic space, the HRS worked with journalists, civil society associations and UNESCO to advocate for the safety of journalists and promote freedom of expression and the independence of the press in Haiti. From September to December, the HRS collaborated with Combite pour la Paix et le Développement and the Haitian online Media Association

to co-organize four training sessions for 80 online journalists. The trainings focused on monitoring and documenting human rights violations, including violations of the right to freedom of expression, and liaising with the special procedures and human rights treaty bodies on cases related to the protection of journalists. Furthermore, in November, the HRS and UNESCO launched an awareness-raising campaign aimed at sensitizing national stakeholders, in particular the Haitian National Police, State authorities, press associations, HRDs, students and researchers, on prevailing impunity for crimes against journalists.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – Laws criminalize sexual and gender-based violence. No laws are discriminatory with respect to LGBTI persons. Incidents of SGBV and acts of violence against LGBTI persons are investigated and prosecuted. Women's groups and associations that represent LGBTI persons and children are entitled to advocate on behalf of those they represent.

5 10 16

Through advocacy and technical cooperation, OHCHR sought to support the increased compliance of legislation and policy, as well as UN programmes, with international human rights norms and standards, in particular to uphold the rights of the most vulnerable.

In cooperation with the RCO, UNFPA, IOM and the Union of Women with Reduced Mobility of Haiti, the HRS organized a workshop to assess the implementation of the recommendations issued by CRPD in relation to Haiti in 2018. The workshop, which was held on 3 December, brought together associations

of persons with disabilities and State representatives and provided an opportunity for the development of an action plan to follow up on these recommendations and uphold the civil and political rights of persons with disabilities and their right to education.

As co-leads of the Protection Sector, the HRS and the OPC ensured that protection was upheld in the humanitarian response to the earthquake that hit the country, in August. Particular emphasis was placed on the human rights of the most vulnerable categories of the population, including women and girls, IDPs, persons living in remote areas, persons with disabilities and older persons. Following this coordination effort, victims received a wide range of assistance, such as psychosocial, medical and housing support, through programmes that were implemented by the Protection Sub-Sectors (Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons, Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence).

Furthermore, the HRS supported UNCT members to integrate a human rights-based approach (HRBA) and the Leave No One Behind (LNOB) principle into their work and programming. The HRS delivered three online training sessions for UNCT members and representatives of the Government and civil society. The objective of the training was to equip participants with the necessary tools to prepare targeted contributions for the draft UNSDCF for the period 2023-2027.

ND6 – Steps have been taken to ensure that the rights of Haitian migrants are protected, in particular during deportation cases and when persons of Haitian descent become stateless in the Dominican Republic.



OHCHR contributed to efforts of relevant actors to monitor and follow up on cases of violations of the human rights of migrants.

Together with IOM and CSOs, the HRS monitored and reported on the human rights situation of migrants and returnees at the Port-au-Prince airport and the border with the Dominican Republic. In November, in response to the mass expulsions of hundreds of vulnerable women, including those who were pregnant and nursing, from the Dominican Republic, the HRS conducted an emergency field mission to monitor the protection situation of expelled individuals and to assemble human rights organizations at the border. Furthermore, in December, the HRS participated in a hearing by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights regarding the human rights situation of Haitian returnees. The HRS advised the Service Jesuite aux Migrants on requesting the hearing and preparing their statement. The HRS also supported the OPC in its advocacy efforts with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in order to ensure respect for the rights of returnees and migrants.

Mechanisms

M1 – The Inter-ministerial Committee meets regularly and based on a national action plan, takes action to implement recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

16 17

OHCHR provided support to NMRF on the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the UPR.

The HRS provided technical support to the Office of the Prime Minister and the Inter-ministerial Committee on Human Rights (CIDP) to prepare and submit the national report for Haiti's third UPR cycle, which is scheduled to take place in 2022. As part of this process, the HRS provided technical and financial assistance to the CIDP to organize a consultation workshop to seek feedback from civil society actors on the implementation of recommendations accepted by Haiti during its first and second UPR cycles. The consultation resulted in the establishment of a connection between the CIDP and CSOs and a meaningful discussion on human rights challenges facing the country.

HONDURAS

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
10.06 million	112,000 km ²	0.634 (rank: 132/189 in 2020)	"B" Status (2016)
Type of engagement		Country Office	
Year established		2015	
Field office(s)		Tegucigalpa	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2017–2021	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		18	

XB income	US\$3,444,992		
XB requirements 2021	US\$6,271,000		
XB expenditure	US\$3,760,742		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
68%	21%	11%	
\$2,560,278	\$787,362	\$413,102	

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Laws, policies and practices on security, including the participation of military forces in citizen security tasks, comply more fully with international human rights standards.

16

OHCHR continued to advocate for the increased compliance with international human rights standards of legislation and policy on security.

In the context of the general elections that were held in Honduras, in November, OHCHR implemented a strategy that

contributed to achieving an overall peaceful and participatory election. This was due in part to the deployment of teams, in cooperation with over 40 NGOs, security forces and the NHRI, to monitor the human rights situation on the ground and identify trends that informed early warning and advocacy actions. In addition, the Office provided technical assistance to electoral institutions and the Attorney General's Office (AGO). This resulted in the nationwide deployment of more than 400 prosecutors to prevent and prosecute electoral crimes, including the use of excessive force by security agents. Furthermore, OHCHR developed several

tools to monitor human rights violations during the elections, which enabled OHCHR to carry out a comprehensive evaluation of the security sector and yielded analytical information that was used by other stakeholders.

As part of its efforts to encourage the compliance of the penitentiary system with international human rights standards, OHCHR provided technical cooperation to the NPM, CONAPREV. As a result, CONAPREV increased its capacity to respond to complaints of torture, ill-treatment and other human rights violations in an effective and more proactive manner. OHCHR also opened channels of communication with military authorities and the Security and Defence Secretariat, paving the way for future work on the progressive demilitarization of citizen security tasks and detention centres and the design and implementation of a public policy on security.

A2 – The Supreme Court and the AGO strengthen their technical and institutional capacity to prosecute human rights violations promptly, impartially and effectively.

10 16



OHCHR continued to work with authorities to ensure that oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms were in place and functioning, in conformity with international human rights standards.

In May, the Office signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the AGO to facilitate the provision of technical support. This led to close technical collaboration and the AGO's development and implementation of strengthened prosecution strategies in relation to prioritized

cases, including through the incorporation of relevant international human rights standards. Moreover, technical assistance and tools provided to CSOs on access to justice increased their capacity to bring claims before national courts and international human rights mechanisms, in particular on cases involving women, HRDs, LGBTI persons, persons with disabilities, environmental justice and indigenous peoples and Afro-Honduran peoples.

In the case of the 2016 murder of environmental activist and human rights defender, Berta Cáceres, OHCHR engaged with the AGO, the judiciary, victims, the UNCT and the special procedures to advocate for an access to justice strategy and the implementation of relevant international human rights standards. The Office presented legal opinions and promoted the participation of victims in the trial of David Castillo, the person who was responsible for the Agua Zarca hydroelectric project and convicted as a co-author of the murder of Berta Cáceres. This judgment was an important step towards achieving truth, justice and reparation.

A2 – As part of its strategic working plan, the Supreme Court adopts and implements strategies that improve the access to justice of marginalized groups, including migrants, women victims of violence, indigenous peoples, members of the LGTBI community and persons living with disabilities.

10 16



OHCHR continued to provide technical assistance and tools to duty-bearers, rights-holders and CSOs working with marginalized groups to improve their access to justice.

OHCHR provided technical assistance to the AGO in the case of the extrajudicial execution of Keyla Martinez, which occurred while she was being detained at a police station. OHCHR engaged with prosecutors and investigators on the procedures, protocols and international obligations related to the investigation of extrajudicial executions and violent deaths of women to ensure the integration of a gender perspective. This engagement resulted in the AGO's indictment of a police officer for aggravated femicide, representing the first such case in the country. In its public statement announcing the indictment, the AGO recognized OHCHR's assistance in incorporating the Latin-American Model Protocol for the Investigation of Gender-Related Killings of Women into its investigative procedures. OHCHR simultaneously carried out a review of its current guidelines for the investigation of femicide cases, which will inform technical assistance that will be provided in 2022 and ensure its alignment with international standards.

Participation

P2 – Legal frameworks, public policies and institutions and the NPM increasingly apply international standards and practices that protect HRDs, including from intimidation and attack.



Through advocacy and technical assistance, OHCHR supported the functioning of protection mechanisms in conformity with international human rights standards.

The Office participated in sessions of the NPM that undertook decisions regarding protection measures for HRDs. OHCHR reviewed a number of cases to ensure that

each step of the process, from the submission of a protection request to the risk analysis and subsequent establishment of measures, was compliant with international standards. These initiatives contributed to the strengthening of capacities of public institutions to adequately protect HRDs and served to significantly increase trust between OHCHR and the NPM. This openness enabled OHCHR to analyse its functioning, including through several meetings with CSOs, members of the NPM and other institutions. As a result of this process, OHCHR will present a comprehensive report to the new government in 2022. The content to the report will be used to develop a strategic plan for the institutional strengthening of the NPM.

P5 – By 2021, relevant authorities are taking effective action to investigate and sanction attacks or reprisals against HRDs in cases raised by OHCHR.



Through its monitoring and reporting work, OHCHR brought cases of human rights violations to the attention of relevant authorities. The Office advocated for them to be positively addressed.

The Office implemented a monitoring and documentation protocol to register and analyse attacks and grave violations against HRDs, journalists and demonstrators. OHCHR used the new system to register 362 victims of attacks during 2021, including 10 violent deaths. It also intervened in many of these cases and facilitated contact between victims or their families and the NHRI or the NPM and provided NGOs with support in bringing cases to the attention of the international human rights mechanisms.

One example of the comprehensive support that OHCHR provided to HRDs was evident in the emblematic “Nueva Esperanza” case, wherein two indigenous HRDs were accused of forced displacement and sent to pretrial detention. The Office conducted two visits to the prison and three to their community, observed five trial hearings, developed a legal analysis of the case, facilitated the indigenous community’s engagement with the special procedures, shared a legal brief with relevant Courts and publicly expressed its concern about the use of the penal disposition on forced displacement to criminalize the defence of human rights. In addition, an allegation letter was sent to the Court by a number of special procedures mandate holders, including the Special Rapporteurs on the human rights of internally displaced persons, on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, on the rights of indigenous peoples and on the situation of human rights defenders. The HRDs were finally released after more than 300 days in pretrial detention.

P6 – Rights-holders, especially women, indigenous peoples and underrepresented groups, participate in selected public processes at the local and national level.

Rights-holders have the knowledge and skills to meaningfully participate in selected public processes.

The Office created three permanent joint working groups with CSOs. The first relates to the protection of the right to defend human rights, the second is dedicated to the protection of freedom of expression and the third focuses on the protection of the freedoms of peaceful assembly and association. These working groups, which collectively include 50 organizations, met periodically during the

year to exchange issues of concern and facilitate the development of a joint strategy with concrete actions and activities.

The working groups also provided the Office with the ability to coordinate activities with civil society actors on a wide variety of issues. For example, in October, Congress approved reforms that restricted a number of rights. In response, OHCHR assisted 23 CSOs in communicating their concerns in a joint letter to special procedures mandate holders and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. It also provided CSOs with technical assistance in documenting cases of human rights violations, nine of which were the subject of subsequent communications sent by the special procedures to the Government. The Office also facilitated a meeting of more than 30 organizations to discuss early warning measures for human rights violations committed during the electoral process.

Throughout the year, the Office conducted several activities to increase awareness about the role of HRDs in Honduras. As part of ongoing efforts of civil society representatives to ensure that the NPM maintains a preventive approach in its work, the NPM and civil society representatives cooperated to facilitate the simultaneous broadcast of a message on 27 November, across all TV and radio stations in Honduras, calling for the protection of HRDs and respect for the right to freedom of peaceful assembly. The message also reminded all authorities of their obligations as established by the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders. This initiative, supported by OHCHR, was the first of its kind and represents a major event in Honduras regarding the protection of HRDs.

Development

D3 – Rights-holders enjoy improved protection of their rights with regard to land, territory and natural resources.



OHCHR advocated for the improved compliance of relevant legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR set up strategic actions to improve the respect, protection and guarantee of lands, territories and natural resources of rights-holders. The Office implemented a coordinated strategy with relevant stakeholders to monitor specific cases of discrimination against indigenous peoples, people of African descent and members of the Campesino communities, negatively impacting on the enjoyment of their economic, social and cultural rights. OHCHR closely monitored situations of social unrest that were caused by forced evictions, a lack of consultation concerning large-scale development projects and the dispossession of ancestral lands. Documented information was crucial to ascertaining patterns of discrimination and developing advocacy plans to promote and protect the rights of these communities.

OHCHR promoted the integration of standards related to the human rights of indigenous peoples into legislation, policies and the State’s response to COVID-19 and humanitarian emergencies. For example, OHCHR shared its concerns regarding the human rights of the Tolupán indigenous community and suggested proactive measures to better respect, protect and fulfil their rights. The Office continues to advocate for the adoption and implementation of the revised legislation.

Five awareness-raising and capacity-building activities were held for indigenous and Afro-Honduran peoples, CSOs and other key actors regarding international human rights obligations and standards on free, prior and informed consultations. As a result, indigenous and Afro-Honduran peoples enhanced their knowledge about how to claim their rights and, in particular, the Lenca indigenous community is working on preparing a protocol for informed consultations.

MEXICO

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
130.26 million	1,964,000 km ²	0.779 (rank: 74/188 in 2019)	"A" Status (2021)
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	2002		
Field office(s)	Mexico City		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2020-2025		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	28		

XB income	US\$2,238,898	
XB requirements 2021	US\$3,504,000	
XB expenditure	US\$2,387,378	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
76%	13%	11%
\$1,813,315	\$307,398	\$266,665

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A3 – Relevant authorities take account of international human rights norms and standards in at least four prosecutions related to violence against women, femicide or denial of sexual and reproductive health and rights.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the capacities of members of the judiciary, public prosecution and the executive branch to address cases of gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health and rights and incorporate a human rights and gender perspective.

OHCHR continued working with prosecutors, judges and litigating CSOs on the integration of international human rights standards into five cases being prosecuted (four femicides and one tentative femicide). The Office accompanied victims throughout the process, particularly with regard to measures for their protection. In one case monitored by the Office, for example, a new risk analysis was developed leading to the adoption of revised protection measures for a victim.

OHCHR also provided technical assistance to relevant authorities to enhance their capacity to integrate international human rights norms and standards

more broadly into their work. The Office developed a methodology for specialized prosecutors working on femicide cases to ensure that the due diligence principle includes a gender and human rights perspective. In accordance with an agreement with the General Prosecutor of Mexico City, the methodology will be implemented in 2022. A two-week online training on the methodology was rolled out to 50 multidisciplinary staff members from the Specialized Gender Prosecutor's Offices in Chihuahua and Estado de Mexico.

Furthermore, OHCHR delivered a six-month seminar for staff members of the Specialized Prosecutor's Office for the Investigation of Femicide of Mexico City on women's rights and gender integration in order to strengthen their investigation capacity to better address the high levels of impunity in femicide cases. In addition, OHCHR provided advice to the Special Unit on the Investigation of Transfemicide and drafted guidelines for the ministerial investigation of transfemicide cases from human rights and gender perspectives.

The Office also contributed to strengthening the Gender Alert Mechanism (GAM) of the National Commission for the Prevention and Eradication of Violence against Women (CONAVIM). OHCHR provided technical assistance in developing human rights indicators to measure the impact of the mechanism and guidelines for the drafting of state and municipal plans to implement protection measures and reporting on the effectiveness of the mechanism.

Finally, the Office contributed to the psychosocial well-being and support of the Specialized Gender Prosecutor's Office in Chihuahua. More specifically, OHCHR undertook a psychological risk and needs assessment of 251 staff members (157 women, 94 men) to determine interventions that may be required. In total,

101 group interventions took place and 130 individual sessions were provided to 35 persons who were identified as high risk. The assessment's main findings and concerns were confidentially shared with the Gender Prosecutor and a set of recommendations were communicated to the Prosecutor's Office, with the objective of institutionalizing a much-needed support programme for staff members. The Prosecutor's Office agreed with the recommendations and is looking for the necessary resources to implement them, with the support of OHCHR.

A2 – At least four public policies have been adopted that protect the rights of individuals who are subject to search and identification (with respect to search commissions, registries, protocols and national plans). At least three public policies have been adopted that address prosecution, sanction and reparation in cases of forced disappearance, torture and other human rights violations. These policies are implemented at the federal and local level, in compliance with international human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to the establishment and strengthening of oversight, protection and accountability mechanisms on torture, the search for missing persons, exhumations and the identification of human remains, in compliance with international human rights standards.

The Office continued monitoring the implementation of the General Law on Torture and the functioning of the Observatory against Torture.

As a result of the pandemic, it was not possible to upload information on torture-related cases from 2019 in 2020,

as many authorities did not have enough personnel to gather the required information. The update of 2019 was ultimately completed and uploaded in 2021, with OHCHR's support, which will provide evidence on the level of implementation of the General Law and to elaborate relevant public policies on the subject.

The Office also supported the strategic litigation that was developed by the Federal Institute of the Public Defence for the implementation of the General Law on Torture, particularly in terms of the adoption of the National Registry of Torture Cases. In December, the Government published the operational guidelines for this National Registry.

Furthermore, OHCHR provided inputs during the revision of the Protocol for the Investigation of Torture by the Attorney General's Office (AGO), which is in overall compliance with international standards. The draft was confidentially transmitted to OHCHR to enable it to record its observations, including that torture cases should be dealt with by the Special Prosecutor's Office Against Torture.

OHCHR established an unprecedented international cooperation working relationship with the Mexican state by providing technical assistance to authorities investigating the Ayotzinapa case, particularly the Federal AGO. This cooperation will continue in 2022. OHCHR also pursued advocacy efforts within the framework of this case by participating in bimonthly meetings with President López Obrador and the families of the 43 disappeared students. The Office also issued two press releases following the identification of the remains of two students.

A new Law on the Attorney General of the Republic was adopted in May. As noted by OHCHR, civil society actors and victims,

the legislation establishes a risk of regression regarding the Attorney General's obligations related to human rights and the fight against impunity. OHCHR participated in meetings and public events and communicated to Congress its observations and primary concerns about the Law. Although the legislation was adopted, OHCHR's intervention led to the amendment of some key issues such as provisions on the autonomy of prosecutors and the participation of the AGO in the National System for the Search of Persons.

A1 – Mexico has adopted a national regulatory framework on the use of force that complies with international human rights standards.



OHCHR continued monitoring and advocating for the full compliance of the 2019 National Law on the Use of Force with international human rights standards.

In particular, OHCHR monitored the implementation of the Law and its outstanding constitutional challenge before the Supreme Court that was voted upon, in October. The Supreme Court ordered Congress to modify some sections of the Law. The Office met with the NHRI, which filed the action of unconstitutionality, as well as with advisers to the Supreme Court to share its concerns. OHCHR will advocate before Congress for the incorporation of international human rights standards into the amended legislation.

OHCHR engaged with federal authorities and CSOs to support a proposal for the creation of the Observatory on the use of force, in accordance with a ruling of the Inter-American Court on Human Rights in the Atenco case (sexual violence against

women, lack of gender perspective and unlawful use of force during a protest). The Observatory has yet to be created.

OHCHR also contributed to strengthening the capacity of relevant state institutions to apply human rights standards to the use of force. The Office delivered trainings to the Federal Ministry of Public and Citizen Security, high-level officials of the Government of Quintana Roo, the police academy of the state of Mexico and the National Guard.

Authorities in the state of Quintana Roo benefited from OHCHR's assistance in incorporating human rights standards and a gender perspective into a protocol and guidelines for public officials, and into some components of the Quintana Roo police training programmes, including on human rights standards on the use of force.

A4 – At least 10 new federal and local institutions adopt OHCHR's indicator framework when they report on the implementation of human rights policies, evaluate the impact of public programmes or assess the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

16

OHCHR enhanced the capacities of authorities to establish indicators for measuring the impact of public policy based on OHCHR's methodology.

In collaboration with the human rights programme of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), OHCHR defined, contextualized and validated a set of indicators for the Escazú Agreement. The Secretariat of Foreign Affairs accepted and adopted the set of

indicators as the Agreement's reporting framework.

In addition, federal authorities validated and adopted a set of 108 indicators on water and sanitation for Mexico, in collaboration with the National Institute of Water Technologies (a decentralized structure of the Ministry of Environment).

Participation

P6 – Indigenous communities participate more frequently, including in the context of prior consultation, in decisions that affect them, such as decisions to create or implement megaprojects.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the awareness of relevant actors on the rights of indigenous peoples and their willingness to respect these rights. It also increased the awareness of indigenous peoples about their rights, in particular the standards and recommendations related to their participation in decision-making processes and self-determination.

During 2021, OHCHR advocated for the adoption and implementation of international human rights standards on the rights of indigenous peoples before several ministries, institutions, companies and embassies.

In the emblematic case of a series of agreements on community water management that were concluded between Zapotecan communities (Oaxaca) and federal authorities, OHCHR played a crucial role in promoting the inclusion of relevant international standards throughout the dialogue process. The Mexican president signed a decree, in November, recognizing the rights of indigenous communities and ensuring their access to water.

In the framework of the Mayan Train Project, OHCHR provided technical advice to the government institutions in charge of the dialogue process with affected communities regarding international standards on the participation of indigenous peoples. The Office also supported other UN agencies (UN-Habitat, UNOPS and UNESCO) involved in the project to incorporate a human rights perspective. OHCHR participated as an observer during the dialogue process and regularly communicated its observations, concerns and recommendations to the authorities.

OHCHR assisted the Yaqui Tribe communities to submit an urgent action to CED regarding the disappearance of seven indigenous persons. It also followed up on Urgent Action 1401-1407/2021 and provided technical assistance to Mexican authorities and indigenous communities.

P2 – Public policies that protect human rights defenders and journalists are strengthened and improved. Specifically, protection programmes for HRDs are more effective; a more enabling environment has been created for HRDs and the media; HRDs and journalists receive broader public recognition; and laws on freedom of expression have been adopted or amended to comply with international standards.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the capacity of authorities and the National Protection Mechanism for Human Rights Defenders and Journalists to act in accordance with international human rights standards and increased awareness about the key role played by HRDs and journalists.

The National Protection Mechanism for Human Rights Defenders and Journalists improved its intersectional risk analysis. In particular, it developed and began implementing a gender and multicultural analysis to enhance more effective protection schemes for HRDs. Based on its consultative status, OHCHR actively participated in the monthly meetings of the Protection Mechanism, contributing technical expertise on risk analysis and human rights issues and building bridges between HRDs, journalists and the Protection Mechanism.

OHCHR encouraged the inclusion of a gender perspective into the operations of the Protection Mechanism. For instance, it coordinated with authorities from the Ministry of Interior to produce four technical and support documents, including guidelines, protocols and recommendations.

The Office also undertook an online training and developed technical tools on risk analysis involving a gender perspective, protection and self-care for women journalists and WHRDs, including mothers, relatives of disappeared persons and victims of femicide. Over 90 women journalists and HRDs from 14 Mexican states participated in the process. Two tools were elaborated during the training, namely, a self-care and collective care guidance and a risk analysis tool.

Non-discrimination

ND6 – National laws recognize the rights to liberty and judicial guarantees of migrants, who enjoy stronger legal protection through national judicial and non-judicial protection mechanisms.



OHCHR strengthened the protection of the rights of people on the move by increasing the awareness of legislators on international human rights standards related to people on the move.

In January, the legislative reform on migrant children, adopted in September 2020, which prohibits their detention and was the subject of OHCHR's advocacy in recent years, was implemented. Since that time, the Office has not identified any unaccompanied children and families in migrant detention centres. OHCHR provided technical advice to CSOs in order to address legal gaps that were identified during the implementation of the legal reform.

ND1 – Four laws or public policies have been adopted that combat discrimination and the root causes of inequality. They address the rights of indigenous peoples, migrants and persons with disabilities, as well as gender-based violence, and comply with international human rights standards.



OHCHR sought to improve access to justice for indigenous peoples, migrants and other vulnerable groups through an increased visibility of discriminatory practices in justice administration and prosecution.

Throughout 2021, OHCHR monitored public policies, laws, bills and judicial resolutions on issues that may have an impact on the full enjoyment of the rights of indigenous peoples and advocated before authorities for the inclusion of international human rights standards. The Office analysed the draft of the constitutional reform on indigenous peoples, undertook advocacy in relation to draft bills on a General Law on Water and a General Law on Consultation and provided relevant international standards to justices of the Supreme Court of Justice and federal tribunals.

OHCHR provided guidance on international human rights standards with regard to SRHR for local congresses in the states of Guerrero, Jalisco, Quintana Roo and Veracruz to encourage the decriminalization of abortion. In two states, the bills allowing free and safe abortion were passed (Veracruz and Hidalgo).

The Office identified a pattern of racism, discrimination and xenophobia at Mexico's international airports, which triggered violations of the human rights of minorities, such as asylum seekers and other minorities, based on their nationality or ethnicity. To address this, the Office initiated missions to the international airports of Cancun and Mexico City and documented violations of due process in denials of entry into the territory. In 2022, OHCHR will draft a report with its findings and recommendations, in partnership with the National Council to Eliminate Discrimination.

Development

D2 – Businesses, especially those in the energy sector, increasingly apply the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, notably in their due diligence procedures.



OHCHR strengthened partnerships for the integration of human rights into environmental actions, including efforts to implement multilateral environmental agreements, and strengthened the capacities of business and State actors to apply the UNGPs and engage with stakeholders.

OHCHR closely followed the “La Colorada” conflict between a rural community and a mining company. A process was established that will enable the community to access a remedy mechanism. The company has shown great willingness to complete the process and it is anticipated that the conflict will be resolved in 2022.

The Office strengthened its relationship with the mining sector by approaching Mining Clusters and companies. A common pathway to drafting human rights guidelines and standards for the Mexican mining sector was established with the Mining Chamber of Mexico.

In October, OHCHR hosted the virtual Regional Business and Human Rights Forum. More than 3,000 participants from civil society, companies, governments, academia and communities in 36 countries shared fundamental aspects of the business and human rights agenda, with a particular emphasis on the next decade of the UNGPs and adequate implementation in the region. The main

aspects of these discussions considered the most vulnerable populations, such as indigenous peoples and communities, indigenous women, the LGBTI community, HRDs and the climate change framework.

Mechanisms

M1 – By the end of 2021, Mexico has ratified two international or regional human rights treaties and recognized the competence of CED to receive and consider individual communications.



OHCHR promoted the ratification of international treaties and advocated for the implementation of existing recommendations issued by the special procedures and the human rights treaty bodies in relation to Mexico.

Mexico ratified the Escazú Agreement, on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean. The ratification was deposited with ECLAC in 2021. The Escazú Agreement entered into force in April. This constitutes a valuable tool for the struggle against the depredation of the environment and for the protection of environment’s defenders, while also providing an additional means of fighting climate change in the region.

OHCHR facilitated a close interaction with the international human rights mechanisms. In November, the CED Committee visited Mexico after first requesting a visit in 2013. The purpose was to meet with government authorities responsible for investigating and preventing enforced disappearances and locating disappeared persons and those responsible

for establishing and implementing related public policies. It also held meetings with civil society actors and victims in Mexico. The Committee concluded that although progress has been achieved in terms of legislation and the political will of some authorities, there are still more than 95,000 disappeared persons in the country. During the CED’s visit, it is estimated that approximately 100 people were allegedly disappeared.

SOUTH AMERICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay
Year established	2009
Field office(s)	Santiago (Chile) with Human Rights Advisers in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay
Staff as of 31 December 2021	15

XB income	US\$860,300
XB requirements 2021	US\$3,412,000
XB expenditure	US\$1,073,532

Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
75%	13%	12%
\$805,363	\$144,570	\$123,599

RB expenditure	US\$1,031,863
Personnel	Non-personnel
82%	18%
\$848,294	\$183,569

Key OMP pillars in 2021



⁴ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Mechanisms are in place that effectively monitor detention centres and cases of torture are consistently reported and prosecuted by the authorities. Steps have been taken to protect the rights of persons deprived of their liberty and improve detention conditions.



OHCHR contributed to improving the compliance of laws, policies and practices

of institutions and State officials with international human rights standards, including in relation to accountability and in the context of detention centres.

In December 2020, 11 violent riots that took place at prisons in Ecuador resulted in 418 deaths, the destruction of facilities and the reported rape of a policewoman. The Government deployed police and military forces and declared a state of emergency within the penitentiary system. The crisis triggered wide public

debate. In this context, under the leadership of the RC, the Human Rights Adviser (HRA) and UNODC undertook a baseline study and developed a Proposal for Comprehensive Penitentiary Reform that is founded on an HRBA. The findings of the study pointed towards complex structural problems in four areas, namely, an increase in the prison population; compromised security in prisons that is exacerbated by corruption and high levels of violence; an absence of effective crime prevention and social rehabilitation policies; and inhumane conditions of deprivation of liberty that are worse for certain population groups.

Based on the information gathered, the HRA prioritized two key initiatives to promote a HRBA in response to the crisis. First, a technical mission was undertaken to strengthen the capacities and advocate for the importance of the role of the National Preventive Mechanism. Second, expert advice was provided for the development of the new public policy on social rehabilitation, at the request of the Secretariat for Human Rights. As a result, the Head of the NHRI reviewed the structure of the NPM, with a view to ensuring its independence. Relevant actors of the executive branch recognized the importance of the independent role of the NPM in responding to the crisis.

In Peru, the HRA supported the National Penitentiary Institute (INPE) to update the manual on human rights for penitentiary officers. The manual focuses on the situation of women, LGBTI persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and people of African descent and outlines international human rights law and international humanitarian law standards in relation to the use of force and the prevention of torture. The HRA also supported the INPE in drafting guidelines on

ensuring adequate protection for persons in prisons in conditions of vulnerability and began drafting a national protocol on the use of force in prisons.

A1 – Victims of gross human rights violations and their families have enhanced access to information that is still classified. States effectively implement reparation measures, including measures recommended by truth and reconciliation commissions.

16

Through technical guidance, OHCHR supported the functioning of transitional justice mechanisms in countries of the region, which operate in conformity with international human rights norms and standards.

In January, OHCHR published a report on its mission to **Peru** regarding the social protest that occurred in November 2020. The report highlights a number of human rights challenges and contains a set of recommendations that underscore the need to strengthen the competences of the Public Ministry and the Institute of Legal Medicine in relation to international standards. It also focuses on human rights and gender in the prosecution of human rights violations. The report was well received and important steps were already taken by authorities, including in relation to accountability and reparations.

As a follow-up to the mission and its findings, the Public Ministry and the HRA carried out 12 training sessions, from November 2021 to January 2022, to strengthen the competencies of prosecutors from the Specialized Subsystem of Human Rights and Terrorism and the Institute of Legal Medicine on international standards for the prosecution of

human rights violations. A total of 50 participants (19 women, 31 men) attended the workshop, including prosecutors, administrative support staff and experts from the forensic system from the offices of Apurímac, Ayacucho, Huancavelica, Huánuco, Junín and Lima.

Participation

P1 – State institutions and NHRIs are better equipped to monitor protests and document human rights violations; laws on freedom of expression and peaceful assembly comply with international human rights standards; police protocols regulating the use of force comply with international standards; States have adopted laws and taken measures to protect human rights defenders (HRDs); and NHRIs have developed early warning and rapid response mechanisms that prevent conflict and protect HRDs.

16

OHCHR contributed to improving the compliance of laws, policies and practices of institutions and State officials with international human rights standards, including for the protection of HRDs and other persons in situations of vulnerability.

In **Peru**, technical assistance was provided to the National Council for the Integration of Persons with Disabilities (CONADIS) for the development of a draft protocol of consultation for persons with disabilities, in accordance with article 4 of CRPD. Furthermore, the HRA provided technical support on international standards on the protection of HRDs and guidance on possible responses to individual cases to the National Protection Mechanism and the NHRI. The HRA also assisted in the preparation of a bill on HRDs to

ensure its alignment with international human rights standards, such as General Comment No. 37 of the Human Rights Committee, the UNGPs and recommendations issued by other international human rights mechanisms.

P1 – Indigenous peoples, women, LGTBI rights advocates, HRDs and people of African descent have increased their capacity to make use of national, regional and international human rights mechanisms to protect their rights. HRDs and indigenous peoples participate more actively in public affairs and consistently monitor decisions that affect them.

16

OHCHR engaged with stakeholders in the region with the aim of advocating for the increased participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes.

In **Chile**, OHCHR engaged with the Secretariat for Human Rights in the development of a draft law on the right to peaceful assembly, which remains to be finalized and approved. Furthermore, the Office assisted from the outset the Constitutional Convention that is working on a new Constitution. A series of normative documents presenting international standards in accessible formats were developed by OHCHR and presented to members of the Convention, while a number of webinars were delivered, jointly with UNDP, to empower the indigenous members of the Convention in their decision-making.

In **Paraguay**, technical assistance was provided to the Paraguayan Ministry of the Interior for the development of a new protocol on the use of force for prison officials. In **Peru**, the HRA contributed to

the drafting of a national policy for Afro-Peruvians, with a focus on gender, access to work and social protection.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – State institutions responsible for meeting the needs of vulnerable groups have been strengthened and receive adequate funding and political support. Legislation on discrimination and gender equality comply with international human rights standards. Judges and prosecutors are better equipped, in terms of law and training, to successfully prosecute discrimination and gender crimes. State policies protect indigenous peoples against discrimination and consultation protocols have been adopted.

5 10 16

OHCHR contributed to increasing the level of compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights standards, in particular with regard to the rights of women.

In 2021, OHCHR updated a virtual self-training course on “The Latin American Model Protocol for the investigation of gender-related killings of women.” In December, within the framework of the Secretary-General’s UNITE campaign and the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign, the virtual course was launched during a regional webinar. The event was aimed at officials of the Public Ministry and institutions that participate in the investigation of femicide and was organized by OHCHR and UN Women, with the support of the Specialized Gender Network of the Ibero-American Association of Public Ministries. More than 600 people attended the launch and 1,617 people enrolled to take the course at a later date.

In **Chile**, a cooperation agreement was signed between OHCHR and the Chilean Public Prosecutor’s Office to support the process of drafting a national protocol for the investigation of femicide. The Office carried out a needs assessment that will feed into the development of the protocol in 2022. In **Paraguay**, the HRA collaborated with the European Union (EU) and the Gender Secretariat of the Supreme Court of Justice to develop a draft *Guide to guarantee access to justice to all people without distinction in Paraguay*. The objective of the Guide is to challenge harmful gender stereotypes and encourage the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into the administration of justice. It is anticipated that the Guide will be validated in 2022 and disseminated through training for judicial officials. In **Uruguay**, the HRA provided technical support to a project of UN Women and the Office of the Prosecutor to prepare national guidelines for prosecutors on the investigation of femicide that are based on the Latin American Model Protocol. It will be launched in 2022. Furthermore, the Secretariat of Human Rights prepared the country’s first national human rights plan and received inputs from the HRA. The Office also facilitated consultations with CSOs and other key local partners, resulting in 26 proposals.

Development

D2 – Business enterprises (particularly in Brazil, Chile and Peru) progressively adopt human rights policies and due diligence procedures that comply with international human rights standards and the UNGPs.

1 2 3 5 8 9 13 16 17

OHCHR contributed to the compliance of selected actors and policies with international norms and standards on business and human rights.

The Office cooperated with the EU, ILO and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to implement Responsible Business Conduct in Latin America and the Caribbean projects in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador and Peru. The projects support the creation of an enabling environment for responsible business conduct across the region and apply a multi-stakeholder approach. In this context, OHCHR launched a Latin American academic essay contest on business and human rights entitled “The change is today: Human rights and companies in Latin America. A commitment to responsible business conduct.” The call was aimed at undergraduate and graduate students, recent graduates, teachers and researchers in law, international relations, political science, economics and other relevant disciplines. More than 100 papers were submitted from 10 countries in Latin America. The essays focused on a wide variety of topics related to the business and human rights agenda, such as labour law, decent work, informality, technology companies, gender, credit and export agencies, children, the Hague Rules on Business and Human Rights Arbitration, the SDGs and public policies.

Prizes were awarded in three categories and the selected papers were presented at the Sixth Regional Forum on Business and Human Rights for Latin America and the Caribbean, which was held virtually from 4 to 6 October.

In **Argentina**, the HRA contributed to the development of a national action plan on business and human rights and to the inclusion of chapters and actions on business and human rights in local human rights plans in the provinces of Salta and San Juan and the city of Buenos Aires. In addition, four State-owned enterprises elaborated their policies on human rights, including their commitment to implement due diligence in their activities. Furthermore, more than 23 national and provincial human rights institutions agreed on a common protocol to deal with business and human rights at the national and local level, harnessing their role to monitor business practices and supervise State actions.

In **Brazil**, dialogues were promoted with several stakeholders (four meetings addressed companies, investors, CSOs and the indigenous movement) to build a common understanding of the human rights responsibilities related to business operations. During 2021, the HRA developed a close collaboration with the Government of Brazil, following a request for support in developing a national action plan on the subject.

A project in **Chile** on Responsible Business Conduct in Latin America and the Caribbean facilitated the development of a second version of the national plan of action. More specifically, OHCHR provided technical assistance and training to the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights and more than 20 government focal points promoted the participation of stakeholders in the drafting of the plan of action

and its compliance with recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and guidelines on business and human rights. To enable businesses to undertake due diligence processes, technical assistance was provided to more than 35 enterprises regarding the practical implementation of a tool to identify human rights risks, in coordination with Global Compact Chile.

In **Ecuador**, efforts focused on supporting the development of a national action plan on business and human rights, strengthening a common understanding from different key ministries on international standards and assisting them to foster inter-institutional coordination among key actors, including civil society, trade unions and businesses. In February, technical assistance was provided in relation to the Government's road map to develop the national action plan. In this respect, consultations led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs began in August, supported by the HRA, and a total of nine multi-stakeholder dialogues were carried out in 2021, leading to the approval of a workplan for 2022.

In June, after more than two years of preparatory work, the Cabinet of **Peru** approved the first national action plan on business and human rights. OHCHR began supporting the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights following the 2017 visit of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises. Founded on technical assistance from OHCHR, the national action plan proposed 99 strategic measures, including the revision of grievance mechanisms, a national mechanism to monitor due diligence and measures to eradicate racial discrimination and protect indigenous peoples and HRDs.

D7 – States implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development using national development plans that integrate recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR contributed to the compliance with international human rights standards of programmes and policies to implement the 2030 Agenda, including by providing technical guidance and support to RCOs, UNCTs and government counterparts.

Capacity-development for UN actors that are on the ground and implementing and preparing CCAs and UNSDCFs continued to be a critical area of work for OHCHR in the region. The new development framework offered practical opportunities for integrating human rights into UN programmes to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and facilitate recovery from the impacts of COVID-19.

In **Brazil**, the HRA organized consultations on the Leave No One Behind principle to feed into the development of the CCA. The HRA also participated in meetings aimed at ensuring the integration of a HRBA and formulated the draft chapter on a multidimensional risk analysis of the CCA. Similarly, in **Ecuador**, the Office formulated the section on compliance with international human rights standards in the introduction to the CCA. In **Peru**, support was provided to the UNCT in the preparation of the UNSDCF to ensure the inclusion of key human rights indicators on discrimination, HRDs and persons deprived of their liberty. The Office also drafted the human rights and LNOB chapter of the CCA.

Mechanisms

M1 – National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRFs) function effectively in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.

16 17

OHCHR supported efforts to establish effectively functioning NMRFs through advocacy and technical assistance.

In **Brazil**, in the context of an agreement with the Chamber of Deputies of the Congress, the HRA supported the establishment and functioning of the UPR Parliamentary Observatory through the organization of 26 public hearings that addressed the 242 recommendations accepted by the Government of Brazil. The hearings were attended by representatives from the Government, the Congress, autonomous institutions of the Brazilian state and civil society. The public hearings represented the largest dialogue forum on concrete human rights issues in Brazil and led to the mapping of developments in relevant human rights areas.

In **Ecuador**, the HRA supported the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Human Rights to strengthen the NMRF by training more than 30 focal points of public institutions on drafting the State's report to the UPR, in preparation for its forthcoming review in 2022. In **Uruguay**, the project "Building Bridges," which will be implemented by UNDP and the HRA in 2022, seeks to support the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Directorate of Human Rights in the creation of procedures and spaces for interaction, training and alignment of entities responsible for the NMRF and the implementation and reporting of the 2030 Agenda.

Furthermore, in 2021, OHCHR supported four of the seven countries covered by the

Regional Office in their direct engagement with the human rights treaty bodies. On 16 November, the Office supported the **Chilean** government in its preparation for the periodic review by CERD. In **Peru**, the HRA attended the national consultation on the State Party report to CEDAW, on 17 November. For the first time, Peru followed the simplified reporting procedure. In **Ecuador**, the HRA provided technical assistance to a government event, on 30 March, on follow-up to the recommendations issued by CRPD, which involved 29 State institutions and civil society.

M2 – CSOs report regularly to international human rights mechanisms, participate in sessions, including through the use of technology, and use concluding observations and reports for advocacy and follow-up purposes.

17

OHCHR supported efforts from civil society actors in the region to engage with the international human rights mechanisms.

In **Brazil**, from June to August, the HRA implemented a series of virtual dialogues with 65 indigenous leaders representing 30 indigenous organizations, in partnership with the National Articulation of Indigenous Peoples and the Network of Cooperation in the Amazon. The objective of the dialogues was to strengthen their engagement with the international mechanisms. As a result, participant organizations submitted inputs to CEDAW for consideration in the development of the Committee's general recommendation on the rights of indigenous women and girls. The Office also supported members of the Lickantay indigenous peoples and people of African descent, in **Chile**, to prepare alternative reports to CERD.

On 16 November, the Office participated in a regional meeting on the "Follow-up of UPR recommendations: Civil society of South America." The meeting was organized by the Brazilian CSO Development and Human Rights Institute, which introduced participants to the UPR process and outlined how they can collaborate with this mechanism. CSOs from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay participated and a regional network on UPR follow-up was subsequently created.

UN Free & Equal Campaign in Brazil: Supporting and empowering transgender persons during the COVID-19 pandemic



Bruna Fonseca and Francisco Sena. © OHCHR

In 2021, Bruna Fonseca and Francisco Sena joined OHCHR’s Brazil team to support the implementation of the UN Free & Equal campaign. They were two of 23 trans human rights defenders (THRDs) who participated in the Transformação project in 2019. This was a capacity-building project organized by the UN in Brazil to support THRDs and advance the rights and socio-economic empowerment of trans persons through training and mentoring programmes. In Latin America, the life expectancy of a trans person is 35 years. Brazil has the world’s highest rate of documented killings of trans people.

“Transformação was very important in my life. It made me more aware of my needs and prepared me to fight for my community,” said Bruna. Francisco added

that joining the Free & Equal campaign team offered opportunities to exchange experiences and engage in political advocacy. “Being able to follow several agendas on human rights, such as racial, ethnic, territorial and sustainable development issues, expanded my intersectional perspectives and the way I see political articulation and the work of the UN.”

During the year, the team raised awareness about the impacts of COVID-19 on LGBTI persons, including trans persons, produced local videos and facilitated access to food and health services for trans persons and travestis. Francisco and Bruna supported a number of initiatives, including a local campaign to address food insecurity faced by trans persons and travestis, in collaboration with two local organizations, namely, Atração and Coletivo De Transs pra Frente.

“In this moment of the pandemic, when many trans people are extremely vulnerable and living in poverty, we were able to support them through the Free & Equal

campaign,” said Bruna. The initiative was accompanied by a mapping of the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 on trans people and advocacy that was undertaken in partnership with local stakeholders.

Bruna and Francisco also worked on the preparation of the next phase of the Transformação project. They hope that other people from their community will have the chance to access formal employment opportunities like they did. Bruna highlighted that the programme helped her feel stronger and more confident to continue her fight against discrimination based on gender identity in her new job.

OHCHR launched the international Free & Equal campaign in 2013 and the Brazilian campaign began in 2014. During 2021, the campaign reached more than one million people in Brazil through social media.



Trans human rights defenders who participated in the Transformação project. © OHCHR

VENEZUELA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
28.70 million	930,000 km ²	0.711 (rank: 113/189 in 2019)	“B” Status (2016)
Type of engagement		Other type of field presence	
Year established		2019	
Field office(s)		Caracas	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2015-2021	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		6	
XB income		US\$2,054,849	
XB requirements 2021		US\$3,178,000	
XB expenditure		US\$1,986,720	
Personnel		Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
72%		18%	10%
\$1,439,486		\$350,297	\$196,937

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – State authorities increasingly address human rights violations committed in the context of law enforcement and the justice system.

16

OHCHR continued monitoring places of detention and successfully advocated with authorities to improve conditions of detention.

Throughout 2021, in accordance with the protocol created with the Government, UN Human Rights visited 14 detention

centres and interviewed 183 detainees, 33 of whom were women and 23 of whom were children. In March, OHCHR undertook its first visit to a pretrial detention centre managed by the Bolivarian National Police in Caracas and four more pretrial detention centres were visited in the following months. Following each visit, the Office submitted a confidential report to authorities containing recommendations to improve compliance with international detention standards and address urgent individual cases regarding the rights to due process and health. More specifically, OHCHR advocated for compliance with

guidelines on COVID-19 and human rights dimensions, visits of relatives and lawyers and the release of detainees facing particular risks. Some of OHCHR’s recommendations were subsequently implemented, including the resumption of visits of relatives and lawyers, facilitating calls to family members and improving physical conditions, in particular related to hygiene. Additionally, due to OHCHR’s advocacy, several detainees were transferred to hospitals to undergo specialized medical exams.

OHCHR also undertook advocacy with relevant authorities regarding the individual cases of some detainees, some of whom were women, that required immediate solutions, including in relation to health care, judicial delays and the non-execution of judicial release orders. In 2021, OHCHR’s efforts led to the release of 85 persons, 13 of whom were women. OHCHR continued its regular dialogue with the Attorney General’s Office and reported some progress in judicial action for cases of serious human rights violations, such as the investigation of 124 documented cases of extrajudicial executions allegedly committed by security forces during security operations and of 18 deaths that occurred in the context of protests. Despite these investigations, alleged perpetrators were only convicted in relation to two deaths that occurred in the context of protests.

OHCHR continued to assess the compliance of the justice system with the standards of the Minnesota and Istanbul Protocols. It also drafted protocols for investigations into allegations of violations of the right to life and the right to personal integrity in order to provide practical guidance on the steps that should be taken by each institution that bears responsibility for investigations. This work was presented to relevant authorities during a workshop

in February. In addition, OHCHR presented authorities with a draft protocol on the observation of hearings. In October, the Office was granted access to observe a judicial hearing for the first time.

Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela is based, facilitated enhanced coordination with NHRIs and UN agencies supporting the Quito Process.

Non-discrimination

ND6 – Civil society and the national human rights institution strengthen their capacity to support access to justice and protection mechanisms by Venezuelan migrants and refugees.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the protection of the rights of refugees and migrants from Venezuela in host countries by monitoring their situation and providing technical assistance to national actors in the region.

OHCHR engaged with NHRIs through the Network of National Human Rights Institutions in the Americas, with a view to elaborating a new protocol on their assistance to migrants. Furthermore, an online course on monitoring the rights of migrants was delivered to 26 members (19 women, seven men) of NHRIs in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. Additionally, OHCHR engaged in joint activities with UN agencies, such as IOM, UNODC and UN Women, to improve access to justice for refugees and migrants who are victims of trafficking in persons and sexual exploitation, particularly minors and women. In parallel, OHCHR field presences in the Americas monitored events impacting on the human rights of Venezuelan refugees and migrants in Chile, Colombia and Trinidad and Tobago. The deployment of a focal point in Panama, where the Regional

Peace and Security

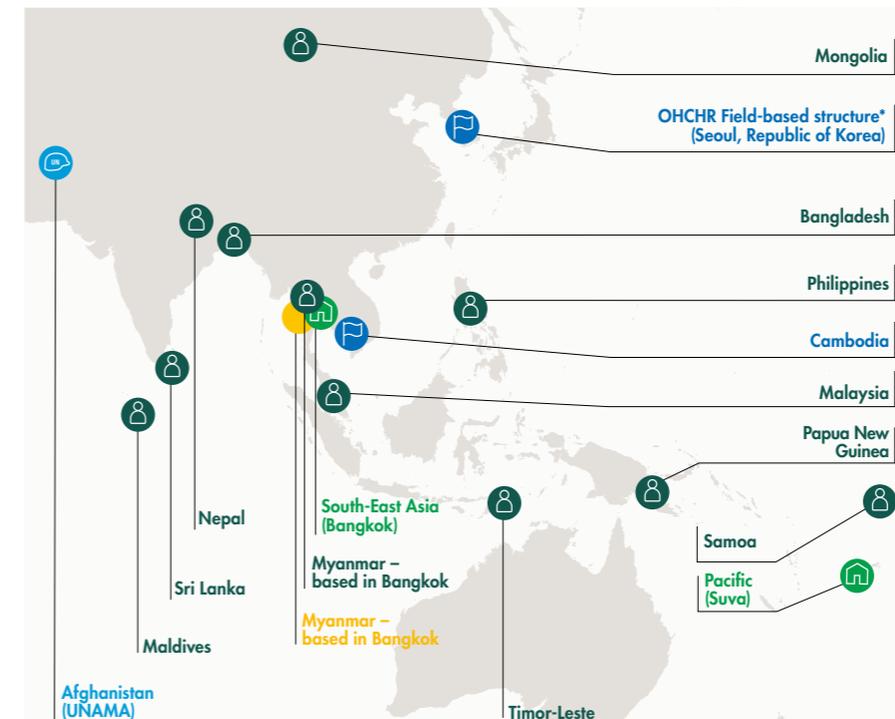
PS5 – Early warning, prevention and protection capacities are strengthened, including through in-country monitoring.



OHCHR monitored human rights violations in Venezuela and used this reporting for advocacy purposes and to strengthen technical assistance provided to the Government.

In 2021, UN Human Rights released two public reports. On 5 July, the High Commissioner presented a report under Human Rights Council (HRC) resolution 45/20, which focused on developments of the human rights situation in Venezuela, with an emphasis on civic space and the rule of law and how they relate to the implementation of previously issued recommendations. On 13 September, the High Commissioner presented a report under HRC resolution 45/2, which focused on economic, social, cultural and environmental rights and technical assistance in Venezuela. While members of the Council welcomed the reporting work of OHCHR, HRC resolution 45/20 was not renewed during the HRC's forty-eighth session, thereby limiting the opportunities to bring the outcomes of the technical assistance to the attention of the Council.

UN Human Rights in Asia-Pacific



TYPE OF PRESENCE	LOCATION
Country/Stand-alone Offices/ Human Rights Missions	Cambodia and Republic of Korea (Seoul)*
Regional Offices/Centres	South-East Asia (Bangkok, Thailand) and the Pacific (Suva, Fiji)
Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions	Afghanistan (UNAMA)
Human Rights Advisers**	Bangladesh, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa***, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste
Other types of field presences	Myanmar (based in Bangkok, Thailand)

* Mandated by Human Rights Council resolution 25/25.
 ** Human Rights Advisers deployed under the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group.
 *** Approved in late 2021 for deployment in 2022.

LEGEND:

Spotlights:

- Disabilities
- Youth
- Women

Shifts:

- Global constituency
- Prevention
- Civic space
- Climate change
- Corruption
- Inequalities
- New technologies
- People on the move

SDGs:



OHCHR's coverage of the Asia-Pacific region extends from Afghanistan to the west, Mongolia to the north, Kiribati to the east and New Zealand to the south. The region includes some of the most populous countries in the world, including China and India, and all of the world's major religions. The Office supports 16 field presences, including two regional offices (South-East Asia in Bangkok, Thailand and the Regional Office for the Pacific in Suva, Fiji); one country office in Cambodia; eight international human rights advisers (Bangladesh, Malaysia, the Maldives, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste); two national human rights officers (Mongolia and Nepal); one human rights component in the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan; and two "remote" presences (for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), based in Seoul, and for Myanmar, based in Bangkok, Thailand). The Office is further facilitating the deployment of a human rights adviser to Samoa in 2022.¹³

The Office supports four special procedures country mandate holders, namely Afghanistan (new), Cambodia, the DPRK and Myanmar. It also oversees the implementation of six Human Rights Council resolutions on Afghanistan, Cambodia, the DPRK, Myanmar, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. This includes the operationalization of the new accountability mandates on the DPRK and Sri Lanka outlined in Human Rights Council resolutions 46/17 and 46/1, respectively.

OHCHR provides substantive policy support and advice to resident coordinators in the context of UN reform, including by deploying senior human rights advisers and/or national human rights officers.

This is further supported by missions and the remote engagement of desk officers without a presence or coverage from regional offices.

The pandemic continues to have a profound impact on developments in Asia-Pacific. The social and economic impacts have been devastating for most sectors and economies, particularly those with weak social protection floors, and have disrupted migration pathways. COVID-19 restrictions have also provided a pretext for increased controls of civic and political space.

Profound human rights and humanitarian crises have developed in Myanmar (following the military coup in February 2020) and Afghanistan (following the Taliban takeover in August 2021) and will remain a priority focus for the Office. The situations in sensitive regions, such as Kashmir, the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, and the Tibet Autonomous Region also required sustained attention and engagement.

Developments in the region are increasingly being shaped by geopolitical tensions and competition. New trade, investment, security and infrastructure agreements are realigning economic integration, which is impacting on economic, social and cultural rights (ESCRs). Regional forums, such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF), have an important prevention role.

In addition to this country-focused approach, the Office continued to strengthen a broader regional approach, with a focus on cross-country thematic issues, including COVID-19 response and recovery; accountability and transitional justice; civic space; business/international

financial institutions (IFIs) and human rights; and climate change and migration.

In 2022, OHCHR will place significant emphasis on prevention, particularly in the context of conflict, ESCRs and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This approach is expected to contribute to: 1) OHCHR's capacity to better respond to armed conflicts and/or existing/emerging crisis with an ESCR focus (the DPRK, Myanmar and Sri Lanka) and the roll-out of early warning systems in priority countries from the Regional Office for South-East Asia, with support from headquarters in Geneva; 2) an increased integration of human rights into sustainable development, including through engagement with business and development actors, such as IFIs (India, Myanmar, North-East Asia and the Pacific); 3) increased synergies between the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and SDGs, including by strengthening OHCHR's participation in the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSCDF) and other UNCT processes (Bangladesh, the DPRK, Malaysia, the Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Pacific, the Philippines and Sri Lanka), as well as incorporating a human rights-based approach (HRBA) into joint UN planning in response to COVID-19.

OHCHR will continue to support dialogue with IFIs in the context of human rights risks and safeguards in priority countries and convene a quarterly business roundtable on due diligence in high-risk environments.

AFGHANISTAN: UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION IN AFGHANISTAN (UNAMA)

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
39.84 million	653,000 km ²	0.511 (rank: 169/189 in 2019)	Under review
Type of engagement	Special Political Mission		
Year established	2002		
Field office(s)	Kabul		
UN partnership framework	One UN for Afghanistan 2018-2021		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	82		

XB requirements 2021 **US\$357,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Cases of torture and ill-treatment at detention facilities are investigated more promptly, impartially, independently and thoroughly. Accountability and protection mechanisms are strengthened.

16 

OHCHR contributed to the improved treatment of conflict-related detainees and the enhanced functioning of accountability mechanisms in detention facilities, in compliance with international human rights standards.

UN Human Rights and UNAMA's Human Rights continued advocating against and investigating cases of torture and ill-treatment of detainees. In February, OHCHR and UNAMA issued a public report on torture and ill-treatment of detainees in government custody.

The report presents findings from interviews with over 650 persons, carried out during 2020 and 2021, who were detained for security- or terrorism-related offences. The report indicates a decline in allegations of torture compared to 2017-2018, however, the procedural rights of those detained, such as information about their rights, access to lawyers, communications with families and timely medical examinations, remain neglected. The report further highlights the practice of incommunicado and solitary confinement, as well as blindfolding during questioning. The findings were widely covered by the media in Afghanistan. In response, the then Ministry of Interior issued a public statement that acknowledged its obligation to address the unprofessional behaviour by police officials and reiterated its commitment to undertake reforms to ensure

a more professional police force that acts in accordance with national and international norms when dealing with suspects and prisoners. Furthermore, the then acting Director General of the National Directorate of Security gave assurances of a commitment to reducing allegations of torture and ensuring access to lawyers for detainees.

As an effort to reduce incidents of torture and ill-treatment, OHCHR and UNAMA delivered training on non-coercive interviewing skills to officers of the Afghanistan National Police in selected provinces. While not all workshops took place due to the deteriorating security situation, an eight-day training course for trainers on the PEACE interviewing model was delivered to seven staff from four selected field teams and headquarters.

Due to COVID-19, OHCHR and UNAMA continued remotely monitoring all major detention facilities through regular monthly or weekly calls, enabling them to connect with more than 1,000 contacts across the 34 provinces of Afghanistan. The calls focused on the COVID-19 situation and its impacts on places of detention, including overcrowding, vaccination and other relevant issues. The findings were documented and shared confidentially with key partners that provided aid and support at detention sites. As the number of COVID-19 cases decreased in places of detention, OHCHR and UNAMA resumed in-person interviews with persons deprived of their liberty, reaching more than 230 persons in 2021.

OHCHR and UNAMA also continued documenting allegations of enforced disappearances, which they shared with the United Nations Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances. Sixteen such cases were documented, mostly from the southern region.

¹³ Approved in late 2021 for deployment in 2022.

OHCHR and UNAMA briefed the Working Group on trends in enforced disappearances and the context of Kandahar Province, where the majority of allegations were reported.

A2 – Inclusive and accountable peace and reconciliation processes are established in conformity with international human rights standards and internationally recognized principles of transitional justice. The processes include mechanisms for vetting ex-combatants and identifying potential violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

10 16 

OHCHR contributed to the functioning of transitional justice mechanisms, in line with international human rights standards.

UNAMA and OHCHR continued supporting the Government and related State institutions, the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) and civil society in promoting human rights-compliant peace and reconciliation processes, such as the rights of victims, victim-centred justice and their inclusion in peace processes. UNAMA and OHCHR continued to advise the AIHRC on these issues, as well as reparations, documentation and truth seeking, accountability and prevention. Following these efforts, the Chair of the Commission addressed the United Nations Security Council and reiterated the importance of an inclusive peace process, meaningful victim-centred justice measures, civilian casualty trends and their impact on civic space.

To foster and coordinate the engagement of the diplomatic community with national actors, including the AIHRC and civil society, UNAMA and OHCHR cooperated with the Embassy of Netherlands in Afghanistan and hosted three meetings on victim-centred justice with the informal Group of Friends, leading to coordinated advocacy on victim-centred justice initiatives.

A3 – The Government adopts measures to improve the implementation of the 2009 Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women (EVAW). It effectively investigates cases of violence against women, prosecutes perpetrators and introduces measures to support victims.

5 10 16 

Through advocacy and technical support, OHCHR contributed to improving the compliance of various State institutions and programmes with international human rights standards, in particular for the promotion and protection of women's rights.

UNAMA and OHCHR documented 200 cases of allegations of violence against women and girls, including beating, rape, harassment and annoyance, murder, forced marriage, child marriage, injury, forced self-immolation/suicide and forced prostitution. UNAMA and OHCHR also reported on eight cases that were addressed under the Taliban's parallel justice system, including murder, inhuman and cruel treatment, rape and CRSV.

In April, the Supreme Court announced at a meeting of the High Council that during the Afghan year 1399 (21 March 2020 – 20 March 2021), the primary and appellate courts adjudicated over 1,400 cases of violence against women and girls. Of the nearly 2,000 people who were accused of committing these crimes, 464 were acquitted. A total of 1,536 people were convicted, with punishments ranging from monetary fines to the death penalty.

UNAMA and OHCHR conducted advocacy and outreach activities on the elimination of violence against women, such as advocacy meetings and public reports, and awareness-raising activities through workshops and radio programmes.

Participation

P1 – The AIHRC operates in conformity with the Paris Principles, particularly in the areas of independence, improving female representation and access to adequate resources.

16 

OHCHR advocated for the promotion and protection of the rights of human rights defenders (HRDs), in cooperation with UN mechanisms, the AIHRC and relevant stakeholders.

Following the publication of a special report, in February, on the killing of HRDs, journalists and media workers, UNAMA and OHCHR initiated discussions with several embassies and international partners on a support and resettlement programme for at-risk HRDs and media workers seeking to leave the country.

Support for the relocation of 97 individuals was provided, together with the NGO coalition Afghanistan Human Rights Defenders Committee, and over 300 support letters were issued to HRDs and journalists. In following up on the publication of the special report, UNAMA and OHCHR conducted in-depth interviews with relatives of HRDs and media workers that were killed from 2018-2021. The research was not completed due to the deteriorating security situation.

UNAMA and OHCHR documented incidents affecting civil society activists, journalists and media workers that were attributed to the former government and anti-government elements, as well as current de facto authorities. These included killings, injuries, temporary arrests, the deprivation of liberty, beatings and threats or intimidation.

UN Human Rights and UNAMA held regular coordination meetings with the AIHRC in Kabul and in various provinces. The Commission published 10 thematic reports on various human rights issues, including the protection of civilians, the rights of children, IDPs persons with disabilities and detainees.

Furthermore, UNAMA and OHCHR organized 26 capacity-building and outreach events nationwide to share human rights standards and collect information, with the participation of more than 850 attendees, including HRDs, journalists, government officials, staff of the AIHRC and local community leaders. Additionally, over 500 meetings were held with HRDs and journalists, community elders, government officials and other stakeholders. UNAMA and OHCHR also held meetings on human rights issues with the current de facto authorities.

BANGLADESH

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
166.30 million	148,000 km ²	0.632 (rank: 133/189 in 2019)	"B" Status (2015)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2018 (following earlier deployment 2014-2016)	
Field office(s)		Dhaka	
UN partnership framework			
		United Nations Partnership Framework 2017–2020 (extended to 2021 due to COVID-19)	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		1	

XB requirements 2021

US\$551,000

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Development

D7 – States integrate human rights, including the right to development and the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, as they implement the Sustainable Development Goals and other development and poverty eradication efforts. The UN supports them in these efforts and integrates human rights into its own development work.

3 5

The Human Rights Adviser contributed to the application of an HRBA to development planning and implementation, in compliance with international human rights norms, standards and principles.

Under the HRA's coordination, several projects were undertaken that adopted an

HRBA, including a joint programme on empowering tea garden workers, another on disability inclusion and projects on ethical business and business and human rights. Moreover, the development of the UNSDCF 2022-2026, which was signed in November, provided opportunities to ensure the application of an HRBA to planning and implementation.

The UNCT consistently raised human rights issues with government partners and through public statements, including on communal violence against the Hindu minority and on the continued arrest and denial of bail of activists and journalists under the Digital Security Act.

Participation

P2 – UN agencies, the UNDG Human Rights Network and the focal point on reprisals cooperate more fully with national human rights institutions (NHRI), making it possible to more promptly and effectively protect individuals and CSOs.

The HRA contributed to the increased capacity of civil society coalitions, networks, alliances and movements to engage with the UN system and international human rights mechanisms to protect civic space.

Deteriorating freedom of expression is a challenge. While online and offline platforms provide an avenue of engagement to protect civic space, draconian laws and frequent arrests of civil society actors have created an environment of fear and self-censorship. Through training and outreach, the HRA strengthened the knowledge of civil society actors about the international human rights mechanisms. As a result, civil society increasingly used the recommendations issued by the special procedures, the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR in their advocacy. They also made greater use of UN tools, such as training manuals on human rights monitoring and reporting, to monitor and report on human rights violations.

Mechanisms

M1 – National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRFs) are established or strengthened. They report to the human rights treaty bodies and implement recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

16 17

The HRA provided training and technical assistance to support the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, including those of the UPR Working Group.

Since January 2020 and throughout 2021, three workshops were organized on the implementation of UPR recommendations. Participants included key government officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs and civil society. Discussions on the drafting of a comprehensive plan for the implementation of UPR recommendations continued in 2021, but such plan remains to be finalized and approved.

Civil society increasingly engaged with special procedures and several communications were submitted during 2021, including on issues of freedom of expression and opinion, arbitrary arrest and right to peaceful assembly. A total of 18 special procedures requests are pending government approval. Preparations for the next UPR cycle have begun.

Peace and Security

PS5 – The UN system systematically integrates an HRBA into humanitarian programming in response to the needs of Rohingya refugees.

3 5 8 10 13 16 17

The HRA contributed to the increased integration of human rights into the humanitarian response for Rohingya refugees from Myanmar.

To ensure the protection of Rohingya refugees, a joint response plan, including actions for improving their living conditions, was negotiated with the Government. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Government and UNHCR to provide services on the island of Bashan Char, where relocated persons face hardships and, in some cases, prison-like conditions. Freedom of movement between the island and the mainland remains contentious and a solution has yet to be found. The HRA provided inputs to the protection section of the MoU and will continue to engage with civil society and humanitarian partners to monitor the situation.

CAMBODIA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
16.95 million	181,000 km ²	0.594 (rank: 144/189 in 2019)	-
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	1993		
Field office(s)	Phnom Penh		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	18		

XB income	US\$2,688,361		
XB requirements 2021	US\$3,596,00		
XB expenditure	US\$1,975,835		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
70%	20%	10%	
\$1,380,879	\$387,655	\$207,301	
RB expenditure	US\$1,947,763		
Personnel	Non-personnel		
89%	11%		
\$1,731,856	\$215,907		

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Laws and policies regarding justice and prisons increasingly comply with international human rights standards.

5 10 16  

Through technical support, OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance in legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR continued to co-lead the Technical Working Group (TWG) on legal and judicial reform, which included the revision of the Joint Monitoring Indicators for 2021-2023. The integrated indicator framework to monitor the rule of law was developed and utilized and OHCHR used the collected information to provide briefings to development partners on the human rights situation in Cambodia, including on the rule of law and the administration of justice in relation to high-profile trials, prisons and alternatives to detention.

OHCHR met with the Minister of Justice to discuss strategic priorities, such as legal aid and COVID-19 legislation in connection with prison overcrowding. The Minister expressed a willingness to address legal aid as part of the draft policy on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), which is a priority issue on his agenda. OHCHR took part in consultations on the ADR policy and legal framework and provided comments that were founded on an HRBA.

Work was initiated with the International Bridge of Justice to help address the backlog of prisoner appeals that are pending before the Courts of Appeal. Two meetings were organized to establish a network of lawyers that can provide legal aid. OHCHR analysed the COVID-19 law, the draft law on Social Protection and the draft law on Child Protection in order to assess their compliance with international human rights norms and standards. The analysis was shared with the UNCT and the Government as part of joint advocacy efforts on human rights. OHCHR also analysed the compliance with CRPD of the draft law on disabilities, which served as the basis for communications sent by special procedures mandate holders.

With regard to the rights of LGBTI persons, OHCHR convened a meeting with the LGBTI coalition, UN agencies and embassies to discuss progress made on implementing recommendations issued in relation to the rights of LGBTI persons during the third cycle of the UPR. Participants agreed to engage with the Government on the development of same sex marriage legislation and the initial discussions took place in November and December.

A3 – Justice systems investigate and prosecute gender-related crimes more effectively.



Through technical support and advocacy, OHCHR contributed to human rights violations being raised and positively addressed by relevant actors.

OHCHR provided technical and financial support on two studies related to gender-based violence (GBV), namely, *The report on gender-based violence against indigenous women in three provinces of Cambodia*, prepared by the Cambodia Indigenous Women Association (CIWA) and the NGO Klahaan and *Gender-based violence trials in Cambodia: Monitoring of gender-based violence cases in the courts of first instance*, prepared by the Cambodian Centre for Human Rights (CCHR). The reports were presented to the UN Gender Theme Group, the Human Rights Theme Group and the programme staff of the UNCT during a virtual learning event. The event was organized by OHCHR, in November, and provided an opportunity for sharing recommendations from the reports to the UN system. In addition, OHCHR provided inputs to the UNCT concept note *Marching towards zero gender-based violence and advancing gender equality in Cambodia*, which will serve as the substantive basis for UNCT engagement with the Ministry of Women's Affairs.

OHCHR will continue to provide technical and financial support to CCHR on a project to promote the implementation of recommendations that were outlined in the abovementioned report on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) against indigenous women, which will be launched in 2022. It also plans to carry out a pilot training on ensuring accountability

for GBV for judges and prosecutors in the provinces, based on the recommendations from the abovementioned studies on GBV.

Participation

P5 – International, regional and national protection mechanisms respond to the protection needs of CSOs and individuals, particularly in the context of political participation.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms, in particular with regard to the work of human rights defenders (HRDs), in conformity with international human rights standards.

OHCHR monitored the civic and democratic space of at least 25 peaceful protests and gatherings. It also provided protection support and referrals in relation to 26 cases involving HRDs and CSOs and seven cases involving journalists. Further, the Office monitored and provided protection support and referrals in relation to 20 cases involving members and activists of the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP), including the killing of an activist in Phnom Penh and the deportation of five Cambodian political refugees affiliated with the CNRP from Thailand. OHCHR, UNHCR and a number of NGOs assisted 24 CNRP activists living in Thailand with asylum claims to resettle in a third country following the Government of Cambodia's request for their arrests and deportation. These cases were brought to the attention of the UNCT and serious cases of human rights violations against HRDs, political activists and CSOs were brought to the attention of the international human rights mechanisms and diplomats.

As a result of collaborative efforts undertaken by the UN special procedures, UNHCR, OHCHR and UNEP, seven statements were issued and press briefings were held to highlight grave concerns about shrinking civic and democratic space and harassment against HRDs, journalists and political refugees. In addition, the Office raised concerns about cases of serious restrictions on civic and democratic space with the Ministry of Interior, the Governor of Battambang Province and the Phnom Penh Police. Progress was seen following the engagement with the Ministry of Interior, as several activists and one minor were released from prison in November.

With the support of the UNCT and the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO), OHCHR launched a project to support HRDs and media actors. Three separate regional protection needs assessment workshops were held with 40 members of HRDs, civil society and the media to understand the state of civic space in the country. Following the workshops, the design of a phone app was initiated that will provide HRDs and the media with a tool to safely support their work. Design workshops have been held with 18 HRDs and the media, and the process is underway to incorporate the features they noted would be useful. It is anticipated that the app will be rolled out in 2022. The project represents a significant milestone in the RCO's response to shrinking civic space. Information that has been collected in the context of the project will be presented on a UN system-wide Crisis Risk Dashboard, which was launched in June.

In April, the Office launched a weekly update on COVID-19 developments in the country. The objective was to provide information to UN partners in-country, outline how new restrictions impacted

on human rights and ensure that human rights are central to any UN responses to COVID-19.

Throughout the year, regular briefings were organized between the Office and CSOs to discuss protection concerns and civic and democratic space. Moreover, the Office facilitated four virtual meetings between the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, CSOs and at-risk HRDs.

P7 – Youth networks increasingly recognize the value and importance of human rights and accountability and their contributions to development and peace.



OHCHR enhanced the engagement of young persons in support of human rights messages by raising awareness about human rights issues among relevant stakeholders, including youth, HRDs and CSOs.

The Office met with seven HRDs and youth members, including three women, who are working on labour rights in the garment and construction sectors, business and human rights and land rights of indigenous peoples, in order to discuss primary issues of concern. During the discussions, the Office highlighted the importance of the protection of HRDs, including in relation to youth activities and the work it is undertaking, and the promotion of civil and democratic space in line with the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights and the Guidance Note on the protection and promotion of civic space.

Development

D1 – Businesses and other economic actors are held accountable for rights abuses and provide remedies to victims.



OHCHR contributed to an increased compliance of business actors with international human rights norms and standards.

In September, all collective land of the Bunong indigenous communities, in Cambodia, was returned to the villagers and documented in an agreement. UN Human Rights has supported the Bunong indigenous communities in Monduliri province to claim collective land titles and negotiate for a fair settlement of their customary lands in a conflict with a rubber company. The Office provided technical assistance and advisory services to local authorities, the company involved in the dispute and the Bunong communities to help them better understand and acknowledge the rights of the indigenous communities.

D3 – Laws, policies and strategies on land, housing and property increasingly comply with international human rights standards. Their implementation by government entities, including the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Rural Development and subnational authorities, similarly comply with international standards.



OHCHR advocated for better compliance with international human rights standards of legislation, policies and practices regarding the land rights of indigenous peoples.

Since 2020, OHCHR has been preparing the first draft of a report on resettlement in consultation with relevant government ministries, including the Ministry of Planning, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Women's Affairs and the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation. The report was launched in March 2022.

In April, the Office published a report entitled *Collective land titling in Cambodia: A case for reform?* The report presents recommendations on simplifying the administrative process for indigenous communities to apply for a collective land title (CLT). An extensive social media campaign was carried out to accompany the release and the Office shared the report with government partners, the UNCT and development partners to advocate for a simplified CLT process.

To support the Government’s efforts to mitigate adverse effects resulting from rapid urbanization and economic growth, OHCHR cooperated with UN-Habitat and the RCO to implement a year-long project called “Sihanoukville for all: Promoting a smart, sustainable and inclusive city project.” The project aimed to assist authorities and UN agencies with the identification of smart city policies and programmes that capitalize on investments while improving the livelihood of different populations, including vulnerable groups in Preah Sihanouk Province. Through the project, an inclusive consultation process was undertaken with all relevant stakeholders. Challenges to human security, their root causes and future opportunities were identified and used to inform local and national authorities. A workshop was held as the closing event to facilitate the sharing of experiences with selected ASEAN Smart City Network members (from Battambang, Siem Reap and Phnom Penh). During the event, a document on the Sihanoukville Sustainable, Inclusive and Smart City Concept was submitted to the Provincial Administration, the Sihanoukville Smart City Working Group and other local stakeholders.

In November, OHCHR accepted the request by the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction to provide technical assistance on draft legislation on housing, which the Government of Cambodia plans to adopt within the next two years.

 **Mechanisms**

M2 – CSOs and the UNCT increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms when they report to the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the UPR.



OHCHR contributed to substantive submissions to: 1) the human rights treaty bodies; 2) the special procedures; and 3) the Human Rights Council and the UPR by: a) total; b) NHRIs; c) CSOs; d) individuals; and e) UN entities.

OHCHR supported the efforts of the CCHR to coordinate a number of NGOs in the submission of a joint UPR mid-term report. CCHR, Article 19 and the Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development submitted their reports to the Special Rapporteurs on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and association; the right to freedom of opinion and expression; and the situation of human rights defenders. Following OHCHR’s presentation on the UPR mid-term review for 17 participants from 12 CSOs, the participants prepared a joint submission on the assessment of the implementation of UPR recommendations. CCHR and Article 19 are working on a joint submission on the implementation of ICCPR that will be sent to the Human Rights Committee in early 2022.

OHCHR and UN Women engaged with women’s rights NGOs on a follow-up

report to CEDAW. A discussion was held during a meeting of the UN Theme Group on Gender to prepare a UNCT submission. OHCHR facilitated a submission by UNDP and UNICEF to the CESCR Secretariat on the Committee’s new General Comment on land and human rights. It also provided inputs to CED regarding the list of issues that will be developed in relation to Cambodia in early 2022.

OHCHR engaged with CSOs, especially women’s organizations, to develop their capacity and empower them to engage with the international human rights mechanisms, such as the UPR, the Human Rights Council and the Human Rights Committee in the context of its review of Cambodia’s third periodic report. In October, the Office conducted two trainings on human rights for 25 CSO staff members, including 13 women from the Women’s Media Centre in Cambodia. More specifically, the training focused on the international human rights mechanisms, women’s rights, gender mainstreaming and gender-sensitive reporting, information security and secure data protection.

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
25.89 million	121,000 km ²	-	-
Type of engagement		Field-based structure	
Year established		2015	
Field office(s)		Seoul, Republic of Korea (ROK)	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Strategic Framework 2017- 2021	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		9	

XB income	US\$74,477		
XB requirements 2021	US\$522,000		
XB expenditure		US\$27,089	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
20%	68%	12%	
\$5,456	\$18,517	\$3,116	
RB expenditure		US\$910,012	
Personnel	Non-personnel		
94%	6%		
\$857,407	\$52,605		

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

 **Accountability**

A2 – National institutions in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea curb violations of human rights in response to international pressure.

10 16

OHCHR undertook analyses and raised awareness about human rights concerns in the DPRK, including among the DPRK leadership, through public reporting and strategic media engagement.

UN Human Rights documented facts and patterns of grave human rights violations in the DPRK, including through interviews with 64 escapees who had recently arrived in the ROK, engagement with CSOs and other relevant stakeholders and through open-source monitoring and documentation. The continued closures of the DPRK’s borders as part of its COVID-19 prevention measures significantly reduced the number of escapees who arrived in the ROK.

Monitoring visits outside of the ROK were not possible due to COVID-19 travel restrictions. Despite the challenging circumstances, the Office conducted several missions to interview escapees and victims outside of the ROK resettlement centres.

Public reporting enabled OHCHR to advocate with the Government of the DPRK on issues of concern, provided a platform for the voices of North Korean escapees and increased the awareness of the international community regarding the human rights situation in the DPRK, thereby contributing to a more informed public discourse. The Office published a discussion paper entitled *Implications of the Right to Development for the DPRK and other UN Member States*, which was used in several discussion forums to sensitize governmental and non-governmental actors about the DPRK’s human rights obligations in this area. It also raised awareness over the human rights obligations of other Member States engaging with the DPRK, including on the provision of humanitarian and development assistance, sanctions, trade and investment relations and disarmament. OHCHR continued to conduct research for the preparation of thematic reports on abductions/enforced disappearances and on business and human rights. For the abductions report, a series of interviews were carried out with families of victims and escapees living in the ROK, while for the business and human rights report consultations were undertaken with the ROK Government and other key actors. Both reports are expected to be finalized in 2022.

The reports of the Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea were used as advocacy tools to provide visibility on the human rights situation in the DPRK.

The Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly focused on human rights violations in places of detention, including torture, forced labour in detention, separated families/disappearances/abductions, civil and political rights, and human rights concerns during the pandemic, including access to food, livelihoods, health care and humanitarian assistance. The Special Rapporteur's report to the General Assembly highlighted the issues of political prison camps, torture and detention, freedom of religion and the rights of the child. His report to the Human Rights Council called attention to the issue of accountability for crimes against humanity and the situation of human rights in the context of the pandemic.

A2 – The international community continues to hold accountable perpetrators of crimes against humanity.

10 16

Following the upgrading of the central information and evidence repository in 2020, UN Human Rights continued to populate the repository with documentation related to the DPRK. The repository now holds more than 4,500 distinct files, including interviews, reports, petition letters, satellite imagery, maps, court documents, videos and audio files. Open-source materials from the media, governments and academia were also uploaded. All relevant staff were trained on the use of the repository through regular online sessions. In December, the Office provided a briefing on the use of the repository to CSOs that are monitoring and documenting human rights violations in the DPRK. In turn, a number of CSOs submitted additional materials that were uploaded onto the repository.

The Office strengthened its cooperation with CSOs, legal experts, government representatives, victims and their families through information-sharing, capacity-building and exploring accountability strategies. In February and December, two meetings were organized with key CSOs working on accountability in order to discuss ways to cooperate and share information. In addition, a hybrid format training was organized for CSOs, lawyers and victims' groups on basic investigative standards and evidence preservation for judicial accountability processes, which was attended by 40 participants from Japan and the ROK. OHCHR regularly engaged with CSOs and provided guidance and technical advice on the protection of victims, information security and investigative techniques. Furthermore, the Office organized a workshop for 40 CSOs, victims' groups and international lawyers to discuss extraterritorial judicial efforts in foreign and domestic jurisdictions and to explore possible avenues for accountability for human rights violations in the DPRK.

The Office continued to regularly engage with the Centre for North Korean Human Rights Records (Records Centre) of the ROK Ministry of Unification and the Ministry of Justice to exchange information and strengthen cooperation. Two joint workshops were organized with the Records Centre to discuss and exchange information regarding human rights investigations and documentation in the DPRK. OHCHR also conducted three training sessions on accountability, international criminal law and investigations for investigators from the Records Centre. Additionally, a training for the Ministry of Justice on the analysis of human rights information and legal accountability was carried out. These engagements strengthened cooperation with OHCHR and the capacities of the ministries to undertake a

systematic documentation of human rights violations that may be required in future truth, justice and accountability processes.

Participation

P4 – Human rights principles, norms and language are embraced by CSOs that work with the Government of the DPRK and/or with DPRK escapees.

8 16 

OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of human rights principles, norms and language into media narratives on human rights issues in the DPRK and reached out to youth.

OHCHR engaged with North Koreans living in the ROK to raise awareness, increase its interview base for monitoring and documentation, enable DPRK escapees to participate in relevant UN meetings and build their human rights capacity. The Office organized regular meetings with two core groups of North Korean civil society actors in the ROK, providing a platform for consistent interaction and engagement and to provide support on human rights issues, including through monitoring and documentation, victims' protection and engagement with the UN. Eight field missions were undertaken to provinces outside of Seoul to expand outreach to the DPRK diaspora for awareness raising, documentation and capacity development purposes.

The Office collaborated with Member States, CSOs, academic institutions and other actors working on the DPRK, including by attending seminars and events in the ROK. The Office delivered presentations on 21 different occasions, covering issues such as accountability, an HRBA, SDGs and human rights, digital

rights and freedom of expression, human rights-humanitarian-development nexus, monitoring and documentation. Through these forums, the Office advocated for human rights improvements in the DPRK and positioned itself as a key stakeholder and partner, including in the area of economic, social and cultural rights. Furthermore, the Office developed new partnerships with humanitarian organizations to improve the integration of human rights into humanitarian action; religious organizations in relation to freedom of religion; and women and civic groups in relation to the peace process.

In the context of reaching out to youth, including university students, on human rights and OHCHR's activities, the Office collaborated with the law schools at Seoul National University and Sungkyunkwan University on a research project regarding the feasibility of exercising universal jurisdiction on the Korean Peninsula. OHCHR provided briefings on the work of the Office, reviewed the research and connected students with national and international legal experts.

OHCHR continued to expand its media outreach activities through the production and dissemination of materials in Korean and English on its website and social media channels. The Office provided interviews and comments to the media on a range of issues, including human rights in the DPRK during the pandemic, the food crisis, civil society space in the ROK, accountability, prisoners of war and the humanitarian situation. On the occasion of Human Rights Day, the Office and the European Union (EU) co-organized a panel discussion on addressing inequality and discrimination in the DPRK.

Peace and Security

PS3 – International approaches to the DPRK integrate human rights as a cross-cutting issue and recognize the centrality of human rights in the promotion of peace and security in the DPRK.

16 

OHCHR consistently raised awareness in relation to critical human rights issues with international partners, thereby contributing to the increased integration of human rights into the peace process.

UN Human Rights regularly engaged with Member States and the international community to advocate for the integration of human rights in their diplomacy activities and as a conflict prevention tool, particularly in the context of denuclearization and the inter-Korean talks on the Korean Peninsula. While these initiatives have been stalled since 2019, both the United States of America and the ROK continue to pursue their policy of engagement with the DPRK. OHCHR's report *Laying the human rights foundations for peace: Supporting an inclusive and human rights-centered peace process in the DPRK* promotes the establishment of benchmarks for integrating human rights into engagements with the DPRK. The Office also participated in several peace forums and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK engaged with Member States to highlight the importance of initiating human rights and accountability discussions, in spite of the stalled peace process.

In addition, the Office engaged with Member States and UN entities to ensure that the human rights situation in the DPRK remained visible in international forums. OHCHR regularly briefed the international community on its activities,

the work of the Special Rapporteur, the human rights situation in the DPRK and the severity of human rights and humanitarian concerns resulting from COVID-19 restrictions. The Office held quarterly meetings with the UN DPPA, RC and UNCT, enabling a coordinated approach to key human rights developments, consistent messaging on advocacy and the exploration of opportunities to engage with the DPRK.

PS5 – Humanitarian programmes adopt a HRBA and comply with the requirements of the Human Rights up Front Action Plan.

3 5 8 10 13 16 

OHCHR contributed to increasing the integration of human rights into humanitarian responses and advocacy

Integrating human rights into the humanitarian response remained a priority for OHCHR. The Office provided regular contributions and analyses on the humanitarian situation in the DPRK, including in relation to a possible food crisis in the context of the pandemic, to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) and the UNCT. The Office monitored human rights violations in the DPRK, including civil and political rights violations in the context of COVID-19. It incorporated its analyses into the Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly, the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK and in its own advocacy and outreach efforts. OHCHR held regular engagements with the UNCT and the RC to provide updates on its activities and exchange information on human rights issues and the humanitarian situation during the pandemic. The Office contributed to the drafting of the Common Country Analysis (CCA),

providing a human rights analysis of State institutions and the situation on the ground, highlighting vulnerable groups, and providing analysis on the principle of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB). The Office supported CSOs' engagement in the Voluntary National Review (VNR) process and provided a keynote speech at an event in July presenting their human rights analysis of progress towards the SDGs in the DPRK, prior to the DPRK's VNR.

The Office worked closely with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK to advocate for increased attention to be paid to vulnerable populations, including detainees and prisoners, older persons and children, particularly given the significant economic hardships and possibility of a food crisis. In addition, OHCHR advocated for access of humanitarian agencies to places of detention and prison facilities, called for the return of humanitarian agencies into the DPRK and emphasized the importance of reversing the DPRK's trajectory towards increasing isolation. In September, UN Human Rights organized a panel discussion on the human rights-humanitarian-development nexus at the Korean Global Forum for Peace, during which it presented its discussion paper entitled *Implications of the right to development for the DPRK and other United Nations Member States*. As a result, the Office was invited to deliver presentations about the human rights-humanitarian-development nexus at different forums, including those organized by humanitarian agencies. This enabled the Office to advocate for the improved integration of human rights into humanitarian action in the DPRK and to highlight the interlinkages between civil and political rights and economic, social and cultural rights.

Mechanisms

M1 – The Government engages with the country mandate holder, who is able to conduct a visit, and two thematic rapporteurs, who are able to visit the country.

16 17

OHCHR supported the work of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK and liaised with other special procedures mandate holders.

The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK continued to take a two-track approach to his mandate. This consisted of highlighting the human rights violations in the country and the need to explore the full range of accountability options, while also engaging in constructive discussions with the Government and the international community to find solutions to human rights issues. In October, the Special Rapporteur met with diplomatic missions in the United States of America and with government representatives and CSOs working on the DPRK to discuss human rights concerns, options for accountability and advocacy for continued constructive engagement with the DPRK on human rights.

Due to the Government of the DPRK's rejection of the Special Rapporteur's mandate, the Special Rapporteur was unable to undertake country visits to the DPRK. He was also unable to undertake missions to the ROK and other neighbouring countries due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions. OHCHR provided research support and assisted the Special Rapporteur in drafting reports to the General Assembly and the HRC.

It also provided support for the preparation of draft communications, urgent appeals and press releases and supported the Special Rapporteur's advocacy and media outreach activities. The reports to the General Assembly and the HRC were well received and widely covered by the international media but were categorically rejected by the DPRK. The Special Rapporteur sent communications to the ROK and China on child labour, freedom of expression, non-refoulement and CSOs civic space. Furthermore, OHCHR and the Special Rapporteur regularly engaged with the Government of the ROK on the need to integrate human rights into the inter-Korean talks. They also emphasized the importance of the ROK's role in protecting DPRK escapees who are detained in China and third countries who are at risk of being forcibly returned (refouled) to the DPRK.

The Office liaised with a number of thematic special procedures on issues of concern in the DPRK in order to support victims and their families to engage with the international human rights mechanisms. In 2021, the OHCHR provided inputs to the Human Rights Committee on the list of issues prior to the submission of the DPRK's third periodic report. The DPRK did not submit any of its overdue reports to CEDAW, the Human Rights Committee or CESC. The Office will continue to advocate with the DPRK regarding the importance of special procedures visits amid ongoing border closures. In February, the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances transmitted two cases to the DPRK. The Working Group continued to express concern over the lack of cooperation from the DPRK and urged it to provide information on the efforts made and the results of the investigations carried out to clarify the fate or whereabouts of disappeared persons.

MALAYSIA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
32.78 million	331,000 km ²	0.810 (rank: 62/189 in 2019)	"A" Status (2021)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2021	
Field office(s)		Kuala Lumpur	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		1	

XB requirements 2021

US\$292,000

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Mechanisms

M1 – A comprehensive plan has been developed for the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM) is able to monitor their implementation. The Human Rights Adviser and the UN Country Team are able to engage with the Government on follow-up to the recommendations in a more systematic manner.

16 17

The HRA supported the establishment of a NMRF on the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the UPR.

The HRA collaborated with the UNCT to support the development of a matrix (monitoring mechanism) for the implementation of the UPR recommendations related to Malaysia. This led to a more consultative and inclusive cooperation between the Government and various stakeholders. In addition, an HRBA was applied to development through a mapping of linkages between the UPR recommendations and the SDGs, other human rights mechanisms and the National Human Rights Action Plan. These steps are in accordance with the pledges and commitments put forward by the Government in seeking election to the Human Rights Council.

Government departments enhanced their capacity to engage with the international human rights mechanisms through

trainings and workshops organized by the HRA, the Resident Coordinator's Office and OHCHR, including on the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD) and the UPR matrix.

The Government reiterated its commitment to ratify the core international human rights treaties, including ICERD, however, no concrete steps were taken to fulfil this commitment.

Accountability

A1 – National legislation has been amended or repealed and complies with international human rights standards. Human rights issues and violations are more systematically raised in public forums and are taken up by various international human rights mechanisms, including the special procedures.

16

The HRA supported the improvement of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards.

The HRA and the UNCT actively engaged with the special procedures on human rights issues, which resulted in a joint communique to the Government, including in relation to the persecution of human rights defenders, in March. The HRA also supported the RCO's advocacy on equal access to vaccination for refugees and migrants. No significant progress was made on the alignment of national legislation with international human rights standards, as promised by the Government in its third UPR cycle in 2018.

The HRA also supported the UNCT's engagement with SUHAKAM in advancing human rights in the country,

including by addressing human rights issues related to law enforcement and the state of emergency. The UN and the Human Rights Commission agreed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to institutionalize collaboration for human rights advocacy.

No progress was made in amending legislation to abolish the death penalty.

 **Participation**

P6 – Victims of human rights violations and marginalized groups are empowered and included in discussions on issues that affect them at the national, regional and international levels.

16 17

The HRA supported the meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes.

The HRA supported the UNCT to commemorate World Press Freedom Day, Human Rights Day and International Women’s Day, which amassed large online audiences that interacted on pertinent human rights issues. These events also brought together representatives from the Government, the UN, the NHRI and civil society to advocate for human rights.

MALDIVES

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
0.54 million	-	0.740 (rank: 95/189 in 2019)	“B” Status (2010)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2020	
Field office(s)		Malé	
UN partnership framework		UN Socio-economic Response and Recovery Framework (June 2020-31 December 2021) (in light of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic)	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		1	

XB requirements 2021 **US\$412,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021  

^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

 **Accountability**

A1 – The Maldives maintains the moratorium on the death penalty through improved legislation that protects juvenile offenders.

16

The HRA contributed to improving the level of compliance of legislation and policies with international human rights standards, in particular with regard to the situation of prisoners.

Following the HRA’s engagement, in 2020, with the Attorney General’s Office (AGO), the Supreme Court, the Ministry

of Home Affairs, the Maldives Police Service and the Maldives Correctional Service, an important milestone on accountability was reached with the adoption of the Transitional Justice Act and the formation of the Office of the Ombudsperson for Transitional Justice (OTJ). The HRA is providing technical assistance to the OTJ and the AGO. This support will continue in 2022.

 **Non-discrimination**

ND8 – Protection considerations for vulnerable populations, with a particular emphasis on older persons, women, persons with disabilities and youth, are integrated into disaster mitigation and resilience-building programming on climate change.

10 16 17

The HRA contributed to increasing the mainstreaming of human rights into the policies and programmes of UN entities.

To strengthen the capacities of the UNCT on human rights, the HRA organized a training on an HRBA for key UNCT members. The HRA also contributed to the development and finalization of the CCA and the UNSDCF 2022-2026, which includes a strong focus on discrimination.

MYANMAR

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
54.81 million	677km ²	0.583 (rank: 147/189 in 2019)	“B” Status (2015)
Type of engagement		Human rights staff (Other type of field presence)	
Year established		2014	
Field office(s)		Bangkok, Thailand	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		6	

XB income **US\$1,221,664**

XB requirements 2021 **US\$3,041,000**

XB expenditure **US\$1,704,271**

Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
87%	2%	11%
\$1,481,317	\$34,262	\$188,692

Key OMP pillars in 2021    

^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

 **Accountability**

A5 – UN policies and practices comply with international human rights standards and United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) guidance (2017). They focus on accountable institutions, access to justice and the participation of civil society in planning and monitoring.

16 

OHCHR contributed to incorporating human rights-based approaches into the work of the UNCT through reporting and by co-chairing the UNCT Human Rights Theme Group (HRTG).

As it did in 2020, the UNCT demonstrated its responsiveness to human rights concerns by undertaking targeted actions, both internally and in public. During the present crises, UN Human Rights has continued to engage and provide support to the UNCT. As a result, it has remained coordinated, coherent and consistent in its human rights messaging, its stance towards the military authorities and its condemnation of violence used against peaceful protesters and mass detentions.

Furthermore, as a result of the suspension of all programmes that were being delivered through the mechanisms of

the Government, the UN reoriented programmes to support locally-based solutions and mechanisms instead of State apparatuses that were controlled by the military. In implementing these engagement principles, the UN assessed human rights risks for their programmes and, where possible, repurposed their efforts in support of human rights protection. Furthermore, the UNCT undertook significant efforts to steer future programming towards meeting the needs of the most vulnerable through humanitarian and socio-economic responses.

At critical moments of the crisis, UN officials in-country, regionally and in headquarters delivered public statements condemning the actions of the military that resulted in serious human rights violations and produced catastrophic results for communities across the country. A principled and coherent stance has solidified the strong position of the UN in Myanmar in support of the rights of the people.

Peace and Security

PS3 – Relevant intergovernmental forums, processes and mechanisms, including the Human Rights Council, the General Assembly and the Security Council, highlight human rights concerns when they address situations of conflict and insecurity in the subregion.

16

OHCHR continued raising human rights issues in several relevant UN forums, including at the national and international level.

During the year, OHCHR's overall engagement with Member States and international human rights mechanisms

grew in strength and regularity. This began with the consideration of Myanmar during the third cycle of the UPR, which was followed by the coup and the resulting protection crisis that affected so many in the country.

Member States showed an increased interest in human rights-related documentation, analysis and reporting, as evidenced by requests for regular updates and public reporting, communications and other briefings and contacts. After the coup began, OHCHR delivered 40 regular updates on the human rights situation in the country, two public reports, three updates to the Human Rights Council and one update to the Special Session of the Human Rights Council on the post-coup situation. OHCHR also prepared five early warning reports with recommendations for action to advise the RC/Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) and the RC/HC ad interim (a.i.) on urgent human rights trends and developing patterns during the course of the crisis.

As the crisis spread across the country, with significant increase in violence and an intensification of armed conflicts and armed clashes in areas where conflict was once rare, the grave concerns of the international community grew in response to the deteriorating human rights situation. This concern was reflected in the adoption of two separate HRC resolutions, which established several new reporting mandates. OHCHR was tasked with delivering written updates and comprehensive reports on the human rights situation in the country following the coup. These resolutions tasked the Office with preparing assessments of the steps taken to implement recommendations made by the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar in its 2018 and 2019 reports, both to the

Human Rights Council and the General Assembly during sessions in 2022 and 2023. Updates assessing the impact of the coup on the human rights of the Rohingya and other minority communities in Myanmar were also requested for 2022.

Participation

P1 – Select oppressive laws, policies and practices that limit the right to participate and negatively impact on civic space are tackled and reformed or abolished, with an emphasis on those that disproportionately affect women.

16

OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of specific policy areas with international human rights norms and standards.

Due to the coup, tangible progress on core human rights concerns was difficult to impossible. Within this context, OHCHR continued to form alliances and partnerships with civil society and the UNCT, supporting legal research, analyses and assessments of unilateral changes to legislation, as well as the ways in which existing legal frameworks were used to support the commission of serious human rights violations. This included the application of provisions of the Telecommunications Law and amendments that were made to the Penal Code, especially the sections on sedition and defamation, treason and unlawful association. Legislation relating to electronic transactions, village and ward administrations, and many other issues, was amended to unravel protections for free expression online, access to information, privacy rights, freedom of movement and against unlawful search and seizure.

There were some indications that the coordinated efforts of civil society, the UN and diplomatic presences and private enterprises, such as Internet Service Providers, contributed to altering the actions of the military in its planned approaches to unilateral changes to law. In February, plans to enact a new cybersecurity law were scrapped after intense criticism from the aforementioned sectors. Unfortunately, these advocacy efforts appear to have convinced military authorities to undertake more overt amendments to existing laws, shunning public processes and good governance standards and instead opting for the unilateral amendment of laws.

Nevertheless, UN Human Rights and its partners continued to identify and analyse changes to the legal framework and publicize how those changes impacted on human rights, including the commission of large-scale violations. As a result of these public and private efforts within the UN system, advocacy was undertaken by UN agencies and actors and by special procedures mandate holders, including the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar and thematic rapporteurs.

P2 – The international community effectively protects civil society organizations and individuals and promotes an increasingly safe and enabling environment for them.

16

OHCHR contributed to strengthening engagement and advocacy by the international community with the Government in relation to specific human rights issues.

During the year, OHCHR worked closely with the UNCT and provided guidance on protection for HRDs,

including journalists and other individuals with acute protection needs in the face of military repression. More specifically, OHCHR stressed the need for direct assistance to be provided wherever possible and, where it was not, to refer individuals to implementing partners or to OHCHR to make connections with other protection options. Development of this guidance required considerable outreach to identify the means for improved coordination, identification of service providers and mapping of priority protection needs in the unfolding crisis.

The process for developing guidance coincided with the UNCT's review of its programming in line with the approval of UN engagement principles. As a result, these principles were foremost in mind when UN agencies, funds and programmes established and adjusted programmatic responses to the post-coup reality. This led to a particular emphasis on the provision of support for legal aid, CSOs, HRDs and others who undertook protection responses or gathered data that could inform future protection.

OHCHR took a lead on promoting and facilitating more consistent and broader coordination and consultation with civil society on protection concerns, including those related to reprisals. While these initiatives occurred throughout the year, they remain largely ad hoc. To ensure their sustainability, the initiatives need to be better defined, more widely attended and held on a regular basis.

Mechanisms

M1 – Recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms are fully utilized as advocacy tools and highlight the Government's obligations to implement specific standards.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to the increased use and implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

The UNCT HRTG, which OHCHR co-chairs, was designated to serve as a coordinating body with the UNCT on the Universal Periodic Review and its recommendations, representing a positive step forward.

Due to the coup, OHCHR's work was limited to coordinating the reporting by the UNCT and providing briefings and updates for Member States prior to the UPR review, including on lists of questions and related content.

NEPAL

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
29.67 million	147 km2	0.602 (rank: 142/189 in 2019)	"A" Status (2021)
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser		
Year established	2019		
Field office(s)	Kathmandu		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	1		

XB requirements 2021 **US\$111,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Legislation that outlines constitutionally-protected rights is based on international human rights law and is implemented, as guaranteed by the Constitution.

16

The HRA contributed to improving legislation/policy in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

The HRA carried out an analysis of various ordinances issued by the Government, including a controversial Constitutional Council amendment, and their impact on the enjoyment of human rights. The HRA shared its analysis with the UNCT for use in joint advocacy. As of the end of 2021, the Government had adopted legislation

to criminalize acid attacks and regulate the buying and selling of acids.

A2 – The transitional justice mechanism is strengthened to investigate conflict-related cases through the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), the Commission of Investigation on Enforced Disappeared Persons (CIEDP), the National Human Rights Commission or any other institution appropriately developed for the purpose.

10 16

The HRA contributed to ensuring that transitional justice mechanisms are in place and functioning in conformity with international human rights norms and standards.

During the year, the HRA continued its advocacy for victim-centred transitional justice processes. More specifically, it engaged with and supported conflict victims’ groups to pursue advocacy for their rights to justice and reparation and for memorialization and institutional reform. A joint concept note was developed and presented to partners.

The HRA continued advocating for the endorsement of the Second National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, which was drafted in collaboration with women victims of conflict. The HRA briefed influential political actors on the importance and key elements of the Action Plan. Following the briefing, the Ministry of Home Affairs led an internal exercise to update the Action Plan during the fourth quarter of 2021. The HRA will advocate for the endorsement of the National Action Plan in 2022.

Development

D8 – Effective monitoring indicators for progress on the implementation of recommendations issued by the Universal Periodic Review and voluntary pledges of the Human Rights Council are developed within the wider context of the Human Rights up Front Initiative and the Sustainable Development Goals.

1 2 3 4 5 6 8 10 11
16 17

The HRA contributed to ensuring that mechanisms for integrated reporting and/or implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the UPR are in place and functioning.

The HRA is engaging with the Government to support the integration of UPR recommendations into the National Human Rights Action Plan. Discussions are also underway to develop a sustainable platform and methodology that will enable the Government to more effectively implement recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms by incorporating them into government policies, plans and programmes.

THE PACIFIC

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands (Republic of), Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
Year established	2005
Field office(s)	Suva
UN partnership framework	United Nations Pacific Strategy 2018-2022
Staff as of 31 December 2021	10

XB income **US\$906,639**

XB requirements 2021 **US\$2,181,000**

XB expenditure	US\$914,273	
Personnel	Non-personnel*	PSC ⁴
89%	0%	11%
\$817,663	\$-3,570	\$100,180

RB expenditure **US\$213,183**

Personnel	100%
\$213,183	

Key OMP pillars in 2021



⁴ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.179
* Includes prior period expenditure adjustments.

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.

16

OHCHR contributed to improved compliance with international human rights

standards of laws and policies in relation to the rights of the child, land rights and independence of the judiciary.

In a joint initiative with the Pacific Community’s Human Rights and Social Development Division, UN Human Rights issued the third edition of a quadrennial report entitled *Human Rights in the Pacific: A Situational Analysis 2020*,

which provides an overview of the human rights situation in 16 countries of region.

UN Human Rights collaborated with the RC in Samoa to convene a virtual dialogue with the Attorney General and international experts in order to review the compliance of three laws (the Judicature Act 2020, the Constitution Amendment Act 2020 and the Land and Titles Registration Act 2020) with Samoa's obligations under international human rights law and to share good practices and recommendations. This also contributed to the preparations for Samoa's UPR in November and the UNCT submission.

In Fiji, OHCHR and UNDP conducted a series of online seminars on human rights issues for members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence. The seminars focused on the UN human rights mechanisms, the rights of indigenous peoples and ways in which parliamentary bodies can engage with and more effectively follow-up on the recommendations issued by the human rights mechanisms.

A1 – The police academies and penitentiary services in Fiji and Vanuatu include human rights training in the curriculum of pre-service and in-service training.

16

OHCHR contributed to the institutionalization of human rights training for members of the police force by providing technical advice and delivering training.

OHCHR continued to build the capacities of the Fiji Police Force on the protection of human rights. As part of a series of trainings that began in 2020, the Office led a training for 165 new

recruits, in cooperation with key partners, including UNDP, UNICEF, the Pacific Disability Forum, the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre and the Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission. This training enhanced the participant's understanding of human rights concepts and basic protection mechanisms, with an emphasis on the rights of women, persons with disabilities, child victims and juveniles and members of the LGBTI community. The training also addressed the prohibition of torture, the use of force by the police and accountability. Further, OHCHR and ILO reviewed the standard operating procedures for the Fiji Police Force and assisted in preparing training materials to ensure their compliance with human rights standards on the right to freedom of association.

In Vanuatu, OHCHR conducted a virtual training on human rights compliance for 30 correction officers, in partnership with the Pacific Community (SPC). As part of ongoing efforts to strengthen the capacities of government representatives to effectively implement the provisions of CAT, an online regional workshop was organized for 20 participants, including government representatives from eight Pacific States, on anti-torture regulatory frameworks, fair justice systems and legislative drafting for States Parties to CAT. The workshop also covered equality and non-discrimination, accountability, professionalism and gender mainstreaming.



Participation

P1 – National protection systems receive capacity-building training. Civil society actors receive technical assistance, including training, to increase their capacity to monitor and influence national protection systems. Oversight and accountability mechanisms improve access to justice and widen civic space.

16

OHCHR contributed to increasing the use of national protection systems, in compliance with international human rights standards.

For the first time in the region, UN Human Rights launched a course for HRDs, in collaboration with the University of the South Pacific, that was delivered to 54 students from Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, including 35 women. The course aims to inspire a new generation of leaders on human rights, explore how to defend human rights and contribute to academic and social discussions. It provides students with an understanding of national and international human rights frameworks, good practices and opportunities for building networks.

OHCHR actively engaged with women human rights defenders (WHRDs) in the region, in particular with those from rural and remote areas. A report on the situation of HRDs was finalized and launched, highlighting the situation of WHRDs in Fiji, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. The launch was preceded by a validation workshop of findings and recommendations, based on scoping missions conducted in seven counties. The report presents recommendations for action by national institutions, regional bodies and international organizations, as well as

HRDs. In 2022, OHCHR will work on a protection strategy for WHRDs and continue its capacity-building work.

UN Human Rights partnered with the International Commission for Jurists to conduct a training for the Fiji Women Lawyers Association on WHRDs, aiming at eliminating gender discriminatory attitudes and behaviours towards women and enhancing their access to justice. The training was attended by 35 lawyers in Fiji and discussions focused on their role in applying the principles and provisions of CEDAW. Discussions were also held on the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign, the high rate of violence in the Pacific and how lawyers can contribute to eliminating violence against women.

Through OHCHR's support, environmental HRDs in the region increasingly engage with international human rights mechanisms and have access to national and regional advocacy platforms. Together with the UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, OHCHR organized a workshop on environmental HRDs in the Pacific region, strengthening environmental and human rights protection and sharing experiences and good practices. Participants identified protection gaps and discussed the role of children and youth environmental HRDs, as well as initiatives and mechanisms of support for environmental HRDs in the region.

OHCHR cooperated with UNEP and the Asia Pacific Network of Environmental Defenders to convene the Asia-Pacific Environmental Human Rights Defenders Forum on the theme "Building safe spaces for dialogue and support among environmental human rights defenders." The event provided a space for dialogue, analysis and learning exchanges, including

about the situation in the region, and available support.

P6 – Civil society organizations advocate for anti-discrimination laws in at least two Pacific Island countries.

OHCHR contributed to ensuring that the voices of people affected by decisions are heard by strengthening alliances and partnerships for participation and cross-movement solidarity.

OHCHR collaborated with UNFPA, ILO and UNICEF to re-activate the UN Youth Inter-Agency Working Group, which was established to address youth development in the Pacific region. A mapping exercise was conducted and areas for partnership and joint programming were identified. UN Human Rights took on a prominent role in supporting activities related to International Youth Day, celebrated in the Federated States of Micronesia and across the region, focusing on the need for youth inclusion and participation in the development space, making contributions to the preparation of policy and strengthening youth structures and the use of digital space for sharing information. Other issues raised included challenges related to climate change and the impacts of COVID-19 on food security. The outcome statement of the event was presented at the World Food Systems Summit, in September.

OHCHR supported youth-led organizations and youth inclusion in actions to address climate change. For instance, OHCHR contributed to a Pacific-wide intergenerational dialogue hosted by Ignite4Change, a youth-led organization, on "Navigating uncertainties in a COVID-19 environment." The Office shared information on human rights standards and the global survey on youth. It also contributed to an event

convened by the Youth for Climate Action Programme (YCAP) on "COVID-19 responses: Upholding young peoples' human rights," which focused on the Secretary-General's policy brief on the impacts of COVID-19 on human rights and the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights. Moreover, discussions at the event touched on the impacts of COVID-19 on human rights, the importance of youth participation and inclusive approaches and technology for communication.



Development

D2 – Human rights training is institutionalized within the Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission, the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Industry, CSOs, the Maritime Authority and relevant government departments.

1 2 3 5 8 9 13 16 17

OHCHR contributed to institutionalizing human rights training in selected areas related to business and human rights.

UN Human Rights and the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights (BHR) organized the Second UN Pacific Forum on Business and Human Rights, which was conducted in a hybrid format, in November, and was attended by over 300 participants. The Forum highlighted key BHR issues and opportunities for the effective implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) in the region. The Forum also addressed the disproportionate impacts of climate change and how COVID-19 exacerbated pre-existing challenges in addressing the adverse human rights impacts of business activities, in particular those relating to the extractive industries, fishing and infrastructure projects.

OHCHR signed an MOU with the Diplomacy Training Programme (DTP), an NGO headquartered at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia. The objective of the MoU was to facilitate joint capacity-building and the implementation of activities to advance human rights in the region, including in relation to the business and human rights agenda. Other priorities focused on advancing the freedom to advocate for the promotion and protection of human rights and the rights of indigenous peoples.

Furthermore, in August, OHCHR contributed to the DTP's month-long, online capacity-building programme on "Building back better: Business, human rights and the Sustainable Development Goals and climate change in the Pacific," which included sessions on human rights and the climate crisis, the UNGPs and the SDGs in the climate emergency.

D5 – Tuvalu and Vanuatu strengthen the legal framework of their labour migration and climate finance policies and adopt a human rights-based approach. The Marshall Islands develops a human rights plan. Under the joint human security project, States in the region develop a draft regional legal framework on climate change and migration that complies with international human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing legislation/policy in line with international human rights norms and standards.

UN Human Rights and its partners in the three-year Pacific Climate Change Migration and Human Security (PCCMHS) programme, namely, IOM, ILO, ESCAP, the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) and the Pacific

Islands Forum (PIF), continued their work with regional PIF governments on a potential regional framework on climate change migration. Two meetings of the PCCMHS Technical Advisory Group (TAG) were held and experts reviewed progress towards the development of the regional framework, providing advice on emerging issues in the region.

Additionally, OHCHR contributed to a side event at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), in Glasgow, in November, that was co-organized by the PCCMHS Joint Working Group on climate mobility and the Resilience Hub. The presenters, including the Foreign Minister of Tuvalu, emphasized the urgent need for resources to mitigate and adapt to climate change and called for the genuine participation of migrants and other groups most affected by climate change.

In April, the Office organized a hybrid regional workshop on "Pacific indigenous peoples and climate crisis: Leveraging lessons from the frontlines." The event explored how more effective climate action could be taken by indigenous communities and how their experiences, knowledge and guardianship can be applied to help reduce the negative impacts of the climate crisis on human rights. The participants discussed a series of themes, including environmental protection (water, food, housing, culture), raising awareness and defending the rights of indigenous peoples, engaging with the UN system and the international human rights mechanisms, lessons learned from the frontlines, economic transformation, the role of technology in climate mitigation and adaptation and persons in vulnerable and marginalized situations. The workshop, held in Suva, was attended by over 140 participants, including 89 women, and contributors and participants included

representatives from academia, civil society, business, NHRIs and the UN.

In order to raise awareness, OHCHR developed communication tools about human rights and climate change, with a focus on groups in vulnerable situations. The Office contributed to the global OHCHR online publication, "Frequently asked questions on human rights and climate change."

D7 – Increased capacity of Member States to integrate human rights, including recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into national sustainable development plans.

OHCHR contributed to strengthening UN support to Member States in fulfilling their commitments in line with international human rights standards including by enhancing the capacity of RCs/UNCTs in relation to human rights.

UN Human Rights worked closely with ILO to co-lead Outcome Group Six on Human Rights, one of the strategic priority areas of the United Nations Pacific Strategy 2018-2022. The Outcome Group held regular meetings and hosted a retreat, consisting of UNDRR, UNDP, ESCAP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN Women, in order to facilitate discussions on the promotion and protection of civic space, human rights and COVID-19 in Fiji and regarding preparations for Human Rights Day.

One key achievement was the pilot implementation of the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS), which started in 2020, through a new Working Group on Disability Inclusion that was established by the Outcome Group. Activities in Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu included accessibility audits of UN premises and

a baseline survey distributed to UN staff about disability awareness, disability inclusion awareness, procurement and hiring. At the end of 2021, following a proposal from OHCHR, ILO and the Fiji RCO, the UNCT agreed to continue work on the implementation of the UNDIS in 2022 through the recruitment of a dedicated Disability Inclusion Specialist for one year.

OHCHR and ILO also led the Outcome Group in the formulation of contributions to the CCA for 14 countries and the regional CCA for the next Pacific UNSDCF 2023-2027, by providing information, analysis and recommendations on the respective human rights situations.

Outcome Group Six collaborated with Outcome Group Two on gender equality to conduct training on human rights and gender mainstreaming for staff of the RCO, including Country Coordinator Specialists and UN field-based staff engaged in United Nations Pacific Strategy planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting.

UN Human Rights engaged as a member of the newly created UN Country Team in Micronesia following the appointment of a new RC, in October, contributing human rights analysis on human rights mechanisms and mainstreaming.

Peace and Security

PS6 – Humanitarian operations adopt an HRBA in their programming.

16

OHCHR supported the integration of international human rights norms, standards, principles and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into humanitarian operations.

UN Human Rights engaged with the Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT), the PHT Protection Cluster and the Fiji Protection and Safety Cluster, which was activated in response to Tropical Cyclones Yasa and Ana and the COVID-19 outbreak in Fiji. The Office provided information and recommendations on human rights, including on protecting the human rights of persons with disabilities during the post-cyclone response and recovery and contributed to the design of online capacity-building activities by the PHT Protection Cluster.

In collaboration with the Asia Pacific Forum of NHRIs (APF), OHCHR developed and conducted a pilot project to strengthen the capacities of NHRIs in the region to protect human rights in the context of humanitarian action. This is particularly important as the region is facing increasing risks of humanitarian crises due to disasters, climate change, disease and situations of violence. NHRIs, as national actors, are uniquely placed to protect human rights through their mandates to, for example, address complaints and violations, provide advice to governments and strengthen participatory approaches and public information. The training was delivered using a mobile phone app and was supplemented by live webinars. The Office of the Ombudsperson of Samoa participated in the pilot.

Mechanisms

M1 – Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia and Vanuatu establish NMRFs to coordinate reporting and implement recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the UPR.

16 17

OHCHR provided technical assistance in relation to the establishment and functioning of NMRFs and the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR continued to provide support to governments in the region to establish or strengthen NMRFs. For instance, it co-organized the online Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation on National Mechanisms for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up, mandated by the Human Rights Council, which took place in November and December. More than 70 participants attended each session, including representatives of States, the UN, NHRIs and CSOs.

UN Human Rights continued to provide support to the NMRF of Kiribati, including through a two-day workshop for members of the Kiribati Human Rights Task Force (the NMRF) on CAT. The training was aimed at increasing the understanding of torture and ill-treatment and the obligations of the Government under CAT and at initiating the process of preparing the initial report to the Committee against Torture.

M1 – States in the region submit, on time, a higher proportion of the reports that are due to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR.

16 17

OHCHR engaged with and provided technical assistance to countries in the region to support their timely submission of reports to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR.

In 2021, seven countries in the region underwent their third UPR cycle, namely, Australia, Federated States of Micronesia,

Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and the Solomon Islands. In Pacific Island Countries, OHCHR supported governments, NHRIs and CSOs in their engagement in the UPR process, including in the preparation of their national reports. It also delivered workshops for CSOs to submit alternative reports, coordinated joint UNCT reports and organized mock UPR sessions for government delegations. All national reports were submitted and 11 CSOs submitted stakeholder contributions. A report was also submitted by the Samoan Office of the Ombudsman. In 2022, OHCHR will facilitate additional workshops on UPR follow-up for governments, NHRIs and CSOs.

OHCHR engaged with UNCTs on the UPR and follow-up to the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, including by organizing briefings for UNCTs on the UPR Practical Guidance, providing assistance when reporting to the international human rights mechanisms, holding briefings on UPR outcomes and working with the RCs in Fiji, Micronesia and Samoa on their engagement with the governments.

Fiji ratified two Optional Protocols to the CRC in March. In collaboration with UNICEF, OHCHR had engaged with the Government on these ratifications, including through parliamentary briefings, in 2020. The Office also cooperated with UNICEF to brief CSOs in Fiji on avenues of engagement with CRC. At least four CSOs from Fiji submitted information to the Committee.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
9.12 million	463,000 km ²	0.555 (rank: 155/189 in 2019)	-
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser		
Year established	2008		
Field office(s)	Port Moresby		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Partnership Framework 2018-2022		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	3		

XB requirements 2021

US\$762,000

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – The Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary (RPNGC) and Papua New Guinea Correctional Services receive regular human rights training.

16 

The HRA contributed to the development of human rights training modules and trainers' manuals and strengthening the human rights capacity of police officers through training in selected provinces.

The HRA collaborated with the RPNGC Bomana Training College Centre of Excellence to develop pilot training sessions, based on the comprehensive human rights training manual they had developed. Two trainings were conducted in 2021. The first training took place at the Bomana Training College Centre, in Port Moresby, and was delivered to 20

National Capital District police officers, and the second training was conducted in the Highlands region, a hotspot of violent cases, for 37 police officials from all seven provinces in the Highlands region. Both trainings were led by RPNGC trainers, with OHCHR's support, and were well received. More trainings to build the capacities of local officers on human rights are planned for 2022.

The HRA also collaborated with Correctional Services to develop training materials, which were handed over during the year, as part of a training of trainers' activity that started in 2019. Additional training sessions are planned for 2022.

Participation

P6 – Disenfranchised female and male youth and persons with disabilities participate meaningfully in the Bougainville referendum.

The HRA contributed to the meaningful participation of vulnerable groups by raising awareness and strengthening the capacities of duty-bearers on issues related to human rights and inclusiveness.

The HRA supported a human rights training, led by UNDP, for 25 government officials from various departments in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville. More specifically, the HRA facilitated sessions on human rights and State responsibilities in the context of the current human rights situation and highlighted the importance of the right of access to information and the right to participation of women, youth and persons with disabilities. In light of the 2019 referendum, the training also aimed to strengthen the awareness of participants on the importance of inclusive and consultative processes. In 2022, capacity-building of CSOs and human rights monitoring will be a priority for Bougainville.

Development

D7 – The UN Country Team actively works with the Government and civil society to address the latest Universal Periodic Review recommendations issued in relation to Papua New Guinea through their integration into the implementation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework.

The HRA contributed to the increased integration into UN policies and programmes of international human rights standards and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

Through the UNCT's involvement in the preparation of the stakeholders' report for the third UPR cycle, which took place in November, the HRA raised awareness among UNCT member entities on the UPR and the integration of its recommendations into the implementation of the UNDAF. As a result, the 2021 CCA contains references to human rights and international mechanisms. The UPR process enabled UNCT member organizations to gather and consolidate information on key areas as follow-up to the second UPR cycle recommendations. The HRA met with UNCT member agencies to emphasize critical areas of focus of the UPR and discuss opportunities for improved engagement. Following the finalization of the third UPR cycle recommendations, which were adopted in March 2022, the HRA will collaborate with the UNCT to ensure consensus on a proposed course of action for the Government and areas where the UN can further support the implementation of the recommendations.

Finally, the HRA participated in key coordination mechanisms and processes under the UNCT, including the Monitoring and Evaluation Group and Communications Group, with the aim of mainstreaming human rights into the work of the UNCT.

Mechanisms

M1 – The Government strengthens its coordination and reporting to the human rights treaty bodies and engagement with the international human rights mechanisms.

16 17

The HRA contributed to strengthening the capacity of the Government and civil society to effectively engage in the UPR process and with the international human rights mechanisms, including through enhanced coordination to monitor progress of the

implementation and submission of periodic State Party reports and alternative reports to the human rights treaty bodies.

The HRA collaborated with UNICEF to support the Government's team, which was led by the Department of Justice and Attorney General and the Department for Community Development and Religion, on the drafting process for the first State Party report to CRC since 2004. The draft was finalized and is pending consultation with relevant national government departments and provincial-level officials.

Throughout the UPR process, the HRA provided assistance to the Government, the UNCT and civil society regarding their engagement. Together with UNAIDS and UN Women, UN Human Rights led the UN report consolidation and drafting process and ensured it was submitted in March.

To build the capacities of CSOs to engage in the UPR process, the HRA and DPT organized a one-month online training with the participation of approximately 90 CSOs. This resulted in a higher level of CSO engagement than in the past. Four CSOs submitted reports, in March, in anticipation of PNG's participation in the third UPR cycle.

The HRA continued supporting the Government's consultation process for drafting the State report to the UPR. In 2021, consultations took place at two locations and included the participation of provincial and local officials, civil society and religious groups. This process contributed to the submission of the State report, in November, which was supplemented by the Government's presentation and its responses during the interactive dialogue.

PHILIPPINES

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
111.05 million	300,000 km ²	0.718 (rank: 107/189 in 2020)	"A" Status (2017)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2014	
Field office(s)		Manila	
UN partnership framework		Philippines-United Nations Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development (2019-2023)	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		2	

XB requirements 2021 **US\$972,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:
Mechanisms

M1 – An institutional mechanism is established to integrate reporting into the human rights mechanisms and facilitate the implementation of their recommendations.

16 17

The HRA contributed to enhanced engagement with the international human rights mechanisms.

On 22 July, the UN and the Government signed the UN Joint Programme on Human Rights to implement HRC resolution 45/33. The Programme was developed in close collaboration with the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) and civil society. On 7 October, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights delivered her oral update

to the HRC on progress made towards implementation of the resolution.

The HRA supported the strengthening of the NMRF by facilitating five training sessions for more than 30 Government officials each time, including from the Presidential Human Rights Committee (PHRC). The NMRF took steps towards institutionalizing the reporting process, including by ensuring that focal points were designated in government departments. A plan to roll out the OHCHR database was postponed until 2022 in order to wait for the updated and more user-friendly interface. In the meantime, the NMRF continued to develop its implementation plan with support from the HRA.

The UN Joint Programme on Human Rights provided an opportunity for

engagement with civil society actors. The HRA provided technical assistance to CSOs, including grassroots organizations, on engagement with the international human rights mechanisms. Further trainings are planned for 2022, including to strengthen capacity and coordination of civil society actors to support their engagement with the reviews of Philippines by the Human Rights Committee and the UPR.

To support efforts to increase accountability for human rights violations, the HRA supported two consultancies to assess and develop strategies for pathways for accountability and to develop recommendations for the HRA's work to help strengthen the Department of Justice-led Administrative Order No. 35 (AO35) mechanism. The findings will contribute to initiatives to be undertaken as part of the UN Joint Programme. The HRA will continue to implement activities aimed at strengthening domestic efforts towards accountability, including through engaging with the Department of Justice, the National Police and other relevant actors to implement the UN Joint Programme.

M2 – CSOs increasingly engage with the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the UPR.

17

The HRA provided support for the substantive submissions to the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the UPR by the NHRI and CSOs.

The HRA worked closely with civil society to strengthen its engagement with the international human rights mechanisms. This included technical advice on forwarding cases to the special procedures, information gathering and reporting to

the human rights treaty bodies. In June, the HRA held a series of consultations on protection needs with networks of HRDs (indigenous peoples, trade unions, journalists, lawyers, civil and political rights advocates). During these consultations, the use of domestic and international mechanisms was explored. The HRA raised the awareness of the Government and civil society actors on the importance of adopting legislation on the protection of HRDs. To this end, a roundtable was held to enable the CHR and Mongolian legislators to discuss experiences from other parts of the Asia region.

The HRA engaged with the Commission on Human Rights and civil society regarding the draft bill on the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM). Steps towards its adoption were included in the UN Joint Programme as an indicator of progress. The HRA also engaged with UNOCT to promote human rights-based approaches to counter-terrorism. In June, the HRA participated in a training that was organized by the UNOCT on investigating terrorism on the internet, at which HRA emphasized the need to respect human rights standards, including the right to privacy.

Development

D7 – The UN Country Team (UNCT) integrates human rights norms, standards and principles into the formulation and implementation of programmes and projects.

The HRA significantly contributed to the integration of human rights norms into activities implemented in relation to the UNDAF and the Socio-economic and Peacebuilding Framework (SEPF) of the Philippines.

The HRA engaged with the Philippines SEPF for COVID-19 recovery (2020-2023) through engagement in the three pillar groups, namely, People, Prosperity and Planet and Peace. The HRA regularly contributed human rights inputs, including to the Prevention Policy Note being developed by the UNCT; the right to education; children and armed conflict; humanitarian situations; and land issues as a cross-cutting focus area. The HRA also provided an overview of connections between the outcomes of the UPR, the SEPF and the SDGs during the UNCT virtual retreat and highlighted linkages with the Secretary-General's Call to Action on Human Rights and Our Common Agenda.

The HRA worked closely with the CHR. More specifically, it supported a national consultation on the Guidelines on an HRBA to drugs, held consultations with the CHR on the protection of HRDs and held initial sessions on human rights-based data collection with the Philippines Statistics Authority. The HRA also contributed to the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign (through the Right to Ride Jeepney campaign) and the Alab ng Puso (Flaming Hearts) concert on Human Rights Day.

SOUTH-EAST ASIA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam
Year established	2002
Field office(s)	Bangkok, Thailand
Staff as of 31 December 2021	25

XB income	US\$3,112,047		
XB requirements 2022	US\$4,771,000		
XB expenditure	US\$3,824,997		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC⁴	
62%	27%	11%	
\$2,375,334	\$1,024,974	\$424,689	
RB expenditure	US\$871,491		
Personnel	Non-personnel		
91%	9%		
\$797,294	\$74,197		

Key OMP pillars in 2021



⁴ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P5 – More systematic monitoring of the environment for civic space, including threats against it, takes place.



OHCHR contributed to ensuring that human rights violations raised with relevant actors were positively addressed, including in international forums, and that rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, were afforded meaningful participation in selected public processes.

In **Thailand**, OHCHR monitored the cases of HRDs requiring protection following a hiatus during the second quarter of the year due to COVID-19 preventive measures. OHCHR continued to provide updates to the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand (NHRCT) and the diplomatic community and in a number of cases, acted as a liaison between HRDs and the UNCT during bilateral meetings with its members. OHCHR also advocated for the rights of activists and HRDs with provincial and local police authorities and the Attorney General's Office. Despite limited human resources, the Office found that its physical presence was of value and that authorities were responsive to its engagement.

In **Lao PDR**, civic space remained highly restricted due to extensive government control over fundamental freedoms, including freedom of expression online and offline, freedom of association and peaceful assembly. Several restrictive laws hindered the development of an enabling environment in which individuals could meaningfully exercise and promote human rights without fear of sanctions or reprisals. The Office continued to receive reports of human rights violations, including alleged enforced disappearance of HRDs and pro-democracy activists and violations of freedom of religion or belief. Nevertheless, families and relatives of victims were often too afraid to come forward and give consent for the cases to be communicated to the special procedures. Against this backdrop, OHCHR worked with CSOs to raise their profile and bring issues of concerns to the attention of the UN and other stakeholders, including development partners. This resulted in three joint allegation letters that were sent to the Government and the inclusion of Lao PDR in the Secretary-General's report on intimidation and reprisals.

In **Indonesia**, OHCHR initiated engagement with CSO youth networks and academic networks. In cooperation with the National Commission on Human Rights (Komnas Ham), OHCHR partnered with the Department of Law at Parahyangan Catholic University, in Bandung, to conduct its annual inter-university competition on "Upholding Pancasila toward human rights-based business and investment environment in Indonesia." Over 300 participants from 16 universities and 16 schools participated in the three-day event, which was livestreamed on Facebook. In addition, OHCHR closely cooperated with the youth wing of the National Alliance of Indigenous Peoples of Indonesia (AMAN) to deliver a virtual

workshop for indigenous youth HRDs from Indonesia entitled "Strengthening awareness and engagement with United Nations mechanisms."

Regionally, research for the public report, *Protecting civic space online in South-East Asia: A human rights analysis*, began in 2021. An independent consultant examined patterns of abusive behaviour by State and non-State actors in South-East Asia, as well as the failure of governments and companies to take adequate measures to identify and respond to trolling, hate speech, incitement and other forms of organized online harm. The analysis also reviewed how human rights violations were facilitated by laws, policies and technical tools that empowered governments to censor, surveil and limit access to the Internet, without adequate oversight, and in extreme instances, shut it down completely. It is anticipated that the final report will be launched in 2022.

OHCHR collaborated with UN Women and UNESCO to organize a 10-month online training for 42 women journalists from the region, with the completion of monthly desynchronized e-modules followed up by live participatory webinars. The training focused on the enhanced protection of women journalists and women's human rights in the context of shrinking democratic space in Asia. One of the key outcomes was the establishment of a community of practice, with monthly live events, and the establishment of external and internal partnerships, including with 11 national and international NGOs, two regional organizations (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and a member of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights) and one NHRI (Indonesia's National Commission on Violence against Women).

Peace and Security

PS5 – UN country policies and programmes, including CCAs and UNSDCFs, successfully integrate international human rights norms, standards and principles, including recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.



OHCHR contributed to the enhanced integration of international human rights standards into the UN development and humanitarian cooperation mechanisms at the regional and country levels, including by building capacity and providing analysis and technical expertise.

The OHCHR Emergency Response Team (ERT) continued to focus on tracking and responding to emerging human rights concerns as its core responsibilities. For instance, it provided significant and sustained information management support to the **Myanmar** team that monitored the serious deterioration of the human rights situation in the country, following the coup, in February. This support included data collection, information management and the preparation of analysis on key human rights issues, such as the arrest and detention of pro-democracy activists, extrajudicial killings and trends in the internal conflict.

In addition, the ERT assisted with the integration of human rights into joint UN reporting on the Papua region of **Indonesia** through 12 human rights updates and the preparation of a trend analysis report for the UN's global-level prevention mechanisms. More specifically, it established a dashboard that draws from open-source reporting and provides updates on trends related to armed clashes, displacement, demonstrations and reported incidents

of violence against civilians in the Papua region.

Furthermore, the ERT continued to report on developments concerning the pro-democracy movement in **Thailand**. It also strengthened the links between country and thematic issues and the global and regional early warning and prevention platforms of the UN and the humanitarian community, including by supporting reporting through the UNOCC daily updates on 12 occasions.

The ERT provided support with regard to early warning, human rights risk analyses and prevention work for United Nations in-country entities. It strengthened the implementation of the Human Rights up Front (HRuF) Initiative, the Secretary-General's prevention agenda and, more recently, the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights (C2A). In 2021, the ERT assisted with the C2A roll-out by organizing a peer-to-peer exchange between Resident Coordinators in the South-East Asia region and the Assistant Secretaries-General coordinating the C2A. The objective of the exchange was to encourage human rights dialogues between UN entities at the country level, including through the Asia-Pacific Human Rights Working Group (AP HRWG).

The ERT supported human rights risk analyses in the CCAs of countries in the region, thereby creating opportunities to strengthen the UN's work on early warning and integrating key human rights risks into the risk analysis sections in the UNSDCFs of **Bangladesh, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Maldives, Nepal, Thailand and Viet Nam**. This was achieved through a combination of trainings, workshops and analytical inputs over the past three years. In 2021, the ERT facilitated training on prevention and human rights risk analysis for the

UN in **Iran, the Maldives and Nepal** and provided inputs during the preparation of the draft CCAs for the **Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and the Pacific**.

At the **regional level**, the ERT is part of a UN regional coordination forum, the Issue-Based Coalition (IBC) on Building Resilience, which enabled the Office to integrate human rights into the UN's regional work on disaster risk and resilience, including through the development of a risk marker for the UN operating at the country level and a Guidance Note on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure.

The ERT has also been working with UN partners in the region to combat hate speech through a community of practice composed of UN country and regional colleagues working on the issue. OHCHR organized two technical webinars to discuss engagement on digital platforms and engagement with States. In addition, the ERT worked with regional colleagues in the UN DPPA to address the critical problem of limits to online freedom of expression by establishing a region-specific database on the issue that can be used to raise awareness within the UN.

In a region that is increasingly affected by natural and man-made humanitarian crises, which has a consequential impact on human rights, particularly those of the most vulnerable populations, the ERT worked to build the capacity and awareness of NHRIs, together with the APF, including through an online course on strengthening human rights in humanitarian action for NHRIs in the Asia-Pacific region. The course uses an app that is suitable for mobile phones, making it more widely available and accessible.

The ERT continues to participate in the IASC regional structures, including on emergency preparedness, gender in

humanitarian action and community engagement. In December, as part of the Asia-Pacific Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies Working Group, the ERT co-organized a panel discussion on GBV in places of detention.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to Leave No One Behind, including by addressing the root causes of inequality.



Through awareness-raising and capacity-building and by facilitating new partnerships and networks, OHCHR contributed to increasing the compliance of oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms with international human rights standards on issues related to the rights of women.

In **Thailand**, OHCHR built the capacity of WHRDs from the Southern Border Provinces (SBPs), with a focus on security laws, DNA collection, arbitrary arrests and detention. This took place, online, during mock sessions on the UPR and CERD. The UNCT members supported the mock sessions and government officials and key NGOs, such as the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) and Amnesty International, also participated.

In **Indonesia and Malaysia**, the Office worked closely with WHRDs and LGBTI networks, under the Access to Justice Project, and facilitated their engagement with the international human rights mechanisms. In **Indonesia**, OHCHR delivered practical workshops and knowledge

sessions to promote different avenues to interact with the CEDAW Committee in anticipation of its review of Indonesia's eighth periodic report. This resulted in oral and written submissions by civil society and the UNCT and the inclusion of key issues of concern in its list of issues and concluding observations.

ND2 – Justice systems and related institutions increasingly monitor and investigate discrimination and provide redress to victims.

OHCHR contributed to enhancing awareness and capacity of NHRIs to monitor and investigate cases of discrimination.

UN Human Rights, through the Access to Justice (A2J) project, continued to support its partner, the ICJ, in an online initiative on engaging with formal justice actors, with a focus on strengthening awareness on gender discriminatory attitudes and behaviours that hinder women and sexual minorities from accessing justice. This included participation, in October, as an observer in a webinar co-organized by the ICJ and the Supreme Court of Indonesia on strengthening gender equality in the Judiciary. The webinar focused on opportunities, challenges, and practical steps for judges in promoting the implementation of CEDAW and the Bangkok General Guidance adopted by the Indonesian Supreme Court Regulation No. 3 of 2017.

ND6 – Migration governance measures (national and regional laws, regulations, policies, processes and agreements and their implementation) increasingly comply with international human rights law. Sustained advocacy is undertaken with States to ensure migrants in vulnerable situations have improved access to their human rights, with particular attention paid to their specific experiences, views and needs. Positive public narratives based on human rights, shared values and common humanity increasingly challenge and reframe negative narratives against migrants.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the compliance of oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms with international human rights standards on issues related to the rights of migrants.

OHCHR actively supported the Asia-Pacific Regional Review of Implementation of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM), in March, and facilitated the involvement of the NHRI and CSO partners. It also ensured that the intergovernmental discussions were founded on a human rights-based framework. OHCHR took a leadership role in engaging regional stakeholders in the implementation of the GCM. To this end, it co-hosted a region-wide consultation for more than 100 stakeholders. It briefed CSOs and other partners on the 2022 International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) and sought their views on future engagement with the regional network. The consultation was preceded by 12 small-group consultations composed of various stakeholder groups, including NHRIs, the media, academia

and parliamentarians. In December, the Regional Office for South-East Asia intervened in the opening session of the third annual meeting of the UN Network on Migration to reflect on its working methods. In addition, a series of consultations was launched by GCM Champion Countries in the Asia-Pacific region, which was supported by the regional network.

The Office also intervened to address critical human rights situations affecting migrants. More specifically, it built the capacity of governments and other actors to promote and protect the human rights of migrants; issued a public statement calling on all States in the region to suspend returns to Myanmar in light of the rapidly deteriorating human rights situation; provided training to staff from IOM-Thailand on international human rights law and standards in the context of immigration detention in Thailand; and, in collaboration with IOM and based on the OHCHR Trainers Guide on Human Rights at International Borders, delivered training to 25 Thai border officials in Ubon Ratchathani province.

In June, for the first time, OHCHR was invited to participate in the intergovernmental Task Force on Planning and Preparedness of the Bali Process. It submitted a written statement to the co-Chairs, calling for enhanced human rights framing in discussions. It also undertook research to develop an analytical mapping of pathways for entry and stay for migrants on human rights and humanitarian grounds. A report on the laws and practices of 17 countries in the region will be launched in 2022.

Furthermore, the Office focused on emerging issues on migration and human rights in the region. In early June, it partnered with the Conscious Advertising

Network to hold a session on ethical advertising and human rights at the UN Responsible Business and Human Rights Forum (RBHRF) for Asia-Pacific, featuring a keynote address from the Special Rapporteur on minority issues. OHCHR also contributed to a guide on conscious media by the World Advertising Research Centre (WARC), through an article on human rights and advertising and participation in a webinar launch, along with representatives from GSK Consumer Healthcare and Diageo.

In collaboration with the Disaster Displacement Working Group of the Issue-Based Coalition on Building Resilience and Chulalongkorn University, OHCHR initiated analytical research on human rights and categorization in the context of environmental mobility. It engaged a consultant to produce an analysis, based on a desk review and consultations, on returns and the reintegration of migrants into South Asia, under the mandate of the Regional Monthly Review. Further, OHCHR is undertaking an analysis of human rights in the context of temporary labour migration programmes in the Asia-Pacific region that will also fall within the mandate of the Regional Monthly Review. In that context, in November, OHCHR held an expert consultation on temporary labour migration programmes with 25 participants from academia, CSOs, trade unions and UN agencies and will launch the outcome report in 2022.

OHCHR co-led a workstream on support for GCM engagement, resulting in a mapping of the development of national migration networks in the Asia-Pacific region. It also supported work on climate change and human mobility taking place in the Pacific, under the leadership of OHCHR's Regional Office for the Pacific.

Continuing a robust programme of work on addressing public perceptions and changing narratives on migration and migrants, the Office contracted Love Frankie Ltd. to conduct research on public narratives on migration and migrants in two countries in the region, namely, **Malaysia** (South-East Asia) and **Australia** (Pacific). The research was founded on a desk review, interviews with key stakeholders, mobile data survey and online message testing forums. As part of this research, OHCHR partnered with ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights and held consultations with Members of Parliament in Malaysia, convened CSO partners in Malaysia to present preliminary findings of the research and briefed the UNCT in Malaysia. The public campaigns will be launched in 2022.

Mechanisms

M1 – Civil society organizations, NHRIs and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes.

16 17

OHCHR continued to support the engagement of civil society and NHRIs with the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR supported CSO engagement with the special procedures, resulting in communications that were sent to a number of governments (five in relation to Thailand, three in relation to Lao PDR, seven in relation to Viet Nam and four in relation to Malaysia). OHCHR also supported the joint submission of reports by CSO coalitions to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR in Indonesia,

Lao PDR (for the first time), Malaysia and Viet Nam. In addition, it supported the engagement with CEDAW of the UNCT, CSOs and the NHRI in Indonesia.

Through OHCHR's support, environmental HRDs (EHRDs) in the region increasingly engage with international human rights mechanisms and have access to national/regional advocacy platforms. From 17 to 19 November, OHCHR, UNEP, the Asia-Pacific Network of Environment Defenders and partner organizations co-organized the Asia-Pacific Environmental Human Rights Defenders Forum that was based on the theme “Building safe spaces for dialogue and support among environmental human rights defenders.” The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment and a member of the UN Working Group on business and human rights attended the Forum and interacted with EHRDs.

The Office continued to support the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) on the issue of freedom of religion and belief (since 2019) and the rights of the accused (since 2020). It facilitated a self-assessment of AICHR to strengthen its protection mandate and partnered with it to conduct a joint expert group meeting on human rights and the environment. The objective of the expert group meeting was to advance the promotion and protection of human rights and the environment, particularly in relation to environmental decision-making, climate change and its impact on vulnerable groups, especially children and youth.

Development

D5 – Laws and policies on the environment, climate change, extractive industries and urban planning comply with international human rights standards and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. National institutions and civil society organizations act to ensure that rights-holders can participate in decision-making processes on the environment and climate change, and engage with duty-bearers and the private sector on these issues.

13 14 15

OHCHR advocated for the increased compliance of legislation with international standards on climate change.

OHCHR cooperated with UNICEF and UNEP to release a joint statement and organize a virtual launch of the *Principles and policy guidance on children's rights to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment in the ASEAN region*. The document is the result of an 18-month collaboration between the three UN agencies and child, youth, and adult experts from the ASEAN region. It sets out fundamental principles for realizing the rights of the child to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment and for putting the best interests of the child at the forefront of those efforts. It provides essential policy guidance for governments, civil society, businesses, the media and children to implement these principles.

A child-friendly version for youth aged 14-18 years was also developed.

To raise the awareness of States and business enterprises about their human rights obligations in the Asia-Pacific region, OHCHR engaged with regional dialogue forums, including the Asia-Pacific

Adaptation Forum (APAN), the APFSD, the RBHRF for Asia-Pacific, the Asia-Pacific Climate Week 2021 and the Third Asia-Pacific Clean Air Partnership (APCAP) Joint Forum. During these events, the Office ensured that due attention was paid to the impact of climate change and environmental degradation on the rights of those affected, including women, children and other at-risk groups at the national level, as well as to the gaps and challenges in integrating procedural rights (access to information, meaningful participation and access to remedy) into the climate action and environmental decision-making process.

D7 – UNCTs and agencies in priority UN common country planning processes (United Nations Development Assistance Framework roll out countries) and priority countries involved in supporting separate Sustainable Development Goal planning/programming, incorporate a human rights-based approach into their joint UN development programme planning and ongoing implementation, with a strengthened focus on universality and alignment with international human rights norms, standards and principles.

OHCHR supported the mainstreaming of human rights into the process leading to the adoption of new CCAs and UNSDCF in the region.

OHCHR's engagement in the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) 2021, significantly increased compared to previous years. As a result, human rights featured prominently in several discussions, background documents and in the recommendations issued by the APFSD. OHCHR also engaged in the APFSD Youth Forum, the Asia-Pacific People's Forum and the annual workshop

on the VNRs for countries reporting to the High-level Political Forum 2021. Activities included the organization of side events on the rights of indigenous peoples and COVID-19, access to justice and public participation in environmental decision-making, the role of environmental HRDs in supporting COVID-19 recovery and accelerating the monitoring and implementation of actions related to COVID-19 recovery by working to implement SDG 16+.

OHCHR increased its engagement in support of the integration of human rights into the VNRs in **Indonesia** and **Lao PDR**. Following that engagement, Indonesia's 2021 VNR report integrates various recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and OHCHR, including in relation to SDG 16.

The Office also supported UNCTs in **Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Iran, Lao PDR, the Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam** in order to strengthen the integration of human rights and an HRBA into the CCAs and UNSDCF. This was achieved through technical advice and capacity-building for UNCT staff. In South-East Asia, it actively engaged in UNCT processes to develop the CCAs and UNSDCF. In addition, the Regional Office supported UNCTs in **Indonesia** and **Malaysia** in ensuring the application of an HRBA in the development and monitoring of joint workplans.

OHCHR and UNFPA co-chaired the AP HRWG, which was established in April, under the Issue-Based Coalition Promoting Human Rights, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, to strengthen the links between the UN at the regional level and UNCTs, in particular the Human Rights and Gender Theme Groups. The Working Group serves as a

platform to share information and experiences, provides a safe space to discuss human rights and gender equality trends and challenges in the region and enables members to collaborate on areas of mutual interest, notably, the elimination of racial discrimination and protection of minorities, addressing human rights violations that often cause infertility and the promotion of civic space.

Training women journalists in Asia



A graphic on self-help strategies produced from a discussion by participants in the last session of the training programme for women journalists, 20 October 2021, organized by OHCHR's Regional Office for South-East Asia. © OHCHR

Journalism can be a tough business, especially for women journalists in Asia where democratic space has continued to shrink, from Myanmar to the Philippines. In order to enhance the protection of women journalists and advance women's human rights in the context of shrinking democratic space in Asia, OHCHR worked closely with UN Women and UNESCO to implement a training programme. The programme, which was conducted online between December 2020 and October 2021, was attended by 42 participants from 15 countries.

The course took the form of curated e-Modules that were combined with live webinars, allowing for in-depth discussions between participants. They also learned about various topics, including the impact of shrinking civic space on women journalists, digital safety, access to justice and practical steps to providing information to human rights mechanisms.

"This course was an eye-opening journey for me," said Ruhina Ferdous, a journalist with the Daily Bonik Barta, in Bangladesh, where women journalists face low pay, threats, harassment and

vexatious litigation. "Women journalists continue to be a minority among those practicing journalism. It is not only about silencing journalism, it is about silencing women. This is why addressing these issues is very important for me."

During the course, Ferdous and the participants also learned about basic human rights principles, CEDAW, girls' and women's rights, justice sector reform to protect and enforce women's rights and other gender-related issues.

To further their learning and ensure the long-term sustainability of the programme, an online community of practice was established and launched on the last day of the training, enabling ongoing engagement, sharing and support. "This training course has created a network of women journalists across Asia that are able to support each other," said Carla Covarrubias, a Human Rights Officer in Bangkok who spearheaded the sessions.

"The course stimulated the sharing of experiences among peers, including about the role of national human rights institutions and leveraging the UN mechanisms for protection, which is an essential step towards meaningful change on the ground."

SRI LANKA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
21.5 million	66,000 km ²	0.782 (rank: 72/189 in 2019)	"A" Status (2018)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2004	
Field office(s)		Colombo	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Framework 2018-2022	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		4	
XB requirements 2021		US\$738,000	

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Development

D3 – Measures are in place to ensure the return of all land that is occupied by the military, the payment of appropriate compensation and the settlement of land-related disputes that are linked to displacement that occurred during the 30-year conflict.

1 11

The HRA contributed to the improved compliance of land legislation/policies with international human rights standards.

The HRA, together with the RCO, continued to monitor land issues in recognition of their potential to trigger conflicts. A preliminary study on land disputes analysing the different categories and causes for dispute was produced and fed into RCO conflict analysis tools. In addition, the HRA participated in the

development of the CCA as part of preparations for the next UNSDCF.

Peace and Security

PS6 – All Sri Lankan military or police personnel proposed for deployment in UN peacekeeping operations undergo a stringent screening process, which is led by civilians.

16

The HRA supported the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (HRCSL), the UN and the Government to integrate international human rights norms, standards and principles into their work.

With assistance of the HRA, the HRCSL continued to screen peacekeepers in 2021, using the tools developed in 2018. Unfortunately, the formal independence of the Commission was significantly

weakened as a result of constitutional amendments. The HRA continued to support the HRCSL, however, vetting arrangements will need to be reviewed.

Mechanisms

M1 – Sri Lanka's standing invitation continues to result in visit requests from the special procedures and the Government agrees to visit dates and formats and facilitates their constructive engagement.

16 17

The HRA continued to support the engagement of the special procedures with Sri Lanka.

Despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 crisis and prolonged lockdowns, the Government agreed to a country visit by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, which took place from 26 November to 3 December. The visit included field visits to tea plantations in the Central Province and garment factories in the Western Province. A press conference was held on 3 December, where the Special Rapporteur highlighted that while Sri Lanka has a robust legal framework to tackle contemporary forms of slavery and has been making progress in some areas, such as increasing the minimum age of employment from 14 to 16 and the establishment of a child-labour free zone, it still needs to become more inclusive and embrace all sectors of society if it is to overcome major issues such as caste-based discrimination and labour exploitation, which in some cases may amount to forced labour and servitude.

TIMOR-LESTE

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
1.34 million	15,000 km ²	0.606 (rank: 141/189 in 2020)	"A" Status (2018)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2013	
Field office(s)		Dili	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2021-2025	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		4	

XB requirements 2021 **US\$653,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021

^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:
Accountability

A1 – The police and army comply with international human rights standards that prohibit torture and ill-treatment.

16

The HRA supported the police and the army in their compliance with international human rights norms and standards that prohibit torture and ill-treatment by providing technical support and targeted capacity-building initiatives.

Despite the outbreak of COVID-19 in Timor-Leste, in March, and the difficulty of conducting training remotely due to weak Internet connectivity and the limited resources of the respective institutions, the HRA worked closely with stakeholders to conduct key trainings, thereby maintaining some momentum in the multi-year programme.

Four in-person, week-long trainings were conducted, in partnership with the Ministry of Defence, the National Police Training Centre, the Timor Leste Defence Force (F-FDTL) and the Office of the Provedor for Human Rights and Justice (PDHJ). A total of 86 participants took the trainings, including 22 women, from the army and the police, including in three districts (Lautem, Viqueque and Manatuto). The Timor-Leste National Police (PNTL) showed a growing interest in the trainings and requested additional trainings for 2022.

The programme with the army, which was initiated in 2018 and is based on a manual that was prepared with support from the HRA, focuses on the role of the army to respect and protect human rights in times of crisis and during arrests, the use of force and searches. A more in-depth discussion on states of emergency was held in light

of the pandemic and concerns about the actions of the military during the more restrictive initial states of emergency.

Six years into the training programme with the police, the revision of the human rights manual for the capacity-building programme of the PNTL, which began in 2020, was completed. The revision was undertaken to incorporate the lessons learned since the training programme was initiated and to reflect current developments in the country's legal framework. It also includes new sections on states of emergency and on the role of the PNTL in relation to the challenges faced by vulnerable groups in the country. Moreover, it incorporated the lessons learned from the implementation of prior trainings provided to new recruits at the National Police Academy. The updated manual was developed and launched through a participatory process involving all partners.

According to data collected by the PDHJ for its annual report, during 2021, there were no cases of police agents who were involved in human rights violations that had attended the human rights training.

Participation

P6 – Youth, women and discriminated groups, and those who represent them, regularly advocate for human rights.



The HRA contributed to enhancing the meaningful participation of youth, LGBTI persons and women in selected public processes by providing technical expertise, funding and support for advocacy campaigns.

The Human Rights Defenders' Network (HRDN), which was established in 2015 with a grant from OHCHR and is now

composed of 11 NGOs, continued to conduct joint public advocacy, with an emphasis on addressing impunity and calling for enhanced respect of human rights. The HRA supported the Network, in particular by sharing guidance on human rights issues in the context of COVID-19 and more broadly, by discussing strategies and analysis. The HRA also supported the HRDN in preparation for the submission, in July, of a stakeholders' report in anticipation of the third UPR cycle of Timor-Leste, scheduled for early 2022.

Throughout the year, the HRA held three regular quarterly meetings with CSOs and the PDHJ. The meetings focused on specific human rights issues of concern in the country, including the UPR process and the participation of CSOs, and involved the National Director for Human Rights of the Ministry of Justice, the entity responsible for the drafting of the UPR State report. Other issues of discussion included patterns of human rights violations committed by police while working and off-duty and consequential accountability. The PNTL Commander was in attendance.

In light of reports of incitement to violence and death threats against HRDs that represent child victims of sexual violence and attempts to discredit and shame CSOs that provide these victims with additional support, the HRA wrote an opinion article on behalf of the RC. The opinion article highlights the importance of the work being undertaken by HRDs and their fundamental role in the independence and democratization of the country. The article also recognizes the pervasiveness of sexual violence in the country and the need to develop efforts to demonstrate that these types of crimes will not be tolerated, that any abuses will be properly investigated and that appropriate actions

will be taken in accordance with the law against perpetrators.

The HRA continued to regularly engage with several other HRDs and CSOs on diversity issues, including the rights of persons with disabilities, LGBTI persons and women, providing technical support and legal and strategic advice.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – Legal drafters and judicial actors take into account the rights of persons with disabilities.

5 10 16

The HRA contributed to improving the level of compliance of selected State institutions/programmes with international human rights standards.

The HRA continued to advocate for and promote the rights of person with disabilities. It also supported organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) in reinforcing their calls for the ratification of CRPD, including through raising awareness in bilateral meetings with different ministries and during UPR-related discussions. As a result of joint efforts with OPDs, support and awareness for the rights of persons with disabilities and the ratification of CRPD increased at the highest levels of the Government and within the Parliament.

The HRA consistently engaged with the Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion (MSSI) to follow up on the 2020 report that was prepared by OHCHR on the impacts of COVID-19 for persons with disabilities in Timor-Leste and contributed to raising awareness within the Ministry on the need to better integrate the specific needs of persons with disabilities in the design and implementation of measures

developed to combat the negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, the HRA agreed with the MSSI to support the implementation of commitments outlined in the National Action Plan (NAP) for Persons with Disabilities, which was adopted in October, and which were included in the recommendations of the report. In particular, several ministries committed to increasing the number of people with disabilities who are employed in their respective institutions.

Access to employment and job security were identified by the HRA as two of the biggest challenges facing persons with disabilities, which were exacerbated during the pandemic. In response, the HRA commissioned research aimed at: 1) identifying the challenges faced by persons with disabilities in Timor-Leste when attempting to realize their right to access and participate in the labour market, with a focus on public institutions; 2) assessing the employment opportunities, working conditions, accessibility and treatment at work offered by public institutions in Timor-Leste to persons with disabilities; 3) identifying recommendations or opportunities to better involve persons with disabilities at the policy level and to create and/or improve an enabling environment for their integration through employment in and access to public institutions. This research will serve as the basis for further work in 2022.

In partnership with UN Women and the UN Gender Theme Group, the HRA is financing and overseeing the development of a Country Gender Equality Profile (CGEP). The CGEP will be used to support the systematic monitoring and reporting of Timor-Leste's commitments towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs. In addition, it will be used to monitor the implementation of Timor-Leste's

gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) commitments, including CEDAW's concluding observations, the Beijing Platform for Action, the National Strategic Development Plan (2011-2030), the Maubisse Declaration (2018-2022), the National Action Plan on Gender-Based Violence (NAP GBV) (2017-2021), the National Action Plan on Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security (2016-2020), the 2017 UPR recommendations and the 2019 SDG Voluntary National Review report. The CGEP will also provide a reference for national and international partners on the current operating context in relation to GEWE.

ND7 – The public supports the application of a human rights-based approach to disability. The public opposes discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.



The HRA contributed to strengthening the narrative on the rights of persons with disabilities and LGBTI persons in Timor-Leste by providing expert advice on compliance with international human rights law and supporting advocacy campaigns.

During the year, the HRA supported the Association of Persons with Disabilities in Timor-Leste (ADTL), an umbrella association for organizations working on issues related to persons with disabilities, to implement a national campaign on the rights of persons with disabilities. The campaign called on various stakeholders, including government institutions, development partners, CSOs and OPDs, to promote knowledge and behaviours that uphold the equal rights of persons with disabilities.

In November, during the lead up to the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, the HRA supported ADTL in launching a campaign to combat discrimination against persons with disabilities and to mark the International Day on 3 December. The HRA also supported awareness-raising activities on the rights of persons living with mental disabilities, including advocacy with the diplomatic community on recommendations related to their rights that will be put forward during the UPR review of Timor-Leste in early 2022.

The HRA also provided support to other organizations holding events to celebrate Human Rights Day, on 10 December, including those working to end violence against women and participating in the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign. In cooperation with the PHRJ, the HRA organized a large-scale visual campaign around the city of Dili. Banners featuring articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), informing residents of their human rights, were hung on public buildings, such as the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion, the Ministry of Defence, the PNTL, the F-FDTL, the National University of Timor-Leste, the District Court and the Anti-Corruption Commission. Banners were also seen on other institutions and the main road of Dili and in the districts of Manufahi and Oecussi (approximately seven per district).

Within the UN, at the regional level, the HRA contributed to a campaign that was developed by the Asia-Pacific Human Rights Working Group to celebrate Human Rights Day, with a focus on different dimensions of equality. The HRA contributed specific human rights messaging for an initiative undertaken by the RCO to financially support the Max

Stahl Audiovisual Centre of Timor-Leste (CAMSTL) in its production of six videos to mark 30 years since the Santa Cruz massacre.

The HRA finalized the research on the situation of LGBTI persons in accessing education in Timor-Leste and outlined a series of recommendations to stop discrimination and acts of violence against LGBTI students and to make schools and universities safer for LGBTI students. It also initiated discussions with other UN entities and the Ministry of Education to advance concrete strategies to address the concerns identified.



D7 – National actors and the United Nations integrate human rights norms and standards into their programmes.

The HRA contributed to the satisfactory integration of international human rights standards into UN common country programmes, including the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

In the context of the pandemic, the HRA continued to provide guidance, inputs and comments and shared relevant standards and documents with the UNCT to integrate human rights into the prevention and response strategy to COVID-19, including within the UN framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19. This included inputs to the data collection tools/questionnaires that served as the basis for the second national Socio-economic Impact Assessment that was carried out in 2021 by several UN agencies.

The HRA continued to support the preparatory discussions and meetings of the Joint Steering Committee (composed

of representatives of the UN and the Government) of the UNSDCF of Timor-Leste, which was approved in 2020. The HRA also supported the UN Monitoring and Evaluation Focal Points Group on data reporting in the UN Information Management System, including on human rights indicators.

More specifically, the HRA provided briefings to the UNCT regarding its engagement with the UPR process in anticipation of Timor-Leste's third cycle review, scheduled for January 2022. Further, it focused on the integration of UPR recommendations into programming. In this context, the HRA re-activated and chaired the Human Rights Working Group, which led all in-country UN agencies on the drafting and submission of the UNCT report, in July, to the Human Rights Council.

Finally, the HRA joined the Asia-Pacific Human Rights Working Group and is the focal point for the Working Group within the UNCT of Timor-Leste. It continued to be part of the UN Gender Theme Working Group and joined the UN Communications Group. Within these forums, the HRA mainstreamed a human rights perspective and provided technical support for joint UN initiatives.



M1 – Reports to the human rights mechanisms are submitted in accordance with guidelines and include adequate information.

17

The HRA provided support to State institutions to ensure that the reports that are submitted to human rights mechanisms substantially or fully conform to reporting guidelines, allowing for a meaningful review.

The HRA supported the Ministry of Justice's National Directorate for Human Rights and Citizenship to conduct two consultations with line ministries and CSOs on progress and challenges in implementing the recommendations issued during the previous UPR review of Timor-Leste (2016), with a view to preparing for the scheduled review.

These consultations provided an opportunity for open discussions on relevant issues that highlighted that despite some progress, much remains to be done to comply with the country's commitments and legal obligations. Following the consultation, the National Directorate for Human Rights and Citizenship concluded the drafting, in Tetum, of Timor-Leste's report to the UPR. The report was translated into English, with the support of the HRA, and was submitted, in October, before the deadline.

The HRA continued to advocate with the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in bilateral meetings for the Council of Ministers to approve the country reports (prepared by the Ministry of Justice after consultations that were carried out with the HRA's support) to the Human Rights Committee and CESCR.

The HRA raised concerns about the temporal, human and financial investments that were put into the production of these reports, which were never submitted.

The HRA supported colleagues in Geneva in identifying the list of issues to be sent to Timor-Leste in the context of its obligations under the ICCPR and liaised with the Government.

Timor-Leste is lagging behind in the submission of several reports to the international human rights mechanisms. In 2022, the HRA will seek support for the establishment of a NMRF.

M2 – The NHRI, the UNCT and civil society coalitions that work on emerging human rights issues submit reports for each scheduled review by the human rights treaty bodies. NGOs submit information to the special procedures.

17

The HRA provided support to the NHRI, CSOs, UN entities and individuals in the development of substantive submissions to the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the UPR.

The HRA supported CSOs and the PDHJ, in the preparation and timely submission of their respective reports prior to the upcoming UPR review. Other stakeholders' submissions were due in July.

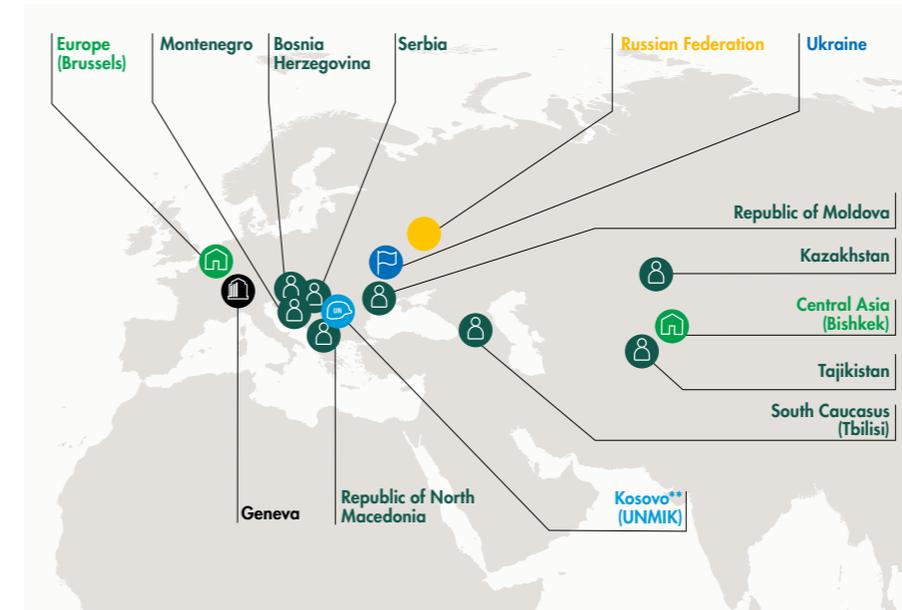
The HRA provided briefings to CSOs and the PDHJ on the upcoming process, presented and discussed guidelines for submissions and organized meetings to discuss priority human rights issues in the country. In addition, the HRA facilitated the consultations of the Government with CSOs and the PDHJ on this process.

The HRA also hired a consultant to support the HRDN to prepare data and draft the report, which was submitted to the Human Rights Council in July.

With regard to other international human rights mechanisms, the HRA provided some guidance to PDHJ on the submission of its report to CEDAW, which was submitted after last year's delay. As the Government has not submitted any additional reports in 2021 and due to the restrictions and shift in priorities caused by the pandemic, CSOs and the PDHJ did not prepare alternative reports for the other mechanisms.

The HRA submitted a detailed request for an urgent communication to the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences after HRDs raised concerns about violations to the right to privacy and the security of victims in the context of an ongoing trial against a former Catholic priest. As a result, a joint urgent appeal was sent to the Government of Timor-Leste, in December, on behalf of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences; the Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy; and the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls. The HRA unofficially translated the appeal into Portuguese and liaised with relevant authorities in the Permanent Mission in Geneva (and to some extent in the capital) to ensure that the appeal reached the relevant authorities in time to prevent human rights violations and support the work of the HRDs who were supporting the victims.

UN Human Rights in Europe and Central Asia



TYPE OF PRESENCE	LOCATION
Headquarters	Geneva
Country/Stand-alone Offices/ Human Rights Missions	Ukraine (HRMMU)
Regional Offices/Centres	Central Asia (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan) and Europe (Brussels, Belgium)
Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions	Kosovo** (UNMIK)
Human Rights Advisers*	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan***, Montenegro, Republic of North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, South Caucasus (based in Tbilisi, Georgia and also covering Armenia and Azerbaijan) and Tajikistan***
Other types of field presences	Russian Federation

* Human Rights Advisers are deployed under the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group.
 ** Hereinafter, all references to Kosovo should be understood in full compliance with Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.
 *** Approved in late 2021 for deployment in 2022.

LEGEND:

Spotlights:

- Disabilities
- Youth
- Women

Shifts:

- Global constituency
- Prevention
- Civic space
- Climate change
- Corruption
- Inequalities
- New technologies
- People on the move

SDGs:



In 2021, UN Human Rights' work in Europe and Central Asia (ECA) covered a vast region comprised of 54 countries that includes members and candidates of the European Union (EU), the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the Council of Europe (COE) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), as well as a number of disputed territories controlled by de facto authorities.

OHCHR strengthened its country presence by deploying a Human Rights Adviser (HRA) in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). It is also facilitating the deployment of an HRA in Tajikistan and Kazakhstan in 2022.¹⁴ Following the decision of the Government of Belarus to discontinue OHCHR's field presence (HRA), the Office increased its Geneva-based capacity to ensure sustained human rights engagement and technical support to the UN system. Elsewhere in the region, OHCHR maintained strong country engagement from Geneva headquarters and through field presences, including the Regional Offices for Europe (Brussels) and Central Asia (Bishkek); HRAs in the South Caucasus, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova and Serbia; human rights officers/project staff in the Russian Federation; the Human Rights Office in the UN Mission in Kosovo (Security

Council resolution 1244); and the Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine.

Throughout the year, the work of UN Human Rights in the region has contributed to the implementation of OHCHR's Strategy for the COVID-19 response and recovery and analysis and reporting on the human rights impacts of the pandemic.

OHCHR was actively engaged in addressing international human rights law and international humanitarian law challenges in areas affected by violence and insecurity. It supported the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Belarus with two annual reports to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly, the interim oral update of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Human Rights Council and, in coordination with the Rapid Response Section, the OHCHR mandate on Belarus (HRC resolution 46/20). In the Western-Balkans region, OHCHR supported the implementation of the Secretary-General's Strategy and Action Plan for the Western Balkans: Sustaining peace through trust-building, dialogue and reconciliation by identifying transitional justice as an entry point for joint initiatives and human rights advocacy.

UN Human Rights continued to promote human rights engagement with disputed territories, for example, the issuance of an

OHCHR public report on the impacts of COVID-19 on human rights in Moldova's Transnistria region. UN Human Rights also participated in political processes (Geneva International Discussions on the crisis in Georgia) and facilitated human rights inputs to UN responses and avenues for conflict resolution/prevention processes in the region.

The work of UN Human Rights in the region supported monitoring and advocacy on critical human rights issues related to people on the move, regardless of their migration status. It supported the finalization of the report on *Search and rescue and the protection of migrants in the central Mediterranean Sea* as part of OHCHR's project to assess the human rights situation of migrants in Libya and the neighbouring region. To assess the situation of migrants at the Belarus-EU border, OHCHR deployed a team to Poland (December) and issued a press briefing¹⁵ outlining key mission findings and recommendations.

Through its participation in the ECA Peer Support Group, OHCHR reviewed and provided quality assurance in relation to three Roadmaps, two Common Country Analyses (CCAs) and one United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). OHCHR also successfully implemented old and new reporting mandates from the Human

Rights Council and the General Assembly, including on the human rights situation in Belarus, Cyprus, Georgia, Ukraine and Crimea.

In coordination with the Regional Office for Europe, OHCHR supported numerous OHCHR senior leadership meetings with the EU, culminating with the first European Union-OHCHR annual Strategic Dialogue on human rights between the High Commissioner and the EU Special Representative for Human Rights, held on 12 October, in Brussels. OHCHR also supported advocacy and strategy through UN regional mechanisms, including by representing OHCHR in the regional Issue-Based Coalition on Gender Equality (IBC-GE) and participating in the regional Issue-Based Coalition on large movements of People, Displacement and Resilience.

OHCHR contributed to UN early warning and prevention platforms through inputs and participation in country reviews.

In support of prevention and accountability efforts, UN Human Rights advanced the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces. Guided by OHCHR and field presences across the region, the UN Country Teams (UNCTs) adopted standard operation procedures (SOPs) for HRDDP implementation.

¹⁴ Tajikistan and Kazakhstan approved in late 2021 for deployment in 2022.

¹⁵ Press briefing notes on Poland/Belarus border, 21 December 2021, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/2021/12/press-briefing-notes-polandbelarus-border>

BELARUS

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
9.44 million	208,000 km ²	0.823 (rank: 53/189 in 2019)	-
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2018 (closed on 30 June 2021)	
Field office(s)		Minsk	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		0	

XB requirements 2021 **US\$823,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability (A)

A1 – Strengthened provision of legal aid to groups in vulnerable situations, including women victims of violence, Roma and persons with disabilities. Strengthened use of oversight mechanisms for places of detention and increased use of alternatives to detention.



OHCHR contributed to improving oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms, in compliance with international human rights standards.

Free legal aid support that was provided to vulnerable groups, including victims of violence and persons with disabilities, was suspended following the detention by national authorities of UN staff and NGO partners who were implementing the project. Due to the deterioration in the

A5 – The UN establishes a referral and response system to receive and address human rights complaints.

16

OHCHR contributed to ensuring protection from human rights violations by setting up systems and procedures and building capacities, including of the UNCT.

To increase the capacity of the UNCT to incorporate a human rights-based approach (HRBA) into its programming and project cycle, an HRBA training session was delivered to Heads of agencies. In addition, a series of weekly training sessions were held for senior UN staff and programme managers of various UN agencies. The UNCT and in-country agencies were consequently better equipped to review their programmatic priorities and activities through the application of an HRBA, which is imperative in light of the significant deterioration of the human rights situation in the country. Many agencies subsequently conducted such reviews.

A system to track data, register and respond to complaints was in operation until OHCHR closed in June. This led to the use of the complaints procedures of the UN human rights treaty bodies. For example, between 2020 and the middle of 2021, the Human Rights Committee registered 117 cases from Belarusian nationals. A total of 206 applications are pending consideration.

In July, an HRDDP standard operating procedure (SOP) was drafted and adopted by the UNCT. The HRA drafted a general and preliminary risk assessment, which will form the basis for the implementation of the HRDDP.

Mechanisms

M1 – A National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) exists and is operational, thereby facilitating an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and implementing their recommendations.

16 17

OHCHR provided support for the establishment and functioning of mechanisms for integrated reporting and the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the Universal Periodic Review.

To ensure the increased capacity of State officials to engage with the international human rights mechanisms and follow up on their recommendations, the HRA, at the request of the Belarusian authorities, prepared an analysis of past human rights recommendations received. This analysis was shared with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
3.26 million	51,000 km ²	0.780 (rank: 73/189 in 2019)	Status A (2017)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2021	
Field office(s)		Sarajevo	
UN partnership framework		UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		1	

XB requirements 2021 **US\$339,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P1 – Enhanced promotion and protection of the rights to freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association, as well as the right to participate in public affairs.

16

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which critical human rights issues/situations raised by OHCHR were taken up in international fora in a timely manner.

The HRA focused on assessing the situation regarding civic space, including freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly, association and the right to participate in public affairs. The HRA established and developed contacts with CSOs to assess the challenges they face in different parts of BiH and worked with other international organizations to analyse their respective situations

and undertake advocacy. This enabled the HRA to engage some civil society organizations in relation to the international human rights mechanisms and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a view to enhancing their meaningful participation. This resulted in initiating revived engagement of BiH actors with the international human rights mechanisms and focused the attention of several mechanisms on issues being faced in BiH. The HRA also coordinated the development of the United Nations Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech in BiH.

Given the prevalence and the impact of hate speech in BiH, the HRA conducted preliminary research through meetings with institutions and relevant mandates, organizations and individuals involved in monitoring and/or combating the phenomenon (NGOs, media, parliamentarians), victims of hate speech and

other actors. The HRA produced media products on hate speech for the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) and the United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide (OSAPG). It also alerted the international human rights mechanisms through a briefing and prepared a UNCT alternative report to CESCR. These alerts highlighted hate speech as a major factor of division and ongoing discrimination and an impediment to reconciliation. Furthermore, the HRA informed the Special Rapporteurs on the right to freedom of expression and on the rights to freedoms of peaceful assembly and of association on developments in BiH.

In August, the UN Executive Committee requested the elaboration and implementation of the UN Plan of Action on Hate Speech in BiH. In November and December, with the support of OSAPG, the HRA coordinated the elaboration of the Plan of Action, which includes monitoring, advocacy and capacity-building initiatives. The document was finalized in December and will be endorsed by the UNCT in 2022. A communications strategy will be employed to raise awareness about the Plan of Action.

 **Mechanisms**

M2 – More systematic and inclusive engagement with the international human rights mechanisms and follow-up to and implementation of their recommendations.

17 

OHCHR contributed to the number of substantive submissions to: 1) the human rights treaty bodies; 2) the special procedures; and 3) the Human Rights Council and the UPR by: a) total; b) NHRs I; c) CSOs; d) individuals; and e) UN entities.

The HRA mobilized approximately 20 stakeholders, including the national human rights institution (NHRI), CSOs and the OSCE Mission, to submit alternative reports to CESCR in anticipation of its review of BiH. The HRA provided guidance to a number of organizations that were unfamiliar with the treaty body reporting processes, including an umbrella organization of more than 20 environmental organizations and an organization promoting the participation of citizens, particularly youth, engaged on business and human rights. It also provided them with the opportunity to interact with the international human rights mechanisms. The HRA engaged the RCO and the UNCT in the process and drafted the UNCT alternative report to CESCR. Following the review, the HRA widely disseminated the CESCR concluding observations and initiated discussions on follow-up with civil society and UNCT members, which will continue in 2022. One unprecedented recommendation on BiH was to encourage the Government to address air pollution, which was welcomed by the environmental organization.

In the context of a joint OHCHR-UNDP project aimed at ensuring synergies between the implementation of the SDGs and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, the HRA suggested ways to strengthen the Government's capacity to collect and analyse quality human rights data for the purpose of reporting, monitoring and policymaking, including in relation to the SDGs. Initiated in November, the project began with a presentation to the national SDG Council, which outlined concrete ideas on integrating human rights into the SDGs; included a study tour to Geneva that enabled SDG Council members to meet with OHCHR staff working on the UPR, the Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme, the SDGs, human rights data and NHRIs. In addition, a workshop was held to bring together stakeholders working on human rights issues in data collection, reporting and monitoring and a second workshop was convened between the SDG Council and stakeholders with a human rights mandate on the occasion of Human Rights Day.

Moreover, the HRA supported the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence (2 to 10 December) and organized field visits and meetings with civil society actors and members of the international community. The HRA ensured that these meetings included survivors of atrocity crimes and that visits were undertaken to places where such crimes had been perpetrated. Following the Special Rapporteur's visit, the HRA ensured the broad dissemination of his preliminary observations. Building on this visit, the HRA will coordinate the UN's efforts to support transitional justice initiatives in 2022, in line with a request by the Executive Committee.

CENTRAL ASIA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan
Year established	2008
Field office(s)	Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan), with field offices in Nursultan (Kazakhstan), Dushanbe (Tajikistan), and Tashkent (Uzbekistan)
Staff as of 31 December 2021	15

XB income	US\$703,800		
XB requirements 2021	US\$1,349,000		
XB expenditure	US\$618,708		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
61%	28%	11%	
\$375,782	\$174,799	\$68,127	
RB expenditure	US\$880,993		
Personnel	Non-personnel		
87%	13%		
\$764,932	\$116,060		

Key OMP pillars in 2021



⁴ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

 **Accountability (A)**

A1 – Governments act to ensure that legislation, policies and State practices related to the criminal justice system comply with international human rights standards.

16 

OHCHR contributed to increasing the compliance of laws and policies with international human rights standards, including in the areas of freedom of expression and movement, torture, countering terrorism and non-discrimination.

In **Kazakhstan**, a number of changes that OHCHR and other partners had advocated for were introduced, which addressed some of the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. For instance, the medical service in penitentiary institutions was gradually transferred from the Ministry of the Interior to the Ministry of Health, video surveillance was installed at police stations, and a quota was established to reserve 30 per cent of parliamentary seats for women and youth.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, revision of the criminal law in 2021 was accompanied by limited civil society participation and a lack of transparency. OHCHR expressed concern about provisions that could restrict human rights guarantees, but the Government accepted very few of its recommendations. In June, the Office successfully completed a three-year project aimed at promoting and protecting human rights in the context of preventing and countering violent extremism. In addition, it supported the creation and implementation of an online course on human rights and non-discrimination on the State Personnel Service platform, which is accessible to all State and municipal employees. It also undertook an analysis of judicial practices in relation to more than 700 criminal cases on violent extremism and terrorism, which provided the basis for human rights recommendations that were widely disseminated to law enforcement and State authorities, as well as to civil society at national level.

In **Tajikistan**, draft legislation on non-discrimination was prepared with OHCHR's assistance. The Government is reviewing the draft after discussions with CSOs and ministries, as well as UN agencies, and it is anticipated that it will be submitted to the Parliament for adoption in 2022.

In **Turkmenistan**, closure of the borders led to the cancellation of a training for law enforcement personnel on protection from enforced disappearance and international human rights standards. The special procedures mandate holders who were scheduled to attend were unable to travel to Turkmenistan. During the reporting period, the Government held technical consultations on OP-CAT for representatives of Government and law enforcement agencies who are members

of the working group of the Inter-Agency Commission on Human Rights. Further consultations on Turkmenistan's possible accession to OP-CAT will be held in 2022.

Finally, UN Human Rights supported the Regional Criminal Justice Forum, which was held in Tashkent on 24 to 25 November 2021, by sharing its experiences with monitoring closed institutions during the pandemic, investigating torture-related crimes and facilitating access to qualified legal aid. A wide range of criminal justice stakeholders contributed to the discussions, including policy-makers, representatives of the judiciary, prosecution, legal profession, civil society, academia and international governmental and NGOs.

A1 – Institutions that train judges, law enforcement officials, the staff of security-related agencies, lawyers and other educational institutions, consistently include human rights in their training.

16

OHCHR contributed to the delivery and institutionalization of human rights training for law enforcement officials and State authorities, including in relation to criminal justice, enforced disappearances, torture investigations, economic, social and cultural rights (ESCRs) and non-discrimination.

In **Kazakhstan**, training for State officials was postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, UN Human Rights successfully completed a three-year project, in June, aimed at ensuring the inclusion of human rights in the context of preventing and countering violent extremism. The project built the capacity of experts from six law enforcement and justice training centres in

the area of human rights education. Also in Kyrgyzstan, ROCA supported CSOs in conducting an analysis of law enforcement and judicial practices in cases of violence against women. It also launched a Human Rights School on strategic litigation in cases of violence against women. A total of 15 lawyers (11 women, four men) attended the first training session to improve their knowledge about international human rights mechanisms. The Regional Office will continue the activities of the School in 2022.

In **Tajikistan**, the Office made progress in incorporating international human rights standards into the programme of the Union of Lawyers' Training Centre. As a result of COVID-19 restrictions, the capacity-building training for the judiciary was postponed until 2022.

In **Uzbekistan**, UN Human Rights promoted close cooperation of the NHRI with civil society. Specifically, OHCHR hired an independent consultant that participated in the monitoring activities of the Ombudsperson and contributed to its success. The Office assisted the NHRI of Uzbekistan with the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) accreditation process. As a result, the Office of the Ombudsperson of Uzbekistan was accredited with "B" Status in January. OHCHR also facilitated the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism from 29 November to 7 December. The focus of the Special Rapporteur's visit, as reflected in her preliminary findings, concern the repatriation and reintegration of women and children who have been returned to Uzbekistan by the Government. This information will be used for future OHCHR activities.

A2 – NHRIs are more effective, independent and interconnected, in accordance with the Paris Principles, and play a leading role in promoting and protecting human rights at the national level and in the region.

10 16

OHCHR contributed to ensuring that the work of NHRIs in the region is in compliance with the Paris Principles, including through advocacy efforts and targeted training.

In **Kazakhstan**, OHCHR's long-term advocacy contributed to drafting a law on the NHRI. Throughout the reporting period, the Office's advocacy focused on ensuring that the draft accommodates recommendations of the GANHRI Sub-Committee on Accreditation. While the draft establishes the presence of the institution at the subnational level and ensures functional immunity for the NHRI's staff against threats, harassment and other forms of intimidation, it does not address other recommendations put forward by the Sub-Committee.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, UN Human Rights supported the work of several human rights experts who, together with the Office, advocated for the retention of the existing Law on the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) in Kyrgyzstan, without curtailing the functional independence of the NPM as part of the legal reform. OHCHR continued to advocate with State authorities regarding the adoption of a transparent and consultative approach to the legal inventory process and when drafting criminal justice laws.

In **Tajikistan**, the Office liaised with the Statistical Agency under the President of Tajikistan to strengthen the participation of the NHRI in developing national indicators on the SDGs. As a result, the NHRI was

included in the inter-agency Commission under the Statistical Agency on developing SDG indicators, enabling it to contribute to the inclusion of a human rights perspective in the development of national indicators.

In **Turkmenistan**, OHCHR informed UN partners about the lack of monitoring activities being undertaken by the NHRI, especially in relation to ESCRs. The Office and other UN agencies focused on increasing the monitoring capacity of the staff of the Office of the Ombudsperson and agreed with UNDP and the Asia Pacific Forum that the NHRI should undergo a capacity-assessment before an application is submitted to GANHRI for accreditation.

In **Uzbekistan**, OHCHR developed the capacity of NPM members working with the Office of the Ombudsperson. For example, between 29 November and 1 December, the Office collaborated with the OSCE and the Office of the Ombudsperson in Uzbekistan to deliver a three-day training session on "Monitoring of closed facilities: International standards and practice" for members of a group conducting monitoring visits to closed facilities. The group was represented by members of the Office of the Ombudsperson and NGOs. During the training, 22 participants, including six women and 10 CSO representatives, strengthened their theoretical knowledge and practical skills in this area. OHCHR provided expert support by inviting a member of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and a member of the NPM in Kazakhstan.



Participation

P1 – CSOs, human rights defenders (HRDs) and marginalized groups increasingly claim their rights and promote the rights of their constituencies and participate more freely in public life.

16



OHCHR contributed to the increased use of national protection systems, in compliance with international human rights standards, by supporting strategic litigation and training programmes for HRDs, persons with disabilities and underrepresented minorities in State institutions.

At the regional level, UN Human Rights collaborated with EU delegations in Central Asia to co-organize a regional CSO meeting on equality and non-discrimination. The event coincided with Human Rights Day, on 10 December, and sought solutions to deep-rooted discrimination that affects the most vulnerable segments of society. Participants shared their experiences and developed a shared vision of how to address inequality and discrimination in Central Asia.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, OHCHR supported the legal inventory process, which consists of a comprehensive and wide-ranging legal review and reform process that provides human rights analyses of relevant legislation and organizes broad discussions with all interested stakeholders, including organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), CSOs, the media and NHRIs. OHCHR also delivered numerous capacity-building initiatives for civil society in Bishkek and in the regions. In 2021, the Office established a School of Human Rights and Advocacy for Young People with Disabilities. A total of 16 young people from different regions of the country took part in the School and were trained in four training sessions of

three days each. Mentoring by OHCHR experts enabled the participants to receive training and implement eight advocacy initiatives. Four young people with hearing disabilities held a roundtable that included the participation of a Member of Parliament, the Deputy Minister of Education and the Special Rapporteur on minority issues (online). The roundtable was devoted to the issue of access to education for deaf children. The participants made presentations on access to education and highlighted acute areas of concern. Following the roundtable, a working group was created at the level of the Ministry of Education and a number of strategic litigation initiatives were undertaken to advocate for the rights of persons with hearing disabilities. Three participants of the School raised the problem of inaccessibility for persons with disabilities at airports in Kyrgyzstan. They recorded two videos that demonstrated their concerns about the absence of accessible toilets and the lack of ambulifts. As a result of their initiatives, a roundtable was organized with the participation of representatives of the Ministry of Transport and the Manas International Airport in Bishkek. The story of the roundtable resonated with a number of national stakeholders and resulted in cooperation between activists with disabilities and representatives of airports as a way to improve the situation. In Osh, OHCHR organized two guest lectures for students of Osh State University. A total of 80 students took part in two lectures, including 35 women and 45 men, on the fundamental principles and standards of human rights. The Office also delivered a two-day training on human rights and the work of the special procedures for members of the local Osh-based youth NGO "New Rhythm." All 13 participants were women.

In **Tajikistan**, OHCHR conducted two training sessions and increased the

knowledge of 43 lawyers (13 women, 30 men) on international standards related to the right to adequate housing. The Office also prepared training modules for the Judicial Training Centre, which committed to their incorporation in the training curricula for lawyers. In addition, OHCHR supported three NGO coalitions in preparing alternative reports as part of the third cycle of the UPR, covering the most critical human rights issues in the country.

In **Uzbekistan**, there has been limited progress in aligning laws and policies with standards on the right to participation and the freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association and in establishing a safe and enabling environment for civil society. OHCHR continued to conduct advocacy and offer its expertise on this matter, including through participation and presentations delivered at events and activities organized by partners.

UN Human Rights offered online human rights education for civil society representatives from Uzbekistan, which began in 2020. Beginning in January, OHCHR and its NGO partner, the Centre for the Support of International Protection (CSIP), delivered four-day biweekly webinars for a group of 37 civic activists from Uzbekistan (26 women, 11 men) from six regions of Uzbekistan and Tashkent. The webinars were dedicated to different topics, including promoting and protecting the rights of women, forming an active stakeholder environment and building intersectoral social partnerships, developing a partner network and establishing a formal and informal environment for cooperation, and 10 steps to successful advocacy planning.

Responding to multiple requests from civil society, the Office also conducted a three-day training in Kyrgyzstan for 11

young civic activists from Uzbekistan (four women, seven men; two of whom had disabilities), during which the activists increased their knowledge about human rights, the international human rights mechanisms, freedom of religion or belief and freedom of expression. At the end of the training, participants assessed that their understanding had increased regarding international human rights law and its linkages with national law. In November, OHCHR supported a training organized by the NGO Ezgulik on “Human rights and international approaches to non-discrimination,” during which OHCHR delivered a presentation on key human rights concepts and the international human rights mechanisms. A total of 18 participants (seven women, 11 men) took the training, including representatives of the Office of the Ombudsperson, the Ministry of Justice, Ezgulik and defence lawyers.

Also in Uzbekistan, OHCHR significantly contributed to the implementation of the Inception Phase of a United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) project, in partnership with other UN agencies. In May, the Office collaborated with UNICEF, UNFPA and UNDP to deliver a five-day induction training (in-person and online) for over 50 participants, including persons with disabilities, representatives of OPDs, relevant State authorities and UN agencies. OHCHR delivered one session on equality and non-discrimination in the context of the human rights framework that focused on the provisions of CRPD. Also as part of the UNPRPD project, in October, the Office collaborated with UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, OSCE and the National Human Rights Centre to co-organize national consultations on the implementation of the provisions of CRPD in Uzbekistan.



Development

D7 – When implementing the SDGs and other development plans, more Central Asian States and UNCTs adopt a human rights-based approach and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.



OHCHR contributed to the integration of human rights into the UN and national frameworks for the SDGs and COVID-19 responses in Central Asia.

UN Human Rights continued to provide support to the regional network of CSOs on the right to adequate housing by co-organizing the second Central Asia Forum on the Right to Adequate Housing in **Kazakhstan**. It also organized a regional meeting of the network where participating CSOs discussed the impacts of COVID-19 on the exercise of the right to adequate housing and future network plans. After the border clashes with Tajikistan, in April, the Office helped the NGO Interbilim in Osh, Kyrgyzstan to fundraise for the NGOs monitoring and reporting work on the right to adequate housing and the right to compensation of affected residents of the border villages in the Batken Province. The Office ensured the widespread dissemination of information from Interbilim about their work and findings. The Office streamlined an information exchange through the mailing list of the Protection Sector under the Disaster Response Coordination Unit in Kyrgyzstan.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, UN Human Rights supported the UNCT to mainstream human rights into the CCA for the new UNSDCF 2023-2026, including by supporting civil society consultations during the drafting of the CCA. The Office contributed to the

UNCT’s strategic prioritization retreat and encouraged the inclusion of an HRBA and references to the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms in the UNSDCF. In order to sensitize the Resident Coordinator (RC) and the UNCT about pertinent human rights concerns related to the implementation of CEDAW in Kyrgyzstan, the Office provided inputs to their collaborative confidential oral and written brief to CEDAW. OHCHR also contributed to ensuring that the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) evaluation exercise that was carried out by the UNCT in Kyrgyzstan was inclusive and participatory, including by ensuring that the NHRI and civil society members participated in the process. Throughout the year, the Office worked with the RC and the UNCT to help strengthen their advocacy and deliver key messages on the application of a human rights-based approach in policies and strategies and to ensure that the Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) principle is taken into account. It provided regular human rights updates to the UNCT, including advocacy messages on emerging human rights concerns, such as controversial laws that may have a negative impact on the enjoyment of fundamental freedoms in the country (i.e., amendments to the Law on Non-Commercial Organizations, the Law on Protection from False (Unreliable) Information, the draft Law on the Right to Access to Information, the draft Law on the State Language and planned amendments to the Law on the Public Broadcasting Service). The Office also shared with the UNCT briefing notes on other potential threats to civic space, civil society and public participation in order to inform its advocacy and programming.

In **Turkmenistan**, OHCHR provided advisory support to the RC and the

UNCT in mainstreaming human rights into the development agenda. The Office contributed to the human rights dialogue with the Government and the identification of human rights priorities for 2021, resulting in the development of a joint UN-Government working plan. The Office supported the mainstreaming of human rights into the CCA update of the UNSDCF 2021-2025 and co-facilitated thematic human rights, gender and youth groups within the UNCT. In addition, the Office assisted with the preparation of the UNCT submission to CESCR and CEDAW and ensured the integration of follow-up information. OHCHR facilitated the UNCT in Turkmenistan’s country-level dialogue on the implementation of the Secretary-General’s Call to Action for Human Rights. As a result, the UNCT identified priority areas and planned key actions to advance the implementation of the Call to Action with other stakeholders in 2022.

In **Uzbekistan**, OHCHR participated in the CCA update to ensure that human rights were mainstreamed into the document. Through its advisory role in the Human Rights and Inclusion Task Force of the UNCT, the Office supported and promoted the application of a human rights-based approach in the programming of UN agencies, in close consultation with civil society and vulnerable groups, such as persons with disabilities. For example, with support and advice from the Human Rights and Disability Unit in Geneva, OHCHR advocated with UNFPA and UNDP for the inclusion of the Washington Group Questions on persons with disabilities in the 2023 census (both agencies are supporting the national authorities in preparing for the census). In November, OHCHR and the RCO in Uzbekistan conducted a two-day training for the UNCT Youth

Advisory Board on “Human rights and international approaches to equality and non-discrimination.” As a result of the training, 15 young people (nine women and six men, three of whom were persons with disabilities) between 18 and 30 years of age, increased their knowledge about the human rights-based approach, international human rights mechanisms and international legal approaches to equality and non-discrimination.



Mechanisms

M1 – National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up successfully fulfil their mandates, engage with the international human rights mechanisms, coordinate reporting and follow-up, consult with relevant national actors and share information with them and the public.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to strengthening the NMRFs and/or the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

During the reporting period, UN Human Rights contributed to capacity-building for the staff of NMRFs and ministerial focal points on the implementation, reporting and follow-up to the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms (**Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan**) and expert support for the preparation of State reports on the implementation of those recommendations (**Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan**). Several national and regional events were organized for States from Central Asia to share good practices in implementing the recommendations of the international human rights mechanisms.

The Office carried out 21 country-specific activities, which focused on developing and strengthening the effectiveness of NMRFs and the national human rights focal points, overcoming delays in reporting and follow-up to the international human rights mechanisms, enhancing synergies with other branches of government, improving the consultation process and establishing national mechanisms for the effective implementation of the outcomes of the international human rights mechanisms. Capacity-building and expert support in relation to the reporting process included work on the elaboration of the State Party reports to CRPD, CEDAW and CAT in **Kyrgyzstan** and the UPR and CEDAW follow-up reports in **Tajikistan**.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, the Office cooperated with the Coordination Council on Human Rights (CCHR) Secretariat to organize several events on State reporting to the human rights treaty bodies and participation in constructive dialogues (CAT, CEDAW and CRPD). OHCHR informed a constructive dialogue between the delegation of Kyrgyzstan and CEDAW by submitting a detailed briefing based on OHCHR's early warning and prevention reports. Before reviewing Kyrgyzstan's third periodic report, CAT received a briefing and additional information that was based on OHCHR's early warning and prevention reports and human rights programmatic work. In addition, OHCHR supported the meeting of the Council on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to reactivate its role as the National Monitoring Mechanism under CRPD.

In **Turkmenistan**, OHCHR and UNICEF co-organized the first public discussions on an alternative report of the Ombudsperson to CRC and participated in open consultations with children. In

Uzbekistan, the Office contributed to strengthening the information management capacity of the National Human Rights Centre (NHRC) by organizing a workshop for its staff and ministerial focal points on how to effectively work with the international human rights mechanisms. As a result of ROCA's advocacy, Uzbekistan ratified CRPD in June. OHCHR also contributed to public discussions on a CRPD national action plan that engaged experts and OPDs. The President reiterated the commitment to ratify the OP-CAT and the Government is working on preparations for ratification, including strengthening the capacity of the NPM under the Ombudsman of Uzbekistan.

With substantive support and inputs from OHCHR, the UNCTs of Central Asia submitted confidential submissions to CEDAW, CAT, CESCR, CCPR and CRC. In addition, the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms were largely reflected in the CCAs for **Kyrgyzstan**, **Turkmenistan** and **Uzbekistan**. As a result of OHCHR's efforts, and in spite of the pandemic, Central Asian States have only one overdue report (CRPD, Kyrgyzstan) which should be submitted during the first half of 2022.

M3 – Increased use of the outcomes of the international human rights mechanisms by policymakers, legislators and the judiciary.

5 16

OHCHR contributed to a number of selected policy areas where the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards has significantly improved.

In **Kazakhstan**, OHCHR's long-term work on adapting indicators resulted in including human rights indicators into a government plan of priority action on human rights and the 2020-2030 Legal Policy Concept Paper. In collaboration with the Bureau for National Statistics, the Office completed the work to link OHCHR's illustrative indicators with national SDG indicators. The Plan of Priority Action on Human Rights provides for the gradual introduction of national human rights indicators. The Office will continue this work in 2022.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, the Office provided technical assistance on drafting the National Action Plan of Human Rights for 2022-2025. In **Turkmenistan**, OHCHR cooperated with the UNCT and supported the Government to develop the second National Human Rights Action Plan for 2021-2025. The Action Plan covers civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights and underlines civil society development as a priority. In **Tajikistan**, OHCHR supported the Government in developing a draft National Strategy for the Protection of Human Rights and a National Action Plan on Human Rights through a participatory process. There have been a number of delays in the adoption of these documents.

In **Uzbekistan**, following the creation of the parliamentary joint commission on human rights, OHCHR provided advice on strengthening cooperation with the Parliament. In June, the Office cooperated with UNDP in Uzbekistan and the IPU to co-organize a parliamentary forum on the ratification of OP-CAT and CRPD and the implementation of the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. In November and December, OHCHR worked closely with UNDP in Uzbekistan to deliver presentations to law enforcement officials on the prevention of torture and the provisions of OP-CAT. The series of hybrid lectures were organized as a part of an online human rights course developed by the NHRC of Uzbekistan. The course is aimed at improving the understanding of police officers, penitentiary service staff and prosecutors about human rights and the international obligations of Uzbekistan on the prevention of torture. During the reporting period, the course was taken by close to 200 law enforcement officials.

In **Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan**, the Office focused its efforts on pursuing the implementation of the views of the human rights treaty bodies in relation to individual complaints.

EUROPE

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	European Union and member states of the European Union
Year established	2009
Field presence(s)	Brussels
Staff as of 31 December 2021	9

XB income	US\$500,800		
XB requirements 2021	US\$914,000		
XB expenditure	US\$402,035		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
47%	42%	11%	
\$187,478	\$168,305	\$46,252	
RB expenditure	US\$1,102,604		
Personnel	Non-personnel		
80%	20%		
\$886,035	\$216,569		

Key OMP pillars in 2021



⁴ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability (A)

A2 – European Union institutions and member states respond more effectively to threats to democracy and the rule of law in the EU.

10 16

OHCHR contributed to enhancing oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards.

OHCHR contributed to the adoption by the European Commission of stronger language on rule of law backsliding

by submitting a comprehensive analysis during the Commission's consultations for the 2021 rule of law report. OHCHR's submission was based on relevant findings issued by UN human rights mechanisms and the Office, from 2018-2021, in relation to all 27 EU member states. It also highlighted engagements and common messaging with partner organizations, such as the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI). Building on the submissions for and reactions to its second 2021 rule of law annual report, the European Commission expanded its methodology for the forthcoming 2022 rule of law report.

The objective is to craft a more effective response to rule of law challenges that are taking place in the context of mounting challenges and an increasingly polarized landscape. The outcomes of OHCHR's roundtable on the "Protection of journalists, media freedom and pluralism," held on 10 December, will feed into the upcoming UN-EU Dialogue on the same topic in February 2022.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – The EU expands and implements its policies for equality and protection against discrimination to better reflect international human rights law, especially in relation to Roma, persons with disabilities, older persons, LGBTI persons and women.

5 10 16 17 

OHCHR contributed to strengthening the EU policy framework for equality and protection against discrimination, with an enhanced focus on implementation.

Through its active role in promoting equality, following up on Human Rights Council resolution 43/1 and combating discrimination against Roma people, OHCHR supported the implementation of multi-year Strategies and Action Plans that were adopted in 2020 in relation to non-discrimination policies. In March, the Council of the EU adopted a recommendation on Roma equality, inclusion and participation, which takes OHCHR's advocacy into account and urges EU member states to adopt Roma National Strategies by the end of 2021. By the end of the year, 11 countries had presented or adopted their plans. The recommendation also includes indicators that are modelled on OHCHR's anti-discrimination indicators. In 2022, the European Commission

and CSOs will jointly assess progress made in implementation at the national level. Finally, the EU appointed the first EU Anti-Racism Coordinator during the reporting period and the Commission issued its first draft guidelines on National Action Plans against Racism (NAPARs) for EU member states, drawing inspiration from OHCHR's handbook

In January, as part of the broader consultation process for the preparation of the High Commissioner's report pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 43/1, the Office organized four regional consultations with regional organizations, NHRIs, equality bodies and civil society, including organizations of people of African descent in Europe, and one follow-up restitution event, after the publication of the report and interactive dialogue at the Council. Furthermore, OHCHR participated in a meeting of the subgroup on NAPARs in the margins of the first EU Summit against Racism and contributed to the consultation process on drafting guidance to EU member states for the development of NAPARs. OHCHR continued to engage bilaterally through the delivery of statements at meetings and seminars. For instance, the High Commissioner for Human Rights participated in the first High-level European Conference on "Protection from racial discrimination and related intolerance," which was organized by the Portuguese Presidency of the EU in April.

In October, OHCHR participated in a meeting of the Equinet Working Group on Policy Formation to feed into efforts by equality bodies to address institutional racism more effectively. In December, OHCHR participated in a public meeting, organized by Equinet, on "Tackling institutional racism - The potential of equality bodies."

In early 2021, OHCHR participated in an Equinet seminar for staff members of equality bodies on the EU Roma Strategic Framework for Equality, Inclusion and Participation. The Office also addressed attendees of the launch event of CHACHIPEN, a new project on a truth and reconciliation process to combat antigypsism/anti-Roma discrimination in Europe, in anticipation of the 50th International Roma Day, which was celebrated in March. In July and August, OHCHR led an initiative with Roma civil society groups to gather insights into challenges and opportunities identified in the implementation of the EU Roma Strategic Framework at the national level, including by conducting extensive consultations, research and analysis.

Finally, political momentum continued to build with regard to older persons with the publication of the EU Commission's 2021 Green Paper on Ageing. The publication helped to direct increased attention to the issue of ageing and the challenges and opportunities presented by this demographic change taking place across the EU. OHCHR contributed to this momentum through the coordination of a joint submission by the United Nations Brussels Team (UNBT) on the Green Paper on Ageing, which reflects perspectives and recommendations elaborated by OHCHR and the UN human rights mechanisms, as well as ILO, IOM, UNHCR, UN Women and WHO.

ND6 – The EU and its member states respect the right to information and procedural safeguards in migration processes and work towards ending the detention of children in migration.

1 2 3 4 5 6 8 11 13 16

OHCHR supported the capacity of the Consultative Forum on Fundamental Rights to advise Frontex, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, on human rights-compliant policies.

The EU Pact of Asylum and Migration, which was proposed by the European Commission in 2020, continued to be negotiated by the European Parliament and the EU member states. In the context of a negotiation process that was marked by limited progress, the European Commission took advantage of opportunities to move forward on various initiatives proposed in the Pact, such as the EU Strategy on Voluntary Return and Reintegration and the EU Action Plan against Migrant Smuggling for 2021-2025. UN Human Rights pursued its advocacy efforts to promote the establishment of independent monitoring mechanisms in EU member states. Meanwhile, Frontex took steps to fulfil its responsibilities outlined in its 2019 Regulation, including the operationalization of the Standing Corps and the establishment of numerous policies and procedures to safeguard human rights in Frontex activities.

As a member of the Frontex Consultation Forum on Fundamental Rights, UN Human Rights continued to provide expertise in this regard. For instance, it participated in the recruitment of an independent Fundamental Rights Officer, the training of newly recruited fundamental rights monitors on human rights

monitoring, the development of a procedure to report alleged human rights violations and the adoption of a Frontex Fundamental Rights Strategy and Action Plan. The Office disseminated guidance on monitoring human rights in the context of migration and contributed to the review of training curricula for Frontex Standing Corps and Border Guards in EU member states. The Office also organized a discussion to raise awareness about the UPR for members of the Consultative Forum and staff of the Frontex Fundamental Rights Office. Finally, OHCHR participated in a Consultative Forum mission to Greece. This resulted in increased references to international human rights standards and documentation in Frontex's internal documents and policies, while also laying the foundation for sounder policies and procedures, stronger monitoring mechanisms and increased structural coherence in relation to EU migration governance. Nevertheless, ongoing challenges in the regional context were an impediment to the effective translation of these efforts into quantifiable regional results.

OHCHR continued to undertake advocacy efforts to promote independent human rights monitoring mechanisms, including through issuing public statements, organizing an expert meeting, contributing to a handbook from the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) on this issue and preparing and disseminating a 10-point guide on the creation of an independent and effective national border monitoring mechanism in Greece, together with ENNHRI and UNHCR. In addition, OHCHR undertook more in-depth engagement during the EU-OHCHR Strategic Dialogue. Concrete follow-up activities are envisioned for 2022, including the first EU-OHCHR expert-level dialogue on migration and human rights, in January.

Development

D7 – The EU and UNBT increasingly integrate a human rights-based approach (HRBA) into their work on the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.



OHCHR contributed to the extent to which UN common country programmes (i.e., UNDAF) has satisfactorily integrated international human rights norms, standards, principles and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR published and disseminated *Dignity for all: Realizing social rights in the EU* to key EU counterparts. OHCHR's participation at the FRA Fundamental Rights Forum involved strong and consistent messaging about the importance of a human rights-based recovery. Interventions by the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights stressed the value of implementing human rights-based measures, including the SDGs, for a sustainable recovery. The Office also actively contributed to the UNBT's Task Force on the Green Deal, through which it jointly engaged with the EU Commission on a number of Green Deal files, including the Zero Pollution Action and the Commission's "Fit for 55" proposal to adopt and revise legislation and policies that will facilitate a 55 per cent reduction of carbon emissions in the EU by 2030.

In its engagement on the role of cities and human rights, OHCHR contributed to the FRA publication *Human rights cities in the EU: A framework for reinforcing rights locally*. The Office provided an analysis of international human rights standards and the SDGs in relation to the

framework, which aims to provide guidance for cities seeking to integrate human rights into their policies and processes. In 2022, OHCHR will further engage with the FRA and partners on this issue, with a view to ensuring the implementation of the framework.

Finally, the Office delivered a training to European NHRIs on the application of an HRBA to recovery and resilience plans. This contributed to building the capacity of European NHRIs to analyse national COVID-19 recovery plans through a human rights lens and enable them to strengthen their advocacy at the national level. OHCHR committed to updating the United Nations Checklist for a Human Rights-Based Approach to Socio-Economic Country Responses to COVID-19 to provide improved assistance to NHRIs. ENNHRI and OHCHR continued their collaboration to better equip NHRIs in this area and to provide space for them to discuss an HRBA recovery, resulting in a dedicated checklist for NHRIs, released in March 2022.

D7 – EU institutions make further progress in integrating human rights and a human rights-based approach into EU external development programming.

OHCHR contributed to the number of selected State institutions/programmes demonstrating significant improvements in their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

EU institutions continued to make progress in integrating human rights and an HRBA into external development programming. In June, the EU Parliament and Council formally adopted the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI – Global Europe Instrument) for 2021-2027. This

instrument makes it an obligation for the EU to apply a human rights-based approach in all its cooperation work and assist partner countries in implementing their international human rights obligations. This approach must be guided by the principles of Leaving No One Behind, equality and non-discrimination. During the first half of the year, the Commission's Director-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA) held consultations and briefings for regional and global challenges programming, in which OHCHR participated. In addition, the Office facilitated a briefing for INTPA on the application of a HRBA to data. During the September launch of its updated HRBA toolbox, which featured OHCHR as one of the keynote speakers, DG INTPA publicly acknowledged the usefulness of OHCHR's materials and tools for the updating exercise. The NDICI and toolbox are applicable to both EU grants and loans.

Finally, the European Commission Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030, which was adopted by the Commission in March, includes a component on international cooperation to support disability rights outside of the EU. OHCHR joined forces with the European Development Forum, the Global Disability Alliance Secretariat and others, including WHO and ILO, to organize the European Disability Summit, which is scheduled for February 2022. The Summit will focus on disability-inclusive international cooperation within the broader European region.



Participation

P5 – National, regional and international actors respond more effectively to threats to civic space.

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which critical human rights issues/situations raised by OHCHR have been taken up in international forums in a timely manner.

As the European Parliament and the European Commission took positive steps to recognize and begin addressing rising challenges faced by civil society, HRDs, journalists and the media in EU countries, OHCHR contributed to awareness-raising and advocacy on these matters. It consistently promoted the UN Guidance Note on the protection and promotion of civic space, as well as the UN guidelines on the meaningful implementation of the right to participation in its interaction with EU stakeholders. It further supported the enhanced integration of civic space matters in the European Commission's annual rule of law report, including through submissions to the Commission's stakeholders' consultation, and cooperated with the FRA and regional civil society networks. On the occasion of Human Rights Day, the Office held a civil society consultation on the protection of journalists, media freedom and pluralism in the EU. Its outcomes contributed to the preparation of the UN-EU high-level dialogue on this issue, which was held in February 2022.



Peace and Security

PS3 – EU external action is increasingly underpinned by international human rights norms and standards.

16

OHCHR contributed to the number of selected policy areas where the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards has significantly improved.

OHCHR continued to work with EU stakeholders on the integration of human rights into the EU's engagement on peace and security. In 2021, political buy-in was secured in the key areas of the EU-UN-African Union tripartite engagement (on compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law, as well as for the integration of human rights actions into the UN-EU priorities for 2022-2024 developed under the UN-EU Partnership on conflict and crisis management). This was done through establishing or strengthening engagement with non-traditional partners, including the EU Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) directorates at the European External Action Service (EEAS), the European Parliament's Subcommittee on Security and Defence (SEDE) and the European Commission's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).

OHCHR continued to advocate for the development of an EU internal due diligence policy and the integration of compliance measures in relation to EU assistance actions. This included two workshops/seminars on methodologies for risk management, in June and October, for 42 UN and 38 EU staff members. Following the event in June, a

joint workplan was agreed upon between the Integrated Approach for Security and Peace Directorate (ISP)/EEAS and the Regional Protection Programmes (RPPs)/OHCHR. Advocacy also continued with member states and EU representatives (EEAS, INTPA and the Parliament), including during meetings between EU representatives, the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights. In a significant development, the EEAS/OHCHR cooperation on human rights and international humanitarian law risk management is now reflected as a joint UN/EU priority in the context of the UN-EU partnership on crisis management for the 2022-2024 cycle.

Furthermore, OHCHR continued to engage with the UN Brussels Team Africa Task Force in preparation for the review of the Africa-EU Strategy, which is expected to be adopted in February 2022. Messages on human rights integration were conveyed to member states and EEAS/INTPA representatives during OHCHR's high-level visits. In addition, as a result of engagement with EEAS and member states, language on compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law and trilateral UN-AU-EU cooperation was integrated into the peace and security component of the Kigali communiqué. The language is expected to be reflected in the new partnership and will represent an important basis for OHCHR's work in peace and in the foreseeable future.

OHCHR strengthened its working relationship with the European Parliament's Subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI) through the regular provision of inputs for DROI's urgent resolutions. The Office also supported three briefings on Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo

and the Sahel. OHCHR is working to strengthen its relationship with SEDE to ensure the integration of human rights into its work. To that end, the Assistant Secretary-General on Human Rights briefed a joint session of DROI and SEDE on the situation in the Sahel, together with the Ambassador of France, at the Security Council, on 15 November.



Mechanisms

M2 – Rights-holders and CSOs, national human rights organizations and equality bodies increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes to address challenges in the area of inequality, especially those that are working with children/youth, women, migrants, Roma, persons with disabilities, LGBTI and older persons.

17

OHCHR contributed to the number of substantive submissions to: 1) the human rights treaty bodies; 2) the special procedures; and 3) the Human Rights Council/UPR by NHRIs, CSOs, individuals and UN entities.

In its engagement with CSOs, Equinet and ENNHRI, OHCHR consistently focused on increasing their awareness of the international human rights system and promoted their understanding of how to better engage with the system. More specifically, OHCHR organized a consultation with Roma CSOs, which included information on engaging with the international human rights system.

The Office also undertook outreach with CSO members of the Frontex Consultative Forum on Fundamental Rights in relation to migration and pushbacks, including by highlighting relevant findings of the

international human rights mechanisms. The Regional Office organized a webinar on the right to mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic, together with OHCHR's Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme.

Finally, OHCHR undertook a number of activities with ENNHRI in order to enable its members to increase their engagement with the international human rights system. This included a training on the application of a human rights-based approach to recovery and resilience plans, contributions to the consultations on ENNHRI's Annual Strategic Plan, and participating in or facilitating OHCHR's participation in various ENNHRI Working Groups (i.e., economic, social and cultural rights and the ENNHRI Legal Working Group).

REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
2.08 million	26,000 km ²	0.774 (rank: 82/189 in 2019)	"B" Status (2011)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2007	
Field office(s)		Skopje	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		1	

XB requirements 2021

US\$110,000

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Non-discrimination

ND1 – National mechanisms for the implementation and monitoring of CRPD are effective, adequately resourced and comply with international standards.

5 10 16 

OHCHR contributed to enhancing the functioning of oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms that conform with CRPD standards.

The HRA intensified its engagement and advocacy efforts with national partners, including NHRIs, persons with disabilities and their representative organizations and civil society, in order to enhance disability-inclusive development and the meaningful participation of persons with disabilities. The HRA supported the NHRI (Ombudsperson) in the creation of

a CRPD-compliant national monitoring framework by designing and implementing a nationwide advocacy campaign, which resulted in more than 20 OPDs and CSOs joining the national monitoring framework. The CRPD national monitoring framework was formally launched in April. The HRA continued providing strategic guidance to this mechanism to encourage the meaningful and effective participation of persons with disabilities and the promotion, protection and monitoring of their rights. Several online consultations were organized with members of the mechanism regarding challenges caused or exacerbated by the pandemic that negatively impacted on persons with disabilities, including their rights to vote, education, employment and independent living and their ability to undertake professional development opportunities.

The HRA continued leading the UNCT dialogue, implementation and reporting initiatives under the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS). More specifically, the HRA contributed to strengthening the UNCT's knowledge about the human rights-based approach to disability by developing, jointly with UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA, a UNPRPD joint programme entitled "Building diverse society: Equality and inclusion of persons with disabilities through systemic reform."

ND3 – National laws on gender-based violence (GBV) protect women from GBV and comply with international human rights standards.

5 9 10 

OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance with international human rights standards of laws and policies on protection against gender-based violence.

In January, the Law on Prevention and Protection from Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GBV Law) was adopted after more than two years of preparatory work. The adoption of this legislation serves as an important milestone in promoting the autonomy of women and girls and safeguarding their right to a dignified life that is free from fear and violence. The HRA provided the drafting working group with expert advice to ensure the Law's compliance with international human rights standards and the integration of all aspects related to prevention, protection and the reintegration of victims. The Law is aligned with the Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention, CEDEW's general recommendations and other international human rights standards.

The HRA also supported the implementation of the GBV Law by advising on the inclusion of a holistic, victim-centred approach in secondary legislation outlining prevention, protection, support and criminal justice responses. Moreover, the HRA provided expert advice and actively participated in the drafting process of new legislative initiatives on improved access to justice, criminal law amendments to curtail violence against women and girls and compensation for GBV victims, as part of the new draft law on state-funded compensation of victims of violent crimes.

The HRA offered normative guidance to UNCT members (UN Women, UNFPA, UNICEF and UNHCR), State and non-State actors in establishing protocols for the safe operation of shelters and referral centres and the provision of immediate assistance and support for survivors/victims. The Government has prioritized this assistance and support in response to the growing "shadow pandemic" of violence against women. Particular emphasis has been placed on addressing the intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination and the negative gender stereotypes associated with GBV.

As a result of the HRA's advocacy, authorities joined the Blue Heart Campaign; a global initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to raise awareness about the risks and devastating consequences of trafficking in persons. The vast majority of trafficking victims are women and girls.

The HRA and UN Women continued to co-chair the UNCT Human Rights and Gender Theme Group and conducted training for UN staff, civil society and women's organizations, which enhanced their understanding of key aspects of gender discrimination and of the intersectionality that predominantly affects

marginalized women. The HRA also prepared background information and briefing notes for discussions related to international human rights and gender equality standards. Donor coordination meetings were used as a platform to increase the understanding of the UNCT and international partners about the national legislative and policy developments related to GBV and gender equality and their compliance with relevant guidance issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

The HRA led the UNCT's efforts to operationalize the Secretary-General's strategy to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) at the country level. Chairing the PSEA inter-agency network, the HRA continued to streamline the implementation of the UNCT PSEA Action Plan, which provides for a coherent approach in promoting an organizational culture of speaking up and reporting on sexual misconduct, community outreach and mechanisms for victim referral and assistance.

Development

D8 – The State collects reliable data systematically and in a timely manner on the situation of women and groups at risk of discrimination.



OHCHR contributed to improving the compliance with international human rights standards of selected UNCT, Government and CSOs programmes and processes.

The HRA continued to build the capacities of the UNCT, government partners and CSOs on applying a human rights-based approach to data and the benefits of its application. Technical advice on human rights indicators was provided to support UNCT programming, as well as UNCT activities to support the national SDG process. In particular, the HRA supported the mainstreaming of human rights into the CCA, the UNSDCF 2021-2025 and the COVID-19 Socio-economic Response Framework (SERF), with a focus on policy and legal developments, the governance system, gender, access to justice, institutional capacities and Leaving No One Behind.

The HRA produced a comprehensive matrix of international human rights mechanisms related to the outcomes of the UNSDCF on inclusive prosperity, quality of services for all, a healthy environment and good governance. The matrix proved to be a useful tool for the UNCT's programming, implementation and advocacy efforts in achieving the SDGs.

In order to promote the SDGs and contribute to the integration of a human rights-based approach in national policy-making and implementation processes,

the HRA collaborated with staff from the RCO, provided training to more than 40 national stakeholders, including government officials, NHRIs, CSOs, OPDs and students, highlighting the centrality of human rights in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Mechanisms

M2 – Civil society systematically engages with the international human rights mechanisms.



OHCHR supported the engagement of CSOs with the Voluntary National Review (VNR) and the CRC reporting process through expert advice, advocacy and capacity-building efforts.

The HRA continued working with CSOs in order to strengthen their capacity to systematically engage in the reporting process and follow-up on recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms in a coordinated manner, including through formal and informal coalitions. The HRA conducted regular dialogues with human rights CSOs to keep them abreast of the activities of the international human rights mechanisms. It also sought to explore opportunities for joint advocacy and actions, in accordance with the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights, which was translated into Macedonian in 2021.

The HRA supported the NHRI and CSO coalitions to engage in a constructive dialogue with the international human rights mechanisms, notably CRC, following the submission of the State Party report in March 2019. With OHCHR's assistance, the Ombudsperson submitted a comprehensive alternative report that sheds light

on the situation of vulnerable children and harmful child practices, particularly in the context of the pandemic. It also participated in the CRC Pre-session Working Group, in February, together with CSOs.

Finally, the HRA strengthened the capacities of NHRIs, OPDs and CSOs by organizing a training on CRPD and facilitating engagement through several thematic consultations with the CRPD Committee. In February, the Ombudsperson, 20 OPDs and persons with disabilities participated in the Europe and Central Asia regional online consultations to develop guidance on the right to independent living and to ensure deinstitutionalization, in accordance with CRPD. The HRA mobilized the UNCT to observe the regional consultations and coordinated the drafting of a joint written submission that highlights the inherent dignity and freedom of choice of persons with disabilities and actions to be taken to improve the provision of support services that are essential for independent living in the community.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
4.02 million	34,000 km ²	0.750 (rank: 90/185 in 2019)	Status A (2018)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2008	
Field office(s)		Chisinau	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Partnership Framework 2018-2022	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		8	

XB requirements 2021

US\$1,117,000

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Development

D8 – Data on education, employment and justice are more consistently available and are disaggregated by disability status and type.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the capacity of relevant State structures to ensure the availability of data including disaggregated data.

Following extensive facilitation and support by the HRA in Moldova, the National Statistics Office, the People's Advocate Office and the Equality Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that confirms their commitment to cooperate on strengthening data collection, disaggregation, dissemination and analysis in the context of ensuring human

rights and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

As part of the MoU, 18 representatives of the three institutions participated in a three-day workshop, "Human rights-based approach to data and indicators for SDG and human rights reporting in Moldova," that was organized by OHCHR and the Human Rights Indicators and Data Unit. A concrete action plan was agreed upon that includes development and piloting of the methodology for contextualizing human rights indicators and building the capacity of public servants to apply an HRBA to data. The action plan will be implemented in 2022 with support from the HRA.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – Laws, policies and practices more effectively prevent and prosecute discrimination against women, persons with disabilities, Roma and other minorities.



OHCHR continued its advocacy efforts to support the increased compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights standards.

The HRA conducted an in-depth study on the impacts of COVID-19 on human rights in Moldova, with a focus on women and vulnerable groups, such as older persons, Roma and persons with disabilities, children, migrants and detainees. The findings of the report were shared with State authorities, CSOs, NHRIs and development partners and contributed to defining programme interventions, advocacy initiatives and the drafting of the CCA and the UNSDCF. The study will provide the basis for numerous interventions in 2022.

In partnership with UN Women, the HRA strengthened knowledge on protection measures against COVID-19 and how to build resilience to stress through training that was delivered to 50 representatives from the NGO Task Force on COVID-19 and Human Rights. As a result, approximately 4,100 persons in vulnerable situations benefited from material support.

Due to the advocacy efforts undertaken by the HRA and CSOs, OP-CRPD was ratified. As the UNCT disability inclusion focal point, the HRA supported the functioning of the UN Disability Inclusion Task Force, the drafting of the UNCT Theory of Change (ToC) on the implementation of CRPD and drafted the checklist

on accessible and inclusive disability communications. Furthermore, 23 trainers from the National Social Assistance Agency and Temporary Placement Centres strengthened their expertise on the application of an HRBA to disability and social services through a five-day training of trainers (ToT) that is based on training curricula and a programme developed by OHCHR. Furthermore, the assessment and development of recommendations for a CRPD-compliant regulatory framework in the Transnistria region was initiated. The first draft will be discussed in 2022.

Consultations with de facto authorities (DFA) were undertaken to advocate for CSOs' participation in the drafting of a Human Rights Framework. As a result, DFA and CSOs will jointly participate in the development of the Framework, based on a matrix prepared by the HRA. In addition, the DFA expressed its commitment to supporting the institution of Roma mediators and establishing local-level cooperation among Roma mediators and the DFA based on a road map and plan of action developed by the HRA.

Furthermore, training provided to Roma mediators by the HRA resulted in improved access to education, social assistance, labour, documentation and health services for the Roma community.

ND7 – By 2021, public discourse and media reports are more inclusive and non-discriminatory.

5 10 16 

OHCHR supported significant improvements to the narrative on selected human rights issues.

The HRA increased the knowledge and capacity of journalists and media professionals to promote diversity and equality in the media. As a result, journalists and media professionals on both banks of the Nistru River produced human rights-compliant and gender-sensitive media materials that also elaborated how to prevent hate speech and apply an HRBA, with a focus on vulnerable groups.

Following the training of 10 lecturers from the Journalism Faculty of Moldova State University on the role of mass media in ensuring inclusive communication and the application of an HRBA to journalism, an agreement was established regarding the integration of human rights into the curricula of the Journalism Faculty.

The HRA collaborated with the UN Information Centre, the People's Advocate Office, the America House Chisinau and the Equality Council to organize five public lectures, seminars and workshops for more than 1,365 youth participants from Moldova proper and Transnistria region. The youth increased their knowledge about human rights, equality and non-discrimination, freedom of opinion and expression, the importance of participation in decision-making processes and existing mechanisms for participation.

Accountability

A1 – Law enforcement institutions have substantially improved systems and procedures that protect the human rights of women, persons with disabilities, Roma and other minorities and victims of torture and ill-treatment.

16 

OHCHR continued to contribute to protection against human rights violations.

The HRA increased the ability and capacity of relevant State actors to work on ethnic minority issues in a human rights-compliant inclusive manner through capacity-building and training activities. In line with international recommendations, support for the drafting process of mid-term national programmes and action plans on minority issues, including Roma, will continue in 2022. If successful, these programmes/plans will contribute to the increased enjoyment of human rights by minority groups.

The HRA also contributed to the development of standards, the training curriculum and materials for the Carabinieri and the National Legal Aid Council, which will be finalized following an internal review and approval process.

As a result of legal training organized by the HRA for staff of residential institutions, persons with disabilities living in residential institutions have increased access to legal aid services to help them resolve legal issues related to representation of persons with disabilities who inherit goods, persons with disabilities with a psychiatric diagnosis and documentation of persons with disabilities.

Furthermore, standards on legal aid for persons with disabilities were developed and are being validated by the National Legal Aid Council. A training for lawyers is planned for 2022.

Mechanisms

M1 – A national mechanism implements and reports on outstanding international human rights commitments in an integrated and participatory manner.

16 17

OHCHR provided support to integrated reporting and/or implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the UPR.

In partnership with the Permanent Human Rights Secretariat, State Chancellery/Government of Moldova, the HRA contributed to increasing awareness about the principles of an HRBA, international human rights mechanisms and mainstreaming the rights of minorities into policy development. Capacity-development was supported through the training of 60 representatives from State institutions, including relevant ministries, local public authorities and local structures of the National Human Rights Council.

In partnership with the Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme, the State Chancellery of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the HRA trained 20 representatives from State institutions to strengthen their knowledge of the Convention against Torture and its reporting process. The training also led to the development of the State Party response to the list of issues prior to reporting issued by CAT.

With support from the HRA, the Permanent Human Rights Secretariat initiated consultations on the National Report of the Republic of Moldova for the 3rd cycle of the UPR and the status of implementation of the National Human

Rights Action Plan (NHRAP). More specifically, the HRA engaged approximately 100 representatives of State entities, NHRIs, CSOs and development partners in consultations that sought to analyse progress in the field of human rights and identify priorities for future interventions to strengthen the implementation of human rights at the national level.

Following two online training sessions on human rights monitoring that were conducted by the HRA and the Permanent Human Rights Secretariat, more than 100 representatives from local structures of the Moldova National Human Rights Council increased their awareness about the international and national human rights monitoring system and their roles and responsibilities in promoting the respect, protection and fulfilment of human rights as local human rights coordinators and representatives of local human rights commissions.

With the support of the HRA, an inclusive consultation was held by the Human Rights Secretariat of the State Chancellery and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection to discuss progress achieved, ongoing challenges to the implementation of recommendations issued by the CEDAW Committee and additional priorities to ensure their implementation. More than 80 participants took part in the consultations, including State authorities, NHRIs, CSOs and development partners.

Participation

P6 – Vulnerable rights-holders, notably persons with disabilities, participate more fully and frequently in the drafting of public policy and legislation, including by taking public office.



The Office supported the meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes.

The HRA strengthened the capacity and knowledge of 30 CSOs (22 women, eight men) representing 16 CSOs from the Transnistria region on human rights, the rights of vulnerable groups and the local and international human rights framework. This was made possible through participation in 11 training of trainers webinars, 17 small thematic group webinars and four study visits of experienced CSOs and municipal institutions on the right bank. As a result, participants undertook initiatives to promote and advocate for the rights of vulnerable rights-holders (persons with disabilities, survivors of domestic violence, Roma, people living with HIV). As part of these initiatives, they submitted advocacy papers to duty-bearers, drafted collective claims on integrating provisions of CRPD into the local regulatory framework and produced media publications and informational sessions for rights-holders.

Additionally, the HRA facilitated the participation of CSOs and vulnerable rights-holders (persons with disabilities, Roma, ethno-linguistic minorities) in the evaluation of the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

MONTENEGRO

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
0.63 million	114,000 km ²	0.829 (rank: 48/189 in 2020)	B Status (2016)
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser		
Year established	2021		
Field office(s)	Podgorica		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2017-2022		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	1		

XB requirements 2021 **US\$234,000**



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Non-discrimination

ND8 – The new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2023-2027) fully integrates the human rights-based approach and furthers the Leave No One Behind commitment outlined in the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

10 16 17

OHCHR contributed to the integration into the UN common country programmes of international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

The HRA contributed to the integration of human rights elements into the CCA. The HRA led the drafting of the CCA’s human rights chapter and co-led the Results Group on democratic governance. The CCA details the challenges

being faced by marginalized groups in exercising key civil, economic and social rights and root causes thereof. An agreement was reached with the Government on the UNSDCF’s overarching outcomes, which include an increased emphasis on the promotion and protection of human rights. Other outcomes relate to human rights issues within the economic, environmental, social protection, education, health and labour spheres, with a focus on marginalized groups.

In mid-December, the UNCT adopted an internal action plan to combat hate speech under the UN Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech. Drafted under the leadership of the HRA, the Plan of Action will promote respect for principles of non-discrimination, address discrimination against particular groups and encourage the implementation of recommendations issued by CEDAW, CERD and CRPD in 2017. It will be implemented in 2022-2023.

Peace and Security

PS5 – Human rights information and analyses are integrated into early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policymaking, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflict.

3 5 8 10 15 16 17

OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of human rights into the humanitarian response.

Through the monitoring and analysis of incidents and trends of divisive speech, hate speech and hate crime and gaps in the legal and policy framework, the HRA supported discussions and public advocacy of the RC, the UNCT and in the context of missions undertaken by the OSAPG and the DPPA. Discussions were held with the Prime Minister and other members of the Government, the President’s Office, Members of Parliament, the NHRI and civil society, including religious leaders and the media. Overall, there is a concern that hate speech has increased and combined with a lack of dialogue, this poses a risk to the current stability in the country.

PS6 – United Nations’ support to national and regional security forces, law enforcement agencies and non-State actors integrates human rights and complies with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.

5

OHCHR provided support to the UN to integrate international human rights norms, standards and principles into their work and ensure their compliance with the HRDDP.

With support from the HRA, the UNCT adopted a standard operating procedure, in November, on the implementation of the HRDDP in Montenegro. Six resident and non-resident agencies that support the police, migration officers, the army and the prison service agreed to conduct a joint preliminary risk assessment, in 2022, of all institutions that are currently receiving UN support.

Mechanisms

M3 – Policymakers and legislators make use of outcomes issued by international and regional human rights mechanisms (strategy on inclusion of persons with disabilities, media legislation).

5 16

The number of selected policy areas where the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards has significantly increased.

With support and inputs from the HRA, UNICEF, UNDP, UNHCR and IOM, the Government adopted the new Roma and Egyptian Inclusion Strategy for 2021-2025. The Strategy draws upon recommendations issued by the UPR, CRC, CEDAW, CERD and CRPD to combat discrimination and negative social attitudes, improve access to education, undertake measures to combat child marriage and other forms of violence against women and girls, trafficking and forced labour and improve access to health care and employment. Specific measures are included to strengthen standards related to non-discrimination, an adequate standard of living, education, health, employment, housing, social protection, political participation and legal identity.

The HRA, UNICEF and UNDP also provided the Government with technical support to facilitate the integration of key UN human rights recommendations and indicators into a draft strategy on the promotion of equality and the protection of persons with disabilities from discrimination. The strategy is based on CRPD and seeks to implement recommendations issued by its committee, in 2017, regarding health, education, social protection, accessibility to information, infrastructure and enhanced monitoring. UNDP

provided the Department on Disability in the Ministry of Justice, Human and Minority Rights with a national consultant to support the design of the strategy.

Members of the Roma and Egyptian communities, as well as persons with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities, the NHRI, UN agencies and other representatives of the international community, participated in the development of both strategies.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
145.91 million	17,098,000 km ²	0.824 (rank: 52/189 in 2019)	Status A (2021)
Type of engagement	Human rights staff (Other type of field presence)		
Year established	2008		
Field office(s)	Moscow		
UN partnership framework	-		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	5		

XB requirements 2021 **US\$926,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P6 – Human rights higher education programmes are expanded and institutionalized in the Russian Federation and selected Commonwealth of Independent States countries.



OHCHR contributed to improving the narrative on human rights by raising awareness about and integrating human rights into university curricula across the Russian Federation.

OHCHR continued to support the Consortium, which developed and published a co-authored Glossary on Human Rights for students enrolled in the multidisciplinary Human Rights Master's Programme. The curricula were strengthened with the publication of four case law textbooks: *Decisions of the European Court of Human Rights*;

International protection of the rights of children; Business and human rights; and the International protection of social, economic and cultural rights.

OHCHR regularly provided publications and reference materials related to human rights protection to the resource centres of Consortium universities in five regions of Russia, including Moscow. In addition, information on COVID-19 was regularly shared with the universities that are part of the Consortium. The pool of OHCHR communication resources around the COVID-19 response and its impact was integrated into online platforms and used as a resource by Russian universities.

Despite COVID-19-related restrictions, OHCHR was able to organize the annual Summer School in Kazan City. The Summer School is an integral part of the Human Rights Master's Programme, with a thematic focus on youth engagement

with human rights. The main partners were the Kazan Federal University and the Office of the Ombudsperson of the Republic of Tatarstan, with support from the Government of Tatarstan. The week-long event brought together 130 students from universities in eight regions of Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States. Participants had the opportunity to interact with 30 lecturers from eight countries (hybrid format of in-person and online), including eminent national and international professors, practitioners, human rights defenders and four UN experts. Participants also benefited from lectures delivered by the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Commissioner for Human Rights in the Russian Federation, members of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, as well as representatives of UN agencies in Russia. The Summer School was bilingual (Russian and English) with an interactive approach. Theoretical lectures were supported by experience-sharing workshops. The programme featured two interactive panel discussions that were led by Ombudspersons from three regions (St. Petersburg, Perm region and the Republic of Tatarstan, and representatives of UN agencies (IOM, FAO, UNIC, OHCHR). A moot court competition was held in partnership with the Plaider les Droits de l'Homme of Strasbourg. A total of five teams of Consortium students participated in the competition. The final round was held in the Supreme Court of the Republic of Tatarstan.

OHCHR provided support to ensure that national partners had access to international expertise by inviting students and teaching staff to human rights-related webinars and conferences. During the reporting period, students attended eight webinars. Five of the webinars focused on development issues and the SDGs and three focused

on international humanitarian law and the importance of the updated International Committee of the Red Cross Commentaries on the four Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols.

The research visits of the Consortium students and their participation in the Venice School of Human Rights, as well as the scheduled internships in State ministries, were cancelled due to the pandemic. Nevertheless, the total number of enrolled students in 2021 was 82 (33 women, 49 men) and 75 students (39 women, 36 men) graduated from the programme.

In 2021, the Consortium approved the accession of two new members, namely, the Southern Federal University (Rostov) and the Siberian Federal University (Krasnoyarsk), thereby expanding the project to Siberia and the South of Russia.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – National human rights institutions and CSOs significantly strengthen their anti-discrimination work, with a particular focus on domestic violence, gender equality, disability and the rights of indigenous peoples, in compliance with international human rights standards.

5 10 16

OHCHR contributed to increasing awareness about the compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights standards in relation to the rights of women, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities.

In cooperation with the Federal Office of the Ombudsperson and the Centre for Human Rights Education, OHCHR organized in October a workshop on the international human rights mechanisms for newly appointed regional human

rights commissioners. The workshop, held in a hybrid format, focused on strengthening the national human rights protection system using international human rights instruments and mechanisms. The workshop also included the functioning of treaty bodies as effective mechanisms in addressing human rights protection issues, with a focus on discrimination and the work of CERD. More than 80 participants attended the event, including human rights commissioners and their staff, from 25 regions in Russia. The personnel of the National Centre on Human Rights, operating within the Office of the Ombudsman in the Republic of Kazakhstan, participated in the event online.

In cooperation with the Moscow City Ombudsperson and the Forum of Moscow Women, an NGO promoting women's movements, OHCHR organized a roundtable on "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world," on the occasion of International Women's Day. The event was held in a hybrid format at the Moscow State Centre of Medical-Social Rehabilitation. Participants focused on the leading role of women who are at the forefront of the battle against COVID-19 and its regressive impacts in different areas, including health care, social protection, education, labour, access to information and countering domestic violence. A CEDAW member, Ms. Dalia Leinarte, was one of the key speakers and spoke about women, political leadership and related challenges. The WHO representative stressed the value of applying the lessons learned during the pandemic to improve the quality of medical and social assistance. Participants included representatives from the Moscow City Parliament, the Minister of Social Protection of the Moscow City Government, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as women human rights

defenders, civic activists, representatives of the business community and members of academia. Media coverage and outcomes of the event were posted on the official websites of the Moscow City Parliament, the Federal Ombudsperson and the Moscow City Ombudsperson.

Due to the pandemic, the planned Moscow component of the Indigenous Fellowship Programme had to be postponed. The Russian e-learning tool on the rights of indigenous peoples was finalized. OHCHR also assisted with the proofreading of the Russian translation of the Annotated Checklist for UN Programming, which was prepared by the UN Network on Racial Discrimination and Minority Protection.

Finally, OHCHR disseminated information through social media platforms about human rights, including challenges faced by vulnerable groups. Racial equality and the #FightRacism campaign, as well as women's rights and the #IStandWithHer and #16Days campaigns, were featured in more than 30 posts. Eight posts were dedicated to the rights of indigenous peoples and seven posts referred to the SDGs. 30 posts were dedicated to speeches made by the High Commissioner for Human Rights, which included the cross-cutting themes of equality and non-discrimination. In December, OHCHR celebrated Human Rights Day by organizing several events and widely disseminating information related to its core theme "Reducing inequalities, advancing human rights."

Mechanisms

M2 – Awareness and knowledge about the use of the international human rights mechanisms increased among NHRIs and government representatives.

17

OHCHR contributed to enhancing awareness and the use of the international human rights mechanisms, including through capacity-building and outreach activities.

OHCHR continued to increase the awareness of the staff of the Office of the Ombudsperson about the functioning of the international human rights mechanisms. In cooperation with the Federal Office of the Ombudsperson in Russia, OHCHR organized a hybrid workshop for approximately 80 ombudspersons and their staff from 25 regions of Russia and Kazakhstan. The participants benefited from interactive learning sessions and exchanges with OHCHR officials, the former Chair of CERD and a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Topics of discussion included interactions between the NHRIs and the international human rights mechanisms, the consideration of individual complaints by the human rights treaty bodies, the Paris Principles and OHCHR tools to prevent and combat all forms of discrimination.

To increase awareness about the international human rights mechanisms among the general public and to promote the implementation of their outcomes, OHCHR maintained the Russian version of OHCHR's website. OHCHR facilitated the translation of media materials, including press releases, statements issued by the High Commissioner for Human Rights and documents issued by the special procedures in relation to racism, recovering

better, women's rights, climate change and youth. OHCHR ensured the regular distribution of new materials through social media.

OHCHR continued using its Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts to raise awareness on human rights issues, OHCHR's activities and international human rights instruments and mechanisms, with a particular focus on reaching youth. The platforms count more than 3,500 followers and approximately 100 posts were published during the year.

OHCHR continued creating digital media products that included UN Human Rights documents and publications for dissemination among Russian-speaking audiences and stakeholders. In addition, a total of 150 memory sticks containing useful resources were distributed to national partners. OHCHR updated the compilation of UN documentation on women's rights and gender issues, which is available in Russian, and distributed 50 memory sticks containing this information to various stakeholders, including CSOs, federal and regional human rights commissioners, journalists and academia. Approximately 200 leaflets on the SDGs and their links to human rights were designed and produced by OHCHR and disseminated to national partners and students of the Human Rights Master's Programme. Due to the pandemic and the shift of most events to online formats, there were fewer opportunities for the dissemination of materials. Nevertheless, at least four press releases and statements delivered by the High Commissioner for Human Rights and UN experts were shared with UN agencies and national partners. Four articles about OHCHR's activities were published in the UN in Russia Bulletin and distributed to Russian partners and State institutions. Nearly

100 posts were circulated on OHCHR's social media channels (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram).

During its eightieth session, the CEDAW Committee considered Russia's ninth periodic report. In anticipation of this consideration, OHCHR submitted the UN Gender Theme Group report on Russia. The Committee reflected some of the concerns identified in that report in its concluding observations.

OHCHR supported the twenty-seventh annual International Film Festival on Human Rights, "Stalker," which opened on 10 December, Human Rights Day, with a video message from the High Commissioner for Human Rights. OHCHR participated in the closing ceremony of the Festival and awarded a special prize to one of the documentaries.

Development

D2 – Business actors effectively implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs).

1 2 3 5 8 9 13 16 17

OHCHR continued promoting the UNGPs. In October, OHCHR participated in the Social Forum on the Role of Responsible Business in Achieving Sustainable Development, organized by the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (RSPP). The Forum combined in-person and virtual discussions, which enabled the attendance of a greater number of participants from different regions of Russia. Speakers included ministers and deputy ministers of key development ministries, including the Ministry of Economic Development, the Ministry of Industry, the Ministry of Labour and senior management from

leading companies and the financial services sector. OHCHR's intervention focused on the UNGPs as an international standard for business in the context of the SDGs. Emphasis was placed on the joint OHCHR-RSPP compilation and publication of successful corporate practices of Russian business covering human rights and business and its connection with the SDGs. The representative of the RSPP welcomed the role of OHCHR and the national Global Compact Network in building partnerships to develop and disseminate good practices that address the corporate responsibility to respect human rights.

The Office assisted the Global Compact National Network to prepare and submit to the Grant Committee a grant proposal for a project entitled "Support for the establishment of business and human rights community of practices in the Russian Federation." The project was launched at a gala event during the Global Compact annual meeting that took place at the Public Chamber of Russia. The meeting marked the twentieth anniversary of the Global Compact and the tenth anniversary of the UNGPs. Participants included senior government officials, senior managers of leading companies and representatives of the media and civil society.

In February, OHCHR collaborated with the FAO Liaison Office for Russia and the Global Compact National Network to co-organize the Second Cooperation Forum entitled "SDGs: Instruments for business practices." The Forum, held in Moscow, combined in-person and virtual discussions to promote widespread participation across the country. The event was supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Economic Development. Speakers included Anatoly

Chubais, Special Representative of the President of Russia, who spoke about relations with international organizations for achieving the SDGs; Sergey Vershinin, Deputy Foreign Minister; the Ambassadors of Switzerland and Great Britain to Russia; and senior managers of companies that are members of the Global Compact. The audience included representatives of State institutions, UN agencies, CSOs, various companies, business associations and unions, academics and leaders of working groups that prepared Russia's VNR. OHCHR organized a special session on the tenth anniversary of the UNGPs. During the session, Ms. Elzbieta Karska, member of the UN Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, gave a presentation on UNGPs as an international standard for business in the context of the SDGs. OHCHR stressed the importance of promoting UNGPs among Russian companies through cooperation with the Global Compact and all relevant stakeholders. The participants welcomed the role of OHCHR and the Global Compact National Network in building partnerships and strengthening efforts to develop and disseminate good practices that address the corporate responsibility to respect human rights.

In July, OHCHR participated in the working session of the Global Compact National Network in the city of Kazan and delivered a presentation on the tenth anniversary of the UNGPs at the thematic panel on "Business and human rights."

D7 – State actors integrate human rights, including the right to development and the outcomes of the international human rights mechanisms, as they implement the SDGs and other development and poverty eradication efforts. The UN supports them in these actions and integrates human rights into its own development work.

OHCHR contributed to the application of a human rights-based approach to development planning and implementation that complies with international human rights norms, standards and principles.

In the context of the Summer School on Human Rights, OHCHR cooperated with the Federal Ombudsperson and the Ombudsperson in the Republic of Tatarstan to co-organize a roundtable entitled "The role of human rights commissioners in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals." The Deputy Ministers of Labour and Social Protection, Ecology and Natural Resources, Construction and Architecture and Health informed the audience about the implementation of the SDGs and spoke about the report *Regions of Russia and Sustainable development goals - Republic of Tatarstan*, presented at UN Headquarters in 2020. Participants also included human rights commissioners from the Volga Federal Okrug, the Director of the United Nations Information Centre and CSOs from Tatarstan. The Federal Ombudsperson paid special attention to the role of human rights commissioners as the guarantors of the SDGs, particularly in relation to achieving SDG 16.

In October, OHCHR also led a workshop for representatives of the Office of the Ombudsperson in the Perm region on "Human rights and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development." The purpose of the event was to promote a human

rights-based agenda that was grounded in the SDGs in order to support the objectives of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB), eliminating discrimination and reducing inequality. Participants included 20 staff members of the Office of the Ombudsperson (15 women, five men). They were provided with tools to identify synergies between human rights and SDG reporting while also taking into account the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. Participants reaffirmed that NHRIs have a responsibility to foster opportunities for collaboration, partnerships and synergies in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to engage with key stakeholders at the local level, including authorities, representatives of the business community, academia, NGOs and civil society. The pilot workshop for NHRIs will be replicated in other regions to give increased visibility to the connection between the SDGs and human rights and to strengthen the role of NHRIs in fulfilling the 2030 Agenda.

SERBIA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
8.7 million	88,580 km ²	0.806 (rank: 64/189 in 2019)	A Status (2021)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		1996	
Field office(s)		Belgrade	
UN partnership framework		UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2021-2025)	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		4	

XB requirements 2021

US\$568,000

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P6 – Organizations of persons with disabilities, organizations of national minorities and other human rights CSOs are more visible, consistently included in relevant policy and decision-making and engage more frequently with the international human rights mechanisms and regarding the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



OHCHR enhanced the level of meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially youth, in selected public processes.

The HRA continued to support, through regular exchanges, the efforts of the Platform of Organizations for Cooperation with UN Human Rights Mechanisms. The Platform prepared and submitted joint reports to the international human rights mechanisms and

interacted with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council. The Platform undertook various communications initiatives, including strategic engagement with authorities and line ministries in relation to policy development and thematic areas of interest, such as prevention of torture, the rights of the child and the rights of persons with disabilities. It also engaged in joint monitoring and advocacy on human rights implementation and accountability. The Platform's other areas of focus included risk mitigation processes, signalling urgent developments, contributing to policy development and thematic exchanges with authorities and the NMRF to jointly follow-up on specific thematic recommendations issued to Serbia by the international human rights mechanisms.

The HRA also delivered a capacity-building training to the 20 leading CSOs of the Platform, at their request, on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the

LNOB principle and linkages with the outcomes of international human rights mechanisms.

Furthermore, the HRA advocated for increased civil society participation in policy development. More specifically, CSO representatives participated in public discussions and working groups that develop legislative and policy documents. Furthermore, the regular “social dialogues” hosted by the Ministry for Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue, supported by the UN, included numerous speakers and interveners representing civil society. OHCHR also supported the active participation of civil society representatives in the work of the State's NMRF. This support included targeted initiatives and thematic sessions, such as on follow-up to outcomes issued by the special procedures and individual complaints considered by the human rights treaty bodies.

Finally, the HRA continued to report on risks and threats faced by civil society, which helped to support the UNCT and the RC in high-level advocacy and risk mitigation actions undertaken with the Government.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – The Government adopts or reforms five policies, laws or practices that prevent or sanction discrimination in a manner that ensures they comply with human rights standards. In doing so, it pays particular attention to the rights of women, persons with disabilities, LGBTI persons, Roma, migrants and refugees.



OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of policies and legislation

with international human rights standards by providing expert legal advice to key partners.

Throughout the year, the HRA provided advisory support for policy development, either directly or through the UNCT. The efforts of the HRA and the UNCT were instrumental in the preparation, discussion and adoption of several policies that are largely compliant with international human rights standards. These policies include the amended Law on the Prohibition of Discrimination, which was widely discussed and resulted in a strengthened anti-discrimination legal framework; the first Action Plan accompanying the National Disability Strategy, which was adopted in 2020 and is generally compliant with the provisions of CRPD; the draft Same Sex Union Law, which was widely shared with the public prior to its adoption; and the baseline and structure for the National Human Rights Strategy and Action Plan, which is currently under public discussion. Expert guidance was also provided for the draft Deinstitutionalization Strategy and the Law on Rights in Social Care Accommodation and the draft Law on Gender Equality.

With the support of the Surge Initiative, the HRA collaborated with the EU Convention of CSOs to produce an innovative tool to mainstream the LNOB principle into policymaking across government sectors. The Ministry for Human Rights is now responsible for maintenance of the tool and its implementation, which will begin in 2022. The tool was also shared with CSOs, public institutions, State experts and UN entities.

Following the move of the NMRF Secretariat from the Office for Human and Minority Rights to the Ministry for Human Rights, the HRA increased its support to the Secretariat's staff to address the risk of institutional memory loss. This included

the development of core staff capacities through their participation in regional OHCHR consultations on the NMRF. In addition, the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD) will be introduced in Serbia in 2022. Several workshops were also delivered on the SDGs, human rights indicators, core standards, reporting and follow-up, and the expansion of the NMRF mandate to include follow-up to the recommendations issued by the special procedures and individual decisions of the human rights treaty bodies.

Furthermore, the HRA focused on building the capacities of CSOs. Specifically, training was provided to increase their capacities to integrate and advocate for the realization of SDGs and mainstream LNOB principles. In addition, at its request, the HRA provided the NHRI with training sessions on monitoring and reporting on economic, social and cultural rights, integrating the 2030 Agenda and including CSOs in their monitoring activities.

Following the publication of the *Report on youth rights in Serbia*, in April, the HRA supported partner CSOs in issuing annual reports on the situation of the human rights of youth and women and on gender equality. Local groups were included in this process. In addition, youth rights defenders and groups prepared and submitted the first youth-specific alternative report on Serbia to CESCR. The HRA supported the Platform of CSOs in submitting its joint alternative reports to CAT and CESCR.

The HRA delivered regular briefings on human rights developments, risks and opportunities to the RC and the UNCT. This informed high-level interventions and advocacy with senior State officials (i.e., the Prime Minister, the Speaker of the Parliament, line ministers) on a wide range of human rights issues, including

threats to civic space and freedom of expression, the human rights implications of COVID-19, divisive and nationalistic narratives and depictions related to war crimes and criminals.

Finally, the HRA led joint advocacy initiatives related to LGBTI equality through a collaborative campaign that consisted of 120 staff and officials from 12 international organizations and embassies in Serbia. The campaign included posts in traditional media outlets and social media that reached several hundred thousand people. The HRA continued to provide contextual analysis on major risks and human rights developments to the UNCT, RC and UN Human Rights headquarters in Geneva, with a view to supporting appropriate actions and responses.

Mechanisms

M1 – The NMRF verifies that recommendations issued by international human rights mechanisms are implemented. The NMRF uses human rights indicators.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to the enhanced functioning of the NMRF and/or the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

The Ministry for Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue was established at the end of 2020 and replaced the Office for Human and Minority Rights. The role of the NMRF Secretariat, which was previously based in the Office for Human and Minority Rights, was not discussed until the second half of 2021. At that time, the HRA initiated in-depth discussions with State Secretaries, Assistant Ministers and expert staff to

enable the NMRF to resume its work and enhance its capacities and performance. As a result, the Line Minister is chairing the NMRF and the Ministry is serving as the Secretariat. The HRA provided several training sessions to staff and decision makers of the Ministry in order to build their capacity and increase their knowledge regarding the role of the NMRF. Further, the NMRF developed a Plan for Recommendations Monitoring that was submitted to the Government for endorsement. The NMRF resumed its regular sessions and thematic discussions with civil society at the end of 2021. A commitment was made to introduce and fully utilize the NRTD as soon as it becomes available. The HRA facilitated sessions between State actors and the CSO Platform to discuss the possible expansion of the NMRF mandate to include follow-up to recommendations issued by the special procedures and human rights treaty bodies.

Accountability

A1 – The judiciary more often and more comprehensively references international human rights law in domestic decisions.

16 

OHCHR promoted the increased use of international human rights law and jurisprudence in court proceedings and decisions by providing technical assistance to the State Judicial Academy.

Over the past few years, trainings were developed and delivered to the judiciary on human rights standards, and the 2018 online database on the Judicial Academy's web portal was updated to support the direct application of international human rights law in judicial proceedings. These actions enabled the HRA to more

effectively support the development and application of case law markers to measure progress.

The HRA initiated this work in partnership with the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court of Cassation and the Judicial Academy. However, finalization of this task was stalled due to the emergence of the pandemic and a consequential shift in priorities. International human rights standards were introduced and applied in different jurisdictions during the reporting period, yet efforts to measure the extent to which these standards are being brought before domestic courts will formally resume in 2022, when the working group reconvenes.

Peace and Security

PS5 – Human rights information and analyses are integrated into early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policymaking, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflicts.

3 5 8 10 13 16 17 

OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of human rights into the humanitarian response.

The HRA supported the process of strengthening the UNCT's skills and knowledge about transitional justice through several actions and initiatives. Specifically, the HRA provided consistent analysis and updates to the RC and UN entities on transitional justice-related developments and risks on the ground, with an emphasis on local and national implications, as well as implications for the Western Balkans subregion more

broadly. In addition, the HRA initiated an informal Task Force on Transitional Justice under the UNCT Result Group on the Rule of Law and Human Rights to prompt immediate action by UN entities.

Furthermore, on behalf of the RC, the HRA facilitated the country visit of the Secretary-General's Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, in November 2021. This included the preparation of substantive documents and analysis, advisory assistance and support when meeting with counterparts and civil society representatives. As a follow-up to this visit, the UNCT developed an action plan on combating hate speech.

The HRA also hosted a discussion related to the visits of the DPPA from November to December 2021 and in January 2022 and extended expert support to the UNCT in preparing a mid-term plan of action to strengthen its intervening role in the area of transitional justice.

Finally, the HRA supported the strategic communication and advocacy efforts of the RC and the UNCT on critical developments regarding an increase in nationalistic narratives on the ground, the denial of atrocity crimes and public depictions glorifying atrocity crimes and war criminals.

SOUTH CAUCASUS

Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser (based in Georgia); Human rights staff (based in UNCT Azerbaijan)
Countries of engagement	Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia
Year established	2007
Field office(s)	Baku (Azerbaijan) and Tbilisi (Georgia)
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025 (Armenia); United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025 (Azerbaijan); United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025 (Georgia)
Staff as of 31 December 2021	11

XB requirements 2021

US\$965,000

Key OMP pillars in 2021



PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – The National Human Rights Action Plan in Georgia continues to comply with international human rights standards and is periodically updated to reflect recommendations issued by the international and regional human rights mechanisms. The High School of Justice, the police academy and the Legal Affairs Committee in Parliament, as well as the Bar Association and its Training Centre in Georgia, deepen their knowledge of international human rights standards.

16

OHCHR supported the capacity-development of national institutions and programmes to enhance their knowledge

on HRBA and to contribute to achieving SDG 16.

In Georgia, the HRA strengthened the capacity of the State Inspector Service and supported the advancement of policies, laws and practices that enhance independence of the Service, especially with regard to investigations of alleged human rights violations committed by law enforcement agencies. Following the findings of a study supported by the HRA, a package of legislative changes was submitted to the Parliament of Georgia for endorsement. The State Inspector Service was, however, unexpectedly abolished by the Parliament, in December. Together with UNDP, the HRA co-organized a two-day meeting of the State Inspector

Service with the Public Defender's Office (the NHRI to enable senior officials and staff from both institutions to understand the mandate and methods of work of their respective institutions, develop a methodology for documenting complaints and establish a formal communication process between the two institutions.

The HRA provided support and advocacy to the Ministry of Justice related to legislative reform of the criminal code and the development of a definition of torture in line with international standards. The Office also cooperated with the Ministry of Justice to establish a national mechanism for supporting the rehabilitation of victims of torture and other ill-treatment. The HRA undertook a study on the existence of rehabilitation systems for victims of torture in different countries that was used as an advocacy tool to encourage the Government to make a policy decision on the creation of such a mechanism.

At the request of the Government, the HRA provided expert advice on the preparation of a Human Rights Strategy and an accompanying National Action Plan. The Strategy and Action Plan are being finalized and are expected to be adopted in 2022.

Accountability

A5 – The UN assistance efforts in the justice sector of the South Caucasus substantially integrate international norms and standards and the processes for discussing these issues are further institutionalized by the UN and governments of the region.

16

OHCHR contributed to mainstreaming human rights into UN common country programmes in the subregion.

In **Azerbaijan**, OHCHR continued raising awareness about the negative impacts of COVID-19 on the human rights of vulnerable groups and recommended action to be taken by national stakeholders. OHCHR delivered two trainings to 48 representatives, including 29 women, from CSOs and bar associations in Baku and the regions (Ganja, Mingachevir, Sabirabad and Salyan).

OHCHR continued to participate in meetings organized by OCHA and the UNCT in Azerbaijan to coordinate humanitarian actions undertaken by UN agencies and national actors in response to the armed conflict of 2020. OHCHR and UN agencies provided legal assistance and psychosocial counselling services for populations in the conflict-affected regions, distributed relief items among conflict-affected persons and supported national authorities in demining and other activities. OHCHR also held briefings for governmental and development agencies on the legal services being delivered through OHCHR-run programmes for persons residing in conflict-affected regions, including the Barda and Ganja regions.

OHCHR participated in the development of the joint workplans of the United

Nations UNSDCF 2021-2025. In doing so, it ensured the inclusion of two key activities that will contribute to the achievement of an UNSDCF output on strengthening national policies and mechanisms to promote and protect human rights, increase access to justice and participatory mechanisms and sustain social cohesion by 2025.

Through participation in meetings of the Taskforce of the UN Azerbaijan and State Statistical Committee on SDG Monitoring and Reporting, OHCHR provided governmental and UN agencies with an overview of its publication *Human rights indicators tables: Updated with SDG indicators*. The publication provides guidance on how to use human rights indicators to measure progress in the implementation of human rights standards, including by taking SDG indicators into account. OHCHR also contributed to the development of a guidebook entitled *Data disaggregation for SDGs*, which identifies current challenges to data disaggregation in Azerbaijan and aims to strengthen the expertise of national institutions in producing disaggregated data related to the SDGs, in accordance with good practices.

Furthermore, OHCHR provided the National Coordination Council of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Sustainable Development with detailed information about recommended country-specific human rights tools and data for applying a HRBA in the preparation of Azerbaijan's Voluntary National Review of SDG progress in 2021.

In **Georgia**, the HRA provided advice on human rights to the five UN entities working in-country (UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, WHO and UN Women), which collaborated to implement a project on the rights of persons with disabilities.

The HRA also led the UN Human Rights Thematic Group, actively participated in updating the CCA and led the UNCT's advocacy efforts to encourage the Government of Georgia to accept key recommendations, including in relation to the justice sector, that were issued during the third cycle of the UPR. In July 2021, the Government announced that it had accepted all of the recommendations that were highlighted by the UNCT.

In **Armenia**, OHCHR participated in the formulation of the UNSDCF, which was signed in 2021, to ensure that human rights would be mainstreamed into UNSDCF's Outcome 6.

Participation

P4 – In at least one country, persons with disabilities make increasing use of national protection systems.

8 16 

OHCHR helped to increase the capacity of legal professionals and CSOs to protect the rights of persons with disabilities in accordance with international standards.

In **Azerbaijan**, OHCHR launched a new three-year project with the aim of protecting the human rights of vulnerable groups. Within the framework of this project, OHCHR will deliver systematic capacity-building programmes on a wide range of critical human rights topics and will ensure continued support for the engagement of the national actors in international and national human rights advocacy. The project will also contribute to improved access to justice for vulnerable groups by advocating for the establishment of a civil legal aid system in the country and the extension of free legal aid to members of vulnerable groups and

other persons affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In cooperation with the Ombudsperson and the Bar Association, OHCHR provided legal assistance to members of vulnerable groups in Baku and other regions and built on the developing pro bono culture among private legal professionals. The Office extended the provision of this assistance to the five regions of Azerbaijan on a permanent basis. As a result, 1,549 individuals (719 women, 830 men) from vulnerable groups benefited from legal assistance in 2021. The cases primarily focused on women's rights, housing rights, social security rights, labour rights and administrative law.

To support the launch of an advocacy campaign and coordinate efforts for the increased access of vulnerable groups to civil legal aid, OHCHR established a working group composed of national experts from the Azerbaijani Bar Association, the Parliament, CSOs and the Office of the Ombudsperson. Following focused discussions with these experts, as well as representatives from the Ministry of Justice, legal practitioners and academic institutions, OHCHR prepared a set of recommendations and findings.

OHCHR continued cooperating with the Bar Association and provided support to their capacity-building programme for newly admitted members of the Bar. In 2021, OHCHR delivered 10 trainings for 119 lawyers, including 54 women, on the international human rights system. During these trainings, OHCHR raised the awareness of lawyers regarding the core principles and obligations provided in various human rights treaties, including CEDAW, CRC, CRPD and ICRMW. Support was also provided to local district branches of the Bar Association through the delivery of over 300 copies of human

rights educational materials and publications in the Azerbaijani language.

In **Georgia**, the HRA conducted knowledge-building activities for various groups to assist with the protection of the rights of victims of human rights violations. In partnership with the Georgian Bar Association, the HRA conducted a series of trainings for lawyers. A total of 80 practicing defence lawyers, 45 of whom were women, were trained on the right to life, the prevention of torture, and non-discrimination.

Moreover, the HRA supported civil society inclusiveness in the process of establishing a coordination mechanism for the implementation of CRPD and advocated for ensuring that the voices of civil society and OPDs were heard at the government level.

Non-discrimination

ND3 – Legal and social frameworks increasingly promote the autonomy and choices of women and girls and protect them from violence, including in the digital space.

5 9 10 

OHCHR contributed to strengthening the UNCT's efforts to promote the autonomy and choices of women and girls and protect them from violence.

In **Azerbaijan**, OHCHR and the RC co-organized an awareness-raising event on women's rights to commemorate International Women's Day. The event brought together 48 representatives, including 35 women, from CSOs and members of bar associations. The objective was to raise awareness about the international legal framework on women's rights and increase attention regarding

key challenges to women's access to justice in Azerbaijan.

OHCHR joined the RC and UN agencies to mark the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign. The 2021 campaign focused on building alliances with men and boys in an effort to address GBV under the message "Stop violence against women." OHCHR provided support to the United Nations Gender Theme Group (GTG) to conduct a number of events. As was the case in previous years, OHCHR ensured that contact information for free legal assistance in Baku and the regions were displayed at all events and widely disseminated throughout the campaign.

OHCHR participated in the GTG session, which explored opportunities for UN joint programming and fundraising on gender mainstreaming activities. The Office emphasized the importance of access to justice for victims of GBV and provided information on its free legal assistance in Baku and the regions for vulnerable groups, including victims of GBV. Furthermore, with support from the GTG, a training on Gender Equality Markers was delivered to UN staff and implementing partners. Emphasis was placed on gender transformative monitoring and evaluation and reporting processes to ensure that gender mainstreaming is properly integrated into planning and implementation activities. OHCHR also provided substantive inputs to the UNCT confidential submission to CEDAW, in anticipation of its consideration of Azerbaijan's sixth periodic report.

ND7 – Officials, journalists, lawyers and university and high school students increasingly advocate for and work to create inclusive and diverse societies.

5 10 16

OHCHR contributed to increasing the level of engagement of selected groups on human rights messages in support for equal, inclusive, and diverse societies without discrimination.

In **Azerbaijan**, OHCHR launched the second phase of its joint programme with the legal department of the Baku State University to finalize a new human rights curriculum for the Master's Programme at Baku State University. The University launched the new human rights curriculum in January 2022 and introduced a number of courses related to international human rights law, including the international human rights system, international human rights obligations, regional human rights systems, women's rights and the rights of the child, business and human rights, freedom of information and expression, freedom of thought, conscience and religion and the Internet and human rights. OHCHR also supported the development of a textbook on the theory and practice of human rights in Azerbaijani and English. The textbook will serve as one of the fundamental teaching materials in the Bachelor's and Master's Programmes in Human Rights at the University and will be made available to other academic institutions teaching human rights in the country.

In cooperation with the RC and UNFPA, OHCHR delivered a seminar for 16 representatives from national CSOs and lawyers on the impacts of COVID-19 on women's rights and gender equality. The seminar raised the awareness of participants on the core documents and statements issued by CEDAW and OHCHR on the heightened

risks of GBV and discrimination faced by women during the pandemic.

In **Georgia**, the HRA participated in preliminary discussions and the drafting of the 10-year State Strategy for Civic Equality and Integration, which seeks to bring about equality for Georgia's ethnic minorities. OHCHR advocated for the alignment of the Strategy with international and regional human rights standards. The Strategy was adopted at the end of 2021.

Some progress was made regarding respect for the rights of LGBTI persons. For the first time, the Government of Georgia issued documents to a person who underwent sex reassignment surgery. Furthermore, in collaboration with UNDP, the European Union Delegation in Georgia, the Government of Georgia and the Public Defender, the HRA organized a human rights forum and the first public discussion in Georgia's history on the rights of LGBTI persons.

ND8 – The UN system implements a coherent and human rights-based response to inequality and discrimination, including intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination.

10 16 17

OHCHR supported a coherent human rights-based approach in relation to protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).

In **Azerbaijan**, OHCHR led the implementation of the training component of UNCT's 2020 Action Plan on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. As a result, OHCHR facilitated the delivery of four trainings for over 120 UN staff members on different aspects of PSEA, including the prevention and management

of risks of sexual exploitation and abuse, the application of the UN's PSEA standards at the national level, the referral of victims for medical, psychosocial and legal support, the responsibilities of PSEA focal points and the functioning of PSEA community-based complaints mechanisms. In addition, OHCHR and other UN PSEA focal points developed an inter-agency PSEA community-based reporting mechanism, which will ensure a collective in-country approach to preventing and responding to sexual exploitation and abuse. Furthermore, on 18 November, OHCHR and the UNCT PSEA team delivered a training for partner CSOs on key UN policies relating to PSEA and the role of those partners in preventing sexual exploitation and abuse. As a result, over 55 members and leaders of partner CSOs received guidance on developing their own PSEA action plans and conducting PSEA assessments. Information was also provided on a range of measures and tools that are recommended by the UN to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and abuse.

UKRAINE

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
43.47 million	604,000 km ²	0.779 (rank: 74/189 in 2019)	Status A (2019)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Monitoring/Mission (HRMMU)	
Year established		2014	
Field office(s)		Kyiv; field offices in Donetsk, Kharkiv, Kramatorsk, Luhansk, Mariupol and Odesa	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Partnership Framework 2018-2022	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		41	
XB income		US\$6,227,925	
XB requirements 2021		US\$7,226,000	
XB expenditure		US\$5,319,595	
Personnel		Non-personnel PSC ⁴	
81%		10% 9%	
\$4,294,663		\$526,522 \$498,410	

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Peace and Security

PS3 – State authorities adopt and implement laws and programmes to prevent sexual violence from occurring in the context of conflict, violence and insecurity and investigate and prosecute allegations of sexual violence.

16

OHCHR helped to strengthen oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms to ensure their compliance with international human rights standards by monitoring CRSV.

The HRMMU began human rights monitoring and research to determine the extent of domestic violence occurring in the armed group-controlled territory. Women living in conflict-affected areas on both sides of the contact line were found to be at higher risk of domestic violence due to a lack of security, a high military presence, impunity for perpetrators and economic hardship. Following amendments to Ukrainian legislation on domestic violence in 2018, women and girls in government-controlled territory have access to protective measures that are unavailable to women and girls in armed group-controlled territory. In areas of the

Donetsk and Luhansk regions that are controlled by armed groups, older legislation and policies inspired by the Russian Federation's legal approach to domestic violence is in force.

The HRMMU monitoring identified a severe shortage of shelters and support services for victims of domestic violence in this territory. Activists are unable to carry out their work due to a fear of being accused of espionage for accepting assistance and funding from international organizations. Those who remain in armed group-controlled territory do so in secret and at great personal risk to their safety and liberty. The HRMMU reported publicly and briefed interlocutors on the situation.

The HRMMU also contributed to developing a List of Early Warning Indicators on conflict-related sexual violence. The document was prepared with UN Women, at the request of the Government Commissioner for Gender Equality Policy, in accordance with the second Ukrainian National Action Plan for the Implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security.

In cooperation with the OHCHR Women's Rights and Gender Section and UN Women, the HRMMU continued to assess the situation of women human rights defenders (WHRDs) in Ukraine. This involved workshops, research, thematic webinars and briefings throughout 2021. For instance, the HRMMU held a series of webinars for over 40 WHRDs aimed at enhancing their engagement with the special procedures, as part of the Mission's international advocacy efforts to promote and protect women's rights and gender equality, combat online violence against women and strengthen engagement and collaboration between WHRDs.

In 2022, the HRMMU will build on these initiatives, in partnership with WHRDs, the UNCT, the Government and other relevant stakeholders.

The Mission also undertook advocacy to improve protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). As a result of consistent joint advocacy undertaken by the HRMMU, diplomatic corps and civil society, the HRMMU has seen a progressive improvement in the policing of peaceful LGBTI assemblies in large cities across the country. In the past, the police failed to adequately respond to violent actions from counterdemonstrators or provided insufficient security to participants before and after assemblies where they were violently attacked. In 2021, all pride events, in particular LGBTI equality marches in Kyiv, Kharkiv, Odesa and Kryvyi Rih, were successfully secured by law enforcement.

Peace and Security

PS3 – State authorities and non-State actors promote and protect the human rights of populations living in territories affected by conflict.

16 

OHCHR supported compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards..

OHCHR continued monitoring the human rights situation in Ukraine, including Crimea, and regularly updated all relevant stakeholders, such as national authorities, CSOs and the international community through two periodic and two thematic reports on Ukraine, a thematic report on arbitrary detention, torture and ill-treatment in the context of armed

conflict in eastern Ukraine and a second thematic report on civic space.

The HRMMU also issued a briefing paper on enforced disappearances in Crimea and drafted two Secretary-General reports on human rights in Crimea. The HRMMU continued documenting individual cases of human rights violations in Crimea, including cases of torture/ill-treatment and civic space restrictions, and continued supporting human rights defenders from Crimea through capacity-building activities and direct assistance. Following OHCHR's coordinated advocacy with other stakeholders, the Parliament repealed legislation, which assigned "non-resident taxpayer" status to persons originating from Crimea and residents of mainland Ukraine with a Crimean address listed on their passport. The Russian Federation adopted a resolution that cancelled the so-called "one-time crossing rule," which was introduced as a travel restriction during the pandemic.

The HRMMU kept national and international partners informed about the human cost of the conflict through public reports, monthly updates and ad hoc updates and briefings. More specifically, the HRMMU maintained a comprehensive record of conflict-related civilian casualties in Ukraine. The record reflected data disaggregated by sex, age, place of incident, control over the place of the incident and the weapon(s) used/type of incident.

The HRMMU's monitoring and reporting efforts were strengthened by robust advocacy that facilitated several breakthroughs, including confidential access to detainees in armed group-controlled territory (AGCT) for the first time in many years. It is hoped that this will lead to similar access by other stakeholders, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross and UN agencies, and result

in a practical exchange of information on the situation of individuals in custody and human rights concerns in AGCT. In addition, following the HRMMU's advocacy in relation to the conflict-affected population, the Parliament temporarily suspended penalties for residents of AGCT when travelling to the Russian Federation in order to enter government-controlled territory. Normally, civilians who cross a State border in areas not controlled by the Government are in violation of Ukrainian laws. The temporary regulation removes the former administrative liability for civilians, including fines, for the duration of quarantine or in cases when entry/exit checkpoints (EECPs) are closed, and civilians choose this route on humanitarian grounds.

The HRMMU also continued issuing briefing notes on the impact of the pandemic on health-care workers in Ukraine. This highlighted the degree to which the situation for frontline health-care workers, 83 per cent of whom are women, dramatically worsened during the pandemic. This included unhealthy and unsafe working conditions, violence and threats of violence.

Furthermore, the HRMMU led advocacy with State and local authorities on the need for additional measures to protect the life and health of homeless people, especially in the context of COVID-19 and during the winter. As a result, homeless shelters were opened in Zaporizhzhia and Melitopol and funding for another shelter in Sumy was unblocked.

PS3 – The UN's early warning systems and strategies in Ukraine integrate and update human rights information and analyses.

16 

OHCHR supported the application of a human rights-based approach to programmes by UN entities.

The HRMMU continued to coordinate the Human Rights Working Group in order to mainstream human rights across UN organizations in Ukraine.

Advocacy efforts by the Office and the UNCT led to the Government's adoption of the National Roma Strategy. In addition, the HRMMU led the coordination of the UNCT's inputs for the Roma Strategy Action Plan.

The HRMMU, UNDP, UNHCR and UN Women briefed members of the UN Human Rights Committee prior to its consideration of Ukraine's eighth periodic report. The HRMMU highlighted the lack of accountability and impunity for conflict-related crimes committed by government officials, legislative and procedural gaps in addressing conflict-related sexual violence, gaps in ensuring a remedy and reparations to the conflict-affected population, deficiencies in the administration of justice, attacks on freedom of expression and privacy and concerns surrounding the State policy for transitional justice. These issues were included in the Committee's concluding observations.

The HRMMU, along with UN agencies, provided inputs into the World Bank's five-year strategy in Ukraine. It also shared evidence-based information gathered by the HRMMU on obstacles to housing and utility subsidies for households living in vulnerability. With regard to the conflict situation in eastern Ukraine, the

HRMMU continued to provide information about recent developments in the conflict zone to other actors on the ground, including the Trilateral Contact Group and the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission in Ukraine. This included details about hostilities, civilian casualties, conflict-related detentions, simultaneous releases under the Minsk agreements and interactions with de facto authorities.

Mechanisms

M1 – The Government of Ukraine implements recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, in line with international human rights principles, standards and good practices.

16 17

OHCHR supported the drafting of the National Human Rights Strategy and National Human Rights Action Plan 2021-2023 and the alignment of national laws with international criminal law and international humanitarian law.

The HRMMU led the provision of joint UNCT technical support and inputs for the preparation of the draft National Human Rights Strategy and National Human Rights Action Plan 2021-2023, both of which were adopted in 2021. These inputs helped to ensure that the draft Strategy includes increased protection for the most vulnerable groups and reflects gender mainstreaming across all spheres of life.

Due to persistent advocacy, technical cooperation and recommendations provided by the HRMMU, the Parliament adopted a law on the harmonization of criminal law with standards and principles of international criminal law and international humanitarian law. As recommended by the HRMMU, this legislation aligns the

provisions on criminal liability for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression with the Rome Statute and customary international law. It also includes crucial provisions on command responsibility, the non-applicability of statutory limitations for international crimes and universal jurisdiction for the prosecution of international crimes.

In cooperation with other members of the UNCT, the HRMMU led analysis of the draft law entitled “On the principles of the State policy for the transitional period,” which was elaborated by the Ministry for Reintegration of Temporarily Occupied Territories. The analysis noted that the draft law fails to comply with international standards, is not victim-oriented, lacks a gender perspective and that the definition and overall approach to transitional justice does not correspond to UN standards. After the draft was registered with the Parliament, the Resident Coordinator reached out to the Speaker of the Parliament and the Heads of parliamentary factions to outline the HRMMU’s concerns about the draft law. On 18 October 2021, the Venice Commission published an opinion, which reiterated the HRMMU’s primary concerns. The Minister for Reintegration of Temporarily Occupied Territories declared her commitment to reviewing the draft and cooperating with the Parliament.

Accountability

A1 – State institutions hold to account a higher proportion of those who are responsible for grave violations of international human rights law or international humanitarian law.

16

OHCHR supported the compliance of State institutions and programmes with international human rights norms and standards.

In December 2021, the HRMMU launched the second OHCHR thematic report, *Civic space and fundamental freedoms in Ukraine*. The report analysed civic space concerns and suggested recommendations that are expected to improve the situation related to civic space and fundamental freedoms, empower civil society and encourage public participation in Ukraine.

The HRMMU’s advocacy efforts and timely preventive actions that were undertaken with the Ministry of Justice, the national police and the Office of the Ombudsperson contributed to the prevention of hate crimes and violence. Furthermore, the HRMMU’s working relationship with Facebook (Ukraine) enabled the Mission to report materials of concern and increase Facebook’s awareness of hate speech patterns in Ukraine. As a result, Facebook took down a number of posts that incited violence, thereby making the online space safer.

During the reporting period, prevention of and accountability for torture and ill-treatment remained a top priority for the HRMMU in the government-controlled territory, the territory controlled by self-proclaimed republics and in Crimea. In July 2021, OHCHR released a thematic report, *Arbitrary detention, torture, and ill-treatment in the context of armed conflict in eastern Ukraine, 2014-2021*. The report examines the prevalence and patterns of conflict-related arbitrary detention, including secret and incommunicado detention, and conflict-related torture and ill-treatment, including conflict-related sexual violence. Furthermore, it addresses accountability for these violations, including a remedy and reparations for victims. The report will help keep the issue in the public spotlight and ensure that these heinous practices continue to decrease.

In parallel, the HRMMU led advocacy efforts on the draft law on the Security Service of Ukraine to ensure that it contains strong safeguards against torture and ill-treatment committed by officials of the Ukrainian Security Service (SBU). It also undertook advocacy on Law No. 2689 on the harmonization of national legislation with international humanitarian law and international criminal law, which was adopted by the Parliament in May 2021 but has not yet been signed by the President. Finally, the HRMMU promoted amendments to the Criminal Code to bring the definition of torture in line with CAT.

“We are devoted to this work because the health and lives of people are at stake.”

“We don’t just work a lot,” said Svitlana Panarina, a nurse from conflict-affected Toretsk in eastern Ukraine. “We work non-stop. This is not an office where you can just go home at 5 pm, leaving some tasks for tomorrow. We are devoted to this work because the health and lives of people are at stake.”

Health-care workers in Ukraine – 83 per cent of whom are women – were already in a vulnerable situation before the COVID-19 pandemic started. With salaries below the national average, coupled with unhealthy and unsafe working conditions and inadequate social security, the situation of health-care workers in the country worsened during the pandemic.

At the time of writing, confirmed COVID-19 cases in Ukraine are again on the rise. Since the pandemic began, there have been more than 2.2 million cases and close to 53,000 deaths.

Panarina has been working as a therapeutic nurse in Toretsk City Hospital for three years. She said they were partially prepared for the pandemic through courses and trainings, but the situation rapidly evolved.

She recalled a time when there were only three nurses and one doctor left in her department. Oxygen concentrators were lacking and it became impossible to treat people.



Svitlana Panarina © Zhenya Pedin

THE RIGHT TO HEALTH UNDER THREAT

As reported by the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU), increased workloads, insufficient time for rest and inadequate wages forced many health-care workers to leave their jobs. According to the State Statistical Service, the number of health-care workers decreased by 5.4 per cent in 2020 – from 777,000 in January to 734,900 in December. This change, however, is also partially due to ongoing health care reforms.

“The shortage of qualified health-care staff will inevitably continue to have a negative impact on the population’s right to health, including their access to and the quality of

essential services,” says Matilda Bogner, Head of HRMMU.

Ambulance crews have decreased in the city of Kharkiv, resulting in extended shifts of up to 16 hours, a lack of disinfection of vehicles and inadequate breaks for the staff.

While the Government has tried to address the issue of remuneration of health-care workers by introducing temporary bonuses for those involved in the pandemic response, there are concerns about the lack of transparency in their distribution, unequal pay for work of equal value and a further widening of the gender pay gap.

Some bonuses, for instance, were larger for doctors than mid-level and junior health-care staff, who are primarily women. Additionally, the Government’s payment

of salary bonuses of up to 300 per cent were only available for medical staff working in medical facilities where people with confirmed COVID-19 cases were hospitalized and treated. As a result, not all health-care workers who were in contact with COVID-19 patients, such as family doctors, were entitled to this remuneration.

Furthermore, although more than 55,000 health-care workers had been infected by COVID-19 as of 31 December 2020, only a small percentage were recognized by authorities as work-related, impeding their right to compensation.

“In line with its international human rights obligations and national commitments, Ukraine should significantly increase its investment in the health sector to improve working conditions for health-care workers,” said Bogner. “They should be provided with decent pay, occupational health and safety and social security and consulted about policymaking at all levels, including through trade unions.”

MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS, INEFFECTIVE TRADE UNIONS

One of the issues that became visible and urgent during the pandemic was the absence of mental health and psychosocial support services for health-care workers in Ukraine.

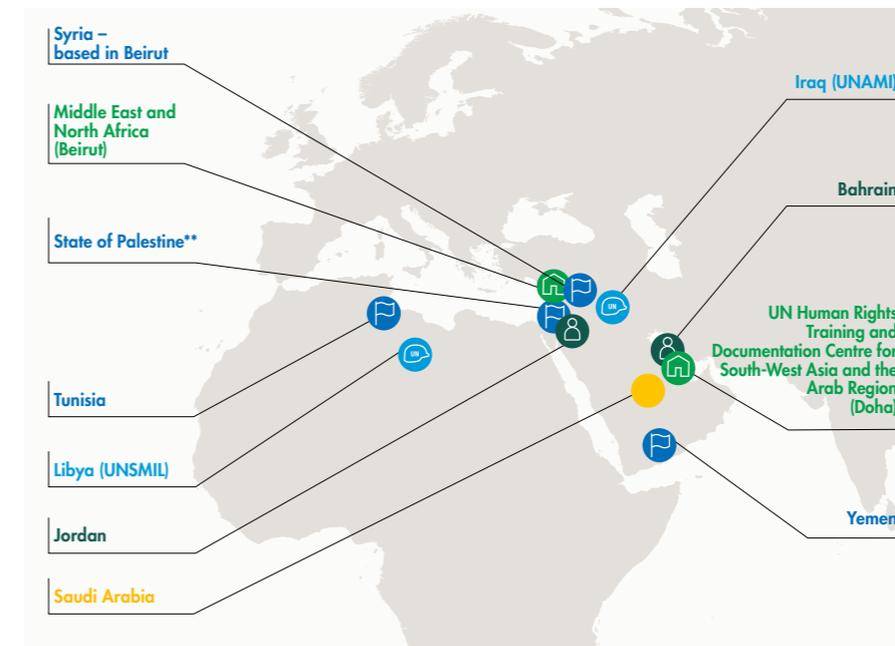
“We don’t have any kind of help like that,” said Panarina. “Instead, we cope by supporting each other and rejoicing when we have the opportunity to help someone and when patients leave us in good health. This is the only way to cope emotionally.”

As reported by the UN HRMMU, some health-care workers claimed that the health-care trade unions, which should be supporting them and advocating for their rights, were not effective and that health-care workers who have blown the whistle regarding issues of concern have not been protected. At the same time, health-care unions stated they were not effectively consulted (at the national or local level) about the Government’s COVID-19 response.

When asked whether she was afraid to work during the COVID-19 pandemic, Panarina emphatically responded “no.” Despite the challenges, many health-care workers did not give up, she said. Instead, they became more resilient and began fighting and advocating for their collective rights.

Panarina is now passionate about “helping our health workers remember their dignity and teaching them to defend their rights.”

UN Human Rights in the Middle East and North Africa



TYPE OF PRESENCE

- Country/Stand-alone Offices/ Human Rights Missions
- Regional Offices/Centres
- Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions
- Human Rights Advisers*
- Other types of field presences

LOCATION

- State of Palestine**, Syrian Arab Republic (based in Beirut, Lebanon), Tunisia and Yemen
- Middle East and North Africa (Beirut, Lebanon), UN Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region (Doha, Qatar)
- Iraq (UNAMI) and Libya (UNSMIL)
- Bahrain and Jordan
- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

* Human Rights Advisers are deployed under the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group.
 ** Hereinafter, all references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

LEGEND:

Spotlights:

- Disabilities
- Youth
- Women

Shifts:

- Global constituency
- Prevention
- Civic space
- Climate change
- Corruption
- Inequalities
- New technologies
- People on the move

SDGs:



In 2021, the work of UN Human Rights in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region covered 19 countries. The Office supported two regional offices/centres, the Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa (ROMENA) and the UN Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region; four country offices (State of Palestine, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Yemen); two human rights advisers (HRA) in Bahrain and in Jordan; two human rights components in missions in Iraq and Libya; and a project presence to build national capacity in relation to human rights in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Office also continued to implement dedicated country programmes in the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Office provided support to two special procedures country mandates, namely, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967 and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Support to these mandates continued through a number of activities, including contributions to mandated reports, communications and press releases on human rights issues and engagement with States and civil society. The Office also served as the Secretariat to the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories, as mandated by the General Assembly. In addition, the Office cooperated with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic and

the Independent International Commission on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel, the Fact-Finding Mission on Libya and the Independent Yemeni National Commission of Inquiry to Investigate Alleged Human Rights Violations (NCIAHRV).

During the course of the year, the Office continued to monitor, publicly report and undertake strategic advocacy on the human rights situation in the region, in parallel with increased engagement, technical cooperation and capacity-building with States. UN Human Rights field presences supported regional governments, civil society organizations, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and other actors to prevent violations and strengthen the protection of human rights. In the context of enhancing engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, the Office organized two training of trainers' workshops on those mechanisms for members of the Secretariat of the League of Arab States; a virtual training workshop for Iranian State officials; and workshops for officials of the National Reporting Committees of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. The Office further supported phase two of a hybrid workshop on engagement with the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) for officials from Syria. Field presences also continued to work with key partners, including UN Country Teams (UNCTs) and Resident Coordinators (RCs) across the region, to support the integration of human rights into development agendas and the implementation of strategies to curb inequalities, including in the context of COVID-19.

In addition to the devastating loss of life resulting from COVID-19, ongoing lockdowns, curfews and other imposed restrictions continued to impact on peoples' lives. Widespread economic consequences resulted in an increase in poverty and food insecurity, particularly in contexts characterized by weak public health-care systems and fragile economies. In a number of States in the region, people protested for the right to health, economic assistance, good governance and access to treatment. Groups in vulnerable situations, including persons with disabilities and migrants, were disproportionately affected. People on the move faced discrimination, hostile statements from public officials, a lack of access to basic services and, in some cases, arrests and detention. At the same time, religious and ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, LGBTI persons and other groups in vulnerable situations continued to be marginalized in some States. Discrimination against women persisted in law and in practice in numerous States.

During the year, OHCHR supported the development of draft legislation to combat violence against women in Libya, in cooperation with Members of Parliament, lawyers, relevant ministries and civil society. The Office organized two regional roundtables to develop a road map for the integration of a gender perspective into educational curricula and textbooks and a roundtable event on the situation of women human rights defenders (WHRDs) in the region.

Meanwhile, ongoing conflicts and violence across the region resulted in the

loss of life and damage to physical infrastructure, amid continued violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law. In this regard, OHCHR reiterated its call for the promotion of human rights and the protection of civilians in situations of armed conflict, particularly in light of the pandemic, through the preparation of reports and briefings to the Human Rights Council, the General Assembly and the Security Council.

Security bodies in some States targeted human rights defenders (HRDs), lawyers and political activists to silence protests or opposition to government policies, including when criticizing the response of governments to the pandemic. Arbitrary detention, extrajudicial killings, torture and disappearances continued to be documented. In a number of States, serious concern was raised regarding the conduct of security forces and adherence to the rule of law, fair trial standards and the right to due process.

Several States also implemented measures that limited or eroded the exercise of the rights to freedoms of expression, association and assembly.

Furthermore, the pandemic impacted on the situation of persons deprived of their liberty, particularly in overcrowded facilities with a lack of access to adequate health care. During the reporting period, the death penalty was imposed in multiple States, some of which executed child offenders. Field presences interviewed persons deprived of their liberty and visited places of detention, including in Iraq, Libya, the State of Palestine and Yemen.

OHCHR's advocacy work with relevant authorities across the region resulted in the release of more than 100 persons deprived of their liberty, including in Algeria, Iran, Libya and the Gulf region.

IRAQ: UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION FOR IRAQ (UNAMI)

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
41.18 million	435,000 km ²	0.674 (rank: 123/189 in 2019)	A Status (2021)
Type of engagement		Special Political Mission	
Year established		2004	
Field office(s)		Baghdad, Basra, Erbil, Kirkuk and Mosul	
UN partnership framework		UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2020-2024	
Staff as of 31 December 2021		41	

XB requirements 2021 **US\$1,326,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:
Accountability

A1 – Iraq fully respects the rule of law in the administration of justice. In particular, courts fully comply with due process and fair trial standards, in accordance with international law and the Constitution of Iraq. Allegations of torture are thoroughly investigated, victims are provided with appropriate care, protection and compensation and those responsible are held legally accountable. Iraq fully complies with international standards in relation to the treatment, care, protection and rehabilitation of women and children who enter the criminal justice system. All sectors of Iraqi society have equal access to justice, including women, ethnic and religious and other minorities, persons with disabilities, youth and marginalized groups. The Government of Iraq ensures that any person who violates international

human rights, humanitarian or criminal law will be held accountable before competent courts that fully respect due process and fair trial standards. Legislation grants jurisdiction over international crimes to Iraqi courts and Iraq becomes a signatory to the Statute of the International Criminal Court.

16

OHCHR enhanced advocacy efforts to prevent torture and ill-treatment and promoted local youth-led and capacity-building initiatives on issues related to social cohesion, tolerance between members of different religious communities and adherence to international human rights standards in efforts to counter-terrorism.

OHCHR and UNAMI continued to implement the detention and trial monitoring programme in 2021, raising awareness

about how a lack of access to health care and extreme overcrowding in some facilities has exacerbated concerns over detention conditions, particularly in the context of COVID-19.

In August, OHCHR and UNAMI jointly published a report entitled *Human Rights in the administration of justice in Iraq: Legal conditions and procedural safeguards to prevent torture and ill-treatment*. Based on the findings of 235 key informant interviews with people deprived of their liberty, as well as prison staff, judges, lawyers and families of detainees, the report addresses the need for increased compliance with key legal conditions and procedural safeguards. It also provides an analysis of risk factors for torture and ill-treatment during interrogations and in places of detention and contains specific recommendations aimed at strengthening the Government's response to torture. Following the release of the report, OHCHR engaged in discussions and advocacy with authorities, civil society and lawyers in Federal Iraq and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

OHCHR enhanced advocacy efforts for the promotion and protection of the human rights of religious minorities to help achieve social cohesion as part of a broader objective to secure peace, security and development in Iraq. In particular, OHCHR leveraged the Peace Narratives to mobilize Iraqi youth as catalysts for change in building social cohesion and peaceful coexistence. Within this framework, UNAMI launched a multimedia platform to highlight examples of local youth-led peace narratives. It also reached out to religious and ethnic communities to address cross-cutting human rights issues and facilitate greater social cohesion and tolerance between members of different religious communities.

In December, OHCHR and UNAMI partnered with the United Nations Office

to Counter Terrorism (UNOCT) to conduct a training for 20 mid- to senior-level law enforcement officials in order to strengthen the human rights compliance of law enforcement operations in the context of counter-terrorism activities. This was followed by a policy dialogue with senior government officials to develop a road map on increased adherence to international human rights standards when engaging in efforts to counter terrorism.

A1 – The Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights (IHCHR) complies with the Paris Principles, fulfils its mandate under the Constitution of Iraq and meets international standards. The institutional frameworks of the committees of the Council of Representatives ensure that human rights are respected and protected by the legislative process and when public policies are formulated. Government departments fully respect Iraq's international obligations with respect to human rights and the rule of law. These standards are understood to be fundamental to public policies and programmes.

16

OHCHR continued to strengthen the capacity and action of the IHCHR to ensure the promotion of human rights in legislative processes.

OHCHR strengthened the institutional capacity of the IHCHR, particularly at the governorate level, by working on issues related to enforced disappearance, the prevention of torture and the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly. By way of example, with support from OHCHR, the IHCHR organized a series of workshops throughout the year for personnel from the Ministry of Interior to enhance their capacities to protect human

rights during their operations. Despite concerns over its independent functioning, the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions accredited IHCHR with "A" Status, in July.

Also in July, the four-year term of the IHCHR Board of Commissioners (BOC) came to an end. The Council of Representatives, however, did not vote to end the tenure of the Commissioners as required by law. Instead, the Council of Ministers appointed an internal interim committee for continued administrative and operational functioning until the appointment of the new BOC. This is the only representative and functional body of the IHCHR.

A3 – Women and children who are the victims of sexual and gender-based violence/conflict-related sexual violence (SGBV/CRSV) or so-called "honour crimes," including women from Iraq's ethnic and religious minority communities, have access to justice and appropriate support services.

5 10 16

OHCHR enhanced monitoring, reporting and advocacy and continued to promote legal reforms to ensure accountability for victims of SGBV/CRSV crimes.

Despite the fact that no new cases were reported in 2021, CRSV continues to be underreported due to stigma, fear of reprisals, family pressures and a lack of trust in the judicial system. This trend is not likely representative of the prevalence rate in Iraq. Survivors returning to Iraq continue to report CRSV incidents from previous years. It is also believed that men who are CRSV survivors are unlikely to come forward due to stigma and an absence of dedicated services.

In spite of the significant efforts undertaken by UN entities and CSOs, meeting the needs of survivors remains a challenge. While survivors of CRSV have had some access to medical and psychosocial support, available services are insufficient to fully meet their needs. In early 2021, activists raised concerns over an increase in suicides among members of the Yazidi community, including survivors of CRSV, and called on the Government to develop and implement a national suicide prevention strategy. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the vulnerability of CRSV survivors due to the loss of livelihoods, the closure of social services and movement restrictions.

The endorsement of the Yazidi Female Survivors Law by the Council of Representatives, in March, represents an important legal recognition of the magnitude and nature of the crimes committed. It also underscores the need to hold perpetrators of sexual violence accountable, while addressing the needs of survivors of sexual violence and the issue of reparations. The law applies only to women and girls from the Yazidi, Turkmen, Christian and Shabak communities and does not address the issue of children born of rape.

In August, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs established a Directorate for Survivors Care in the Ninewa Governorate to start receiving applications from CRSV survivors. The absence of government funding for the Directorate and the implementation of the Yazidi Female Survivors Law remains an impediment.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – Iraq develops as a multi-ethnic and religiously inclusive State in which the country’s ethnic and religious minority communities are protected from violence and can fully participate on equal terms in political, social and economic life. Members of Iraq’s diverse ethnic and religious communities have returned to their places of origin, in accordance with humanitarian principles. All sectors of Iraqi society are protected from violence and have equal access to justice without discrimination, irrespective of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, orientation, disability or other status. Persons with disabilities enjoy guaranteed and universal access to basic services. Laws are in place that prevent discrimination against individuals on grounds of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, orientation, disability or other differences.

5 10 16 

OHCHR contributed to protecting the human rights of women and girls and members of minorities through advocacy and awareness-raising initiatives.

Protection of women and girls from domestic violence was at the core of advocacy efforts undertaken by OHCHR in 2021. In March, OHCHR partnered with UNAMI and IHCHR to screen the film “Breaking the silence,” thereby contributing to raising awareness about issues related to domestic violence, perpetrator accountability and support systems for survivors. In addition, four awareness-raising events were organized by OHCHR and UNAMI in Baghdad, Basra, Kirkuk and Mosul, engaging 41 women and 32 men. OHCHR also documented and monitored challenges faced by minority and women candidates during

the electoral processes through 228 interviews (147 interviews with women and 81 with minority candidates).

OHCHR sustained efforts towards the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination. In February, OHCHR and UNAMI collaborated with IHCHR to co-facilitate a virtual meeting of the Minority Rights Working Group in Iraq. During the meeting, participants discussed the implementation of the concluding observations issued by CERD and the need to preserve and promote minority languages in Iraq. On the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (21 March), OHCHR engaged national authorities and CSOs in joint advocacy to support the annual theme “Youth standing up against racism and discrimination” during a dedicated virtual event.

Peace and Security

PS1 – Civilians are protected, to the greatest extent possible, from the effects of armed conflict. They can leave areas affected by conflict in safety and dignity, return to their homes in full compliance with humanitarian principles (voluntarily and in dignity and security when it is safe to do so) and they can access basic humanitarian assistance at all times. The policies of the Government and the Iraqi security forces to combat terrorism, armed violence and conflict fully respect and protect human rights at all times and in all circumstances and comply with international humanitarian law.

5 16 

OHCHR contributed to enhancing the protection of civilians by monitoring and reporting on violations of human rights and by disseminating relevant

information to inform the responses of key stakeholders.

In Iraq, remnants of ISIL continued to carry out attacks, particularly in the Governorates of Anbar, Baghdad, Diyala, Kirkuk, Ninewa and Salah al Din, targeting Iraqi Security Forces, including Popular Mobilization Forces, civilian authorities, former members of security forces, tribal elders and any other individual perceived to be against ISIL. The Human Rights Officer (HRO) closely monitored the impact of security-related incidents causing harm to civilians and other protection concerns.

Between 1 January and 10 December, OHCHR recorded 757 civilian casualties (246 deaths, 511 injuries) in 232 incidents of armed conflict, representing a 45 per cent increase over 2020. The civilian casualties also included 120 children (53 killed, 67 injured) and 32 women (nine killed, 23 injured). This increase reversed a decreasing trend that was observed following the official defeat of ISIL in December 2017.

The leading causes of civilian casualties included various types of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) that caused 361 civilian casualties (87 deaths, 274 injuries); small arms fires resulting in 175 civilian casualties (91 deaths, 84 injuries); and explosive remnants of wars and/or unexploded ordinances that led to 114 civilian casualties (50 deaths, 64 injuries). Airstrikes and shelling attacks attributed to the Turkish military caused 34 civilian casualties (eight deaths, 26 injuries) and indirect fires (mortars/rockets) caused 31 civilian casualties (five deaths, 26 injuries).

As was the case in previous years, 61 per cent of civilian casualties (165 deaths, 293 injuries) were attributed to ISIL

and caused by small arms fires, suicide attacks, roadside IEDs, targeted killings and executions.

PS4 – All sectors of Iraqi society, including communities and individuals, have access to justice for human rights violations, abuses or crimes, regardless of when or where they were committed or by whom. Community and national reconciliation processes take place that are built on respect, mutual understanding and trust. They provide justice to victims of human rights violations and abuse.

16 

OHCHR continued to strengthen the engagement of civil society and the Government with the international human rights mechanisms, with a focus on cases of enforced or involuntary disappearance.

In November, OHCHR organized a two-day training in Baghdad to discuss Iraq’s international obligations with regard to enforced disappearance. The event featured two members of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances and brought together 25 representatives from the Ministries of Defence, Interior, Justice and Foreign Affairs, as well as the Iraqi National Intelligence Service, the Counter-Terrorism Service and the High Judicial Council. To promote civil society’s engagement, OHCHR organized a separate training for 11 CSOs on 14 November, delivered by the aforementioned experts. Participants agreed to: 1) conduct joint advocacy in support of the adoption of a national law that criminalizes enforced disappearance; 2) promote the establishment of a central database to record all cases of missing persons; and 3) enhance cooperation by the Government

of Iraq with the Committee on Enforced Disappearances.

Ninewa is one of the governorates in Iraq most impacted by enforced disappearances. As a result, OHCHR facilitated a virtual roundtable, in August, with 11 Ninewa-based civil society activists to build their capacity in relation to the protection of persons from enforced disappearance and the documentation of individual cases. During the roundtable, participants agreed to form a civil society working group to devise strategies and promote joint advocacy efforts in alignment with national and international legal standards.

Mechanisms

M1 – Iraq develops a plan to implement the recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies and those issued by the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) that it accepts. By the next reporting deadline, Iraq is implementing all recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies and has accepted the recommendations issued by the UPR.

16

OHCHR supported the launch of the Human Rights National Action Plan of Iraq and continued to engage the Government in the implementation of the recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies.

With the support of OHCHR, the Government of Iraq continued to strengthen engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, including the human rights treaty bodies and the special procedures. In particular, OHCHR collaborated with the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary

Disappearances and the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to build national capacities and provide recommendations for engagement with the Government.

In July, the Human Rights National Action Plan of Iraq was launched with financial support from OHCHR. Prepared by the Ministry of Justice and endorsed by the Council of Ministers, the Plan will contribute to harmonizing national legislation with international human rights standards, strengthening national policies for the promotion and protection of human rights and building human rights capacity within government institutions.

OHCHR also facilitated and co-chaired the Minority Rights Working Groups in Federal Iraq and the Kurdistan Region, which provide a platform to advance the implementation of CERD recommendations and develop joint projects to raise awareness about Iraq’s linguistic, ethnic and religious diversity.

In January, the Office engaged with the special procedures mandate holders to support their preparation of a joint communication on summary executions, torture and terrorism and human rights concerning the alleged approval of 340 death sentences. In addition, between November and December, OHCHR launched a social media campaign “Justice in Iraq” to raise public awareness about Iraqi legislation and commitments to prevent torture in places of detention. The campaign encouraged several CSOs to submit inputs to the Committee against Torture, generated the interest of CSOs to establish a network for the implementation of the Committee’s recommendations and resulted in increased attention from national security and intelligence officials during detention visits.



Participation

P1 – Iraq citizens have equal access to all basic services, including clean water, electricity, health care, housing and education. The rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly are fully respected and protected in law and in policy. The roles of journalists and media professionals are respected and protected by law and policy and they are protected from threats, intimidation or violence when they carry out their professional duties. Parliamentary and democratic procedures are consultative and participatory, notably with respect to women, youth, ethnic and religious minorities, persons with disabilities and LGBTI persons.

16



OHCHR continued to engage with civil society and the Government for the promotion and protection of the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, including in the context of the elections.

With support from OHCHR, UNAMI released a report, in May, entitled *Update on demonstrations in Iraq: Accountability for human rights violations and abuses by unidentified armed elements*. The report highlights measures put in place by Iraqi authorities and recommends that further efforts should be undertaken in the areas of investigations, accountability and protection. In addition, capacity-building training was provided to members of the Fact-Finding Committee. The Committee was tasked by the Prime Minister to investigate crimes and violations committed during demonstrations from 1 October 2019 onwards.

OHCHR and UNAMI also released a report on *Freedom of expression in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq*, which documents cases of arbitrary arrests, threats and intimidation against journalists and activists. The report's findings fed into the ongoing dialogue with the Kurdistan Regional Government to promote human rights, foster accountability and secure redress for victims.

In parallel, OHCHR monitored and reported on the human rights aspects of the elections held on 10 October. OHCHR and the UNAMI Gender Unit co-facilitated an online workshop for CSOs to build their capacities to monitor and report hate speech and gender-based violence (GBV) prior to the elections.

Towards the prevention of torture in Iraqi detention facilities

“It was the same routine every day, hanging me up and beating me,” said Ahmed,¹⁶ a detainee in an Iraqi prison. “There are things they did to me that I am too ashamed to talk about.”

Ahmed was one of 235 detainees who were interviewed for a recent **report** on torture prevention in places of detention in Iraq by UNAMI and UN Human Rights.

Although Iraq is party to several international treaties that prohibit torture and ill-treatment, more than half of all interviewed detainees provided credible and reliable accounts of torture. The prevalence of torture was confirmed in confidential interviews with Iraqi judges, lawyers and medical practitioners.

As one lawyer stated, “Perpetrators are not really afraid about the consequences of torture since they know they will not be punished by the official system.”

Founded on an analysis of risk factors for torture, the report highlights many troubling facts about investigation practices and conditions inside Iraqi facilities. Interrogations are generally aimed at eliciting confessions and often use coercion. Access to a lawyer is systematically delayed until after suspects have been interrogated.

In addition, there is no standard practice of medical screenings of detainees when they arrive at a facility to detect if they have been subjected to prior ill-treatment.

BEYOND ALLEGATIONS, TOWARDS PREVENTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

While the recent report details horrific accounts of torture in Iraqi facilities, Danielle Bell, Chief of the Human Rights Office at UNAMI, says that UN Human Rights aims to “move beyond” debating the existence or extent of these practices to instead focus on supporting government efforts to strengthen compliance with the international and national legal framework.

“The ultimate goal is to reduce the likelihood of torture or ill-treatment ever occurring,” said Ms. Bell, noting that independent monitoring of places of detention is crucial in this process.

“As torture almost always takes place in secret, greater transparency and openness concerning what takes place in detention facilities, which is facilitated by providing access to independent monitoring bodies, are significant steps towards prevention,” she said. “These steps not only remove opportunities for torture to occur, they also protect authorities from unfounded allegations.”

The report outlines a series of recommendations, such as urging Iraq to consider the adoption of a comprehensive Anti-Torture Law and Policy, strengthening training for officials involved in custody and interrogation of detainees, and urgently reviewing interrogation rules and practices.

Since the report's release, UNAMI staff have engaged in constructive dialogue with Iraqi and Kurdish authorities and other stakeholders, including the Iraqi Bar Association and CSOs, to encourage concrete steps towards strengthening compliance with international and national standards and safeguards to prevent torture.

Authorities have expressed a commitment to fully investigate torture allegations, however, there are other hurdles that need to be overcome.

Ms. Bell concluded, “The UNAMI Human Rights Office will continue to work with the Iraqi Government in its endeavours to prevent torture and ensure accountability.”



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¹⁶ Ahmed's name has been changed to protect his identity.

JORDAN

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
10.27 million	89,000 km ²	0.729 (rank: 102/189 in 2019)	A Status (2016)
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser		
Year established	2018		
Field office(s)	Amman		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Framework in Jordan (2018-2022)		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	1		

XB requirements 2021 **US\$416,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:

Peace and Security

PS5 – Human rights information and analysis are integrated into early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policymaking, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate and/or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflict.

3 5 8 10 13 16 17

OHCHR contributed to integrating and operationalizing a human rights-based approach (HRBA) in the UNCT Prevention Strategy.

A number of practical steps were taken during the reporting period to implement the Strategy. For example, risk assessments related to the Common Country Analysis (CCA) were updated and the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) enhanced its

capacities to make effective use of social media tools and undertake media monitoring on issues related to the SDGs and human rights. In addition, the HRA re-established a technical level working group of international partners, including embassies, INGOs and UN agencies, to exchange information and coordinate assistance on issues relating to accountable institutions, empowered people and the rule of law and first discussions led to a mapping of international partners' support to the justice sector and strengthening support on legal aid.

With support from the HRA, the RCO published an op-ed, in July, on the ongoing legislative reform process. More specifically, it called for joint efforts to realize the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights and emphasized that human rights must be placed at the centre of all COVID-19 recovery and national reform efforts.

Finally, the HRA lent support to UNCT members on the implementation of the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP), with a risk assessment completed in relation to the Elsie Initiative Fund to increase uniformed women's participation in UN peace operations.


Development

D7 – States integrate human rights, including the right to development and the outcomes of the international human rights mechanisms, as they implement the Sustainable Development Goals and other development and poverty eradication efforts. The UN supports them in these objectives and integrates human rights into its own development work.



OHCHR helped to improve the level of compliance with international human rights standards of the policies, programmes and practices of the UNCT and national institutions, including through technical assistance and capacity-building.

The HRA supported the UNCT in integrating an HRBA into the UN's key priorities, programming, monitoring and evaluation efforts in Jordan. As a first step, the HRA supported the preparation of a mapping of Jordan's national and international commitments, relevant global norms and standards and UN Jordan's programming documents in order to facilitate the identification of key priorities for the biennium 2021-2022. In March, three priority areas of action were identified by the UNCT, namely, 1) Building forward better, with a focus on inclusive, diverse, resilient and sustainable economic recovery and growth; 2) Climate justice, including by addressing water scarcity and supporting food security; and

3) Strengthened and accountable institutions with human rights at the centre.

As a result of the HRA's advocacy efforts and technical support, in April, the UNCT adopted three action plans for 2021-2022, including 12 concrete joint actions. The action plans provide the RCO/HRA with a clear mandate to ensure coherent engagement with the Department of Statistics to improve data collection, analysis and management related to Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) policies; integrating human rights analysis into UNCT policy briefs; preparing an HRBA of revenues in Jordan for the Surge Initiative; collecting and rolling out good practices on interministerial coordination and multi-stakeholder engagement; preparing a Prevention Strategy; and rolling out the Guidance Note on the protection and promotion of civic space.

Following the HRA's capacity-building efforts and in the context of preparing for its new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, the UNCT recognized that UN Jordan needs to increase its human rights-based work and advocacy related to future programming. To this end, the HRA supported the RCO to undertake an LNOB/HRBA of the budgetary and other resources that are needed to ensure the progressive realization of the rights to education, food and water, which are among the priority rights to be advanced in Jordan between 2023-2027.

In parallel, the HRA contributed to the support provided by the UN to Jordan for the preparation and submission of its Voluntary National Review (VNR) report in 2022 and the Voluntary Local Review process on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Under the leadership of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, a data committee will be

established to ensure reporting consistency regarding the different SDGs. Gender and human rights were identified as specific and cross-cutting issues. A joint UNDP/OHCHR project under the Human Rights Mainstreaming Trust Fund supports the mainstreaming of human rights into this process, including with the National Centre for Human Rights.

The HRA conducted a number of capacity-building activities at the technical level with all UNCT members, as well as the UNRWA senior management team, the IOM-led National Migration Task Force and UNFPA's implementing partners on issues related to an HRBA and development.


Mechanisms

M1 – National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and the implementation of their recommendations.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to increasing awareness about Jordan's engagement with the international human rights mechanisms and facilitated synergies between different implementation and reporting processes.

The HRA facilitated Jordan's engagement in the regional consultations for the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) and is leveraging the VNR as an entry point to forge synergies between different implementation and reporting processes.

The HRA produced key outreach materials that highlight Jordan's engagement with the international human rights mechanisms to inform joint advocacy efforts, such as the background paper on United

Nations Human Rights Mechanisms Jordan's Engagement, and a flyer presenting recommendations issued by those mechanisms in relation to Jordan towards building forward better, fairer and greener.

LIBYA: UNITED NATIONS SUPPORT MISSION IN LIBYA (UNSMIL)

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
6.96 million	1,676,000 km ²	0.724 (rank: 105/189 in 2019)	B Status (2014)
Type of engagement	United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL)		
Year established	2011		
Field office(s)	Tripoli and Tunis, Tunisia		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Strategic Framework 2019-2022		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	15		

XB requirements 2021 **US\$215,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176

PILLAR RESULTS:**Accountability**

A1 – Libya’s penal code, criminal procedure and related laws are increasingly compliant with international human rights standards. They increasingly provide legal guarantees against discrimination, including for women.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights law norms and standards through advocacy with the judiciary and other national partners.

To counter arbitrary detention, OHCHR facilitated the establishment of a high-level committee, which includes representatives from the Ministries of Justice and Interior, the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of the Military Prosecutor and the Office of the First Deputy Prime Minister. OHCHR provided support for

the development of a draft action plan and guiding principles to bring an end to arbitrary detention in Libya. Moving forward, the committee will coordinate the implementation of the action plan and its recommendations and measures and will follow up on and address individual cases on an ongoing basis.

OHCHR mobilized national partners, in particular the Committee of Libyan Experts on Combating Violence Against Women, to conduct a comprehensive review of the draft law on violence against women to ensure its compliance with international human rights standards. Following a series of virtual and in-person consultations, the draft law was presented under the auspices of the Ministry of Women’s Affairs of the Government of National Unity. The draft was presented, in October, to 19 women Members of Parliament and other national partners during an in-person meeting that was

co-organized with UNFPA and UN Women. Joint efforts will now focus on launching an advocacy campaign to support its endorsement. The draft will be presented to the newly elected House of Representatives.

OHCHR also initiated dialogues with national experts, representatives of academia, CSOs and other UN agencies to review and assess the current legal framework on the rights of the child.

A1 – Those who are charged are promptly prosecuted, in accordance with the right to due process. Crimes committed after 2011 are prosecuted.



OHCHR contributed to the enhanced capacities of the judiciary to ensure that accountability mechanisms operate in conformity with international human rights standards, including in the context of the electoral process.

In the lead up to the presidential and parliamentary elections that were scheduled to take place in December 2021 and January 2022 and then postponed, OHCHR effectively supported the judicial system in adjudicating election disputes and monitoring election-related violence. This included providing advice to the Political Parties Affairs Commission at the Ministry of Justice on the registration of political parties, monitoring attacks against members of the judiciary and addressing the security of electoral justice systems. In addition, OHCHR provided technical assistance to judges involved in the process, in collaboration with the Supreme Judicial Council.

Following the appointment of the new Attorney General for Libya, in April, OHCHR facilitated exchanges with Egypt and Tunisia to support the restructuring of his office, in alignment with good practices in the region. As a result, the Attorney General announced the establishment of two key departments focusing on human rights and on judicial inspection within the Office of the Public Prosecution, respectively.

In response to the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on national judicial systems and mechanisms, OHCHR provided virtual technical assistance to both the Supreme Judicial Council and the Supreme Court on issues related to legislative amendments, virtual hearings, the organization of the judiciary, the establishment of dedicated courts for cases related to violence against women and children and technical deliberations on alternatives to imprisonment, with a view to reducing the number of prisoners in correctional facilities.

A1 – Detention centres operate legally and under the control of the State. Trained judicial police officers and procedures are in place to prevent torture and ensure the release of individuals who are unlawfully detained.



OHCHR contributed to the increased compliance with international human rights standards of programmes, policies and practices of the judicial police and other key actors involved in the management of detention facilities through technical assistance and advocacy.

In February, UNSMIL and UNICEF conducted a joint mission to the al-Jdayda Prison in Tripoli to assess the situation of women and children detained for their alleged affiliation with ISIL. Most of the detainees had spent more than five years in arbitrary detention and some of the children had been born in and/or spent most of their lives in the facility. As a result of advocacy efforts undertaken by OHCHR and UNSMIL, and by working in collaboration with both the Libyan and Tunisian authorities, all Tunisian women and children detained in the al-Jdayda Prison were transferred to Tunisia, in March.

In cooperation with the Tunisian Embassy, OHCHR and UNSMIL conducted an assessment mission on the needs of women and children detained at the Mitiga Detention Centre in Tripoli. As a result of joint advocacy efforts, the Special Committee of Screening Arbitrary Detention Cases, established by the Attorney General, reviewed and brought before the Criminal Court the legal cases of 2,845 inmates, 2,150 of whom were consequently released.

In September, OHCHR conducted a mission to Benghazi, which resulted in an updated assessment of the correctional sector in the eastern region. This was the first visit to the city since the attack against the UN in August 2019.

OHCHR and UNSMIL continued to support the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Justice and police forces in implementing mitigation measures against the spread of COVID-19 and addressing other security concerns. In December, UNDP and UNSMIL delivered 610 Personal Protective Equipments to relevant line ministries and police forces and vehicles for the Demining Unit of the UNSMIL-UNDP Police and Security Joint Programme in Libya.

Participation

P1 – National and international stakeholders strengthen their networking and coordination. Civil society organizations provide assistance, including legal aid, to human rights defenders and victims of torture and other violations.



OHCHR strengthened the capacities of the Government and CSOs to engage with the international human rights mechanisms, implement their recommendations and operate in an increasingly integrated way.

In order to address ongoing challenges and restrictions faced by civil society and human rights defenders, on 8 and 9 November, OHCHR and UNSMIL convened a consultation with members of the Civil Society Commission and representatives of other CSOs. The meeting provided a platform for participants to discuss national legislation regulating the role of CSOs and paved the way for the development of a protection strategy for HRDs in Libya, particularly women. The meeting was attended virtually by the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association.

Peace and Security

PS1 – Violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law are monitored and reported by HRDs, enabling the international community to respond effectively to abuses by armed groups and cases of arbitrary and unlawful detention, torture, hostage-taking and extrajudicial kidnapping, while also protecting civilians, upholding freedom of expression and combating discrimination against women and migrants.

5 16

OHCHR contributed to the increased awareness of the international community regarding the situation of migrants and asylum seekers in Libya.

In support of advocacy efforts for solutions to address ongoing human rights violations, OHCHR continued to provide the international community with information and analysis on the situation of migrants and asylum seekers in Libya, including those being held in the detention centres operating under the Directorate for Combating Illegal Migration, in trafficking camps and at sea.

In parallel to these activities, OHCHR intensified its efforts to raise awareness about increasing restrictions on the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association. It also raised awareness regarding human rights violations against individuals and groups of peaceful activists. Finally, OHCHR reported on its social media channels about several cases of discrimination, hate speech and incitement to violence against women and men activists.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office		
Countries of engagement	Algeria, Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates		
Year established	2002		
Field office(s)	Beirut, Lebanon		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	39		
XB income	US\$2,231,386		
XB requirements 2021	US\$5,196,000		
XB expenditure	US\$2,837,170		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC⁴
	68%	22%	10%
	\$1,925,043	\$618,530	\$293,597
RB expenditure	US\$111,920		
	Personnel		
	100%		
	\$111,920		

Key OMP pillars in 2021



⁴ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Enhance the capacity of States to adopt legislation/policy to protect human rights, in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

16

OHCHR contributed to improving legislation/policy, in compliance with international human rights norms and standards, through strategic advocacy and engagement, technical support and capacity-building.

With a view to ensuring the independence of judges and lawyers, UN Human Rights participated in joint advocacy with other UN agencies in Lebanon, including through the publication of UN reports, statements and calls for a transparent and impartial investigation into the 2020 Beirut Port explosions and joint support for the elaboration of a National Action Plan on Human Rights. At the request of the Parliament's Administration and Justice Committee, UN Human Rights provided inputs to a draft law on the independence of the judiciary, which is being finalized. UN Human Rights will follow up with an expert consultation in the first half of 2022 that will include members of the Committee and other stakeholders, including civil society actors.

In collaboration with the United Nations RCO and the Conseil National des droits de l'Homme (CNDH) of Algeria, a workshop was organized on the "Operationalization of a human rights-based approach to data in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals and human rights reporting." The objective was to build the capacities of the NHRI and the National Statistics Office in their use of indicators and data as effective oversight tools for reporting and monitoring on human rights and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The workshop was attended by 20 participants from the NHRI, the National Statistics Office, representatives of the Ministry of Digitization and Statistics, the National Economic, Social and Environmental Council, the Centre National d'Etudes et d'Analyses pour la Population et le Développement, the Ministry of National Solidarity, Family and the Status of Women, the National Institute of Public Health, the National Institute for Research in Education, the National Gendarmerie General Command and the Centre for Research in Applied Economics and Development.

To promote and protect the rights of migrants, UN Human Rights engaged with the UN Network on Migration and UN National Migration Networks and participated in the development of the Situation Report on International Migration for the Arab region. On 30 November, UN Human Rights organized a briefing for Member States and members of the UN Regional Network on Migration in order to provide an overview of how the UN Regional and National Networks on Migration and in-country presences can assist Member States. UN Human Rights collaborated with UN partners to develop a joint Policy Brief on reform of legal frameworks, which allow

employers to file "absconding" charges against migrant workers, thereby increasing their vulnerability. The Policy Brief will be launched in 2022.

Trainings for border officials in Morocco were delivered. OHCHR organized a high-level dialogue with representatives of relevant ministries involved in border governance, with a view to ensuring a whole-of-government approach to collaboration on this issue. The dialogue enabled engagement with relevant authorities on key challenges and good practices on human rights protection at international borders. Subsequently, the Migration Unit and the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism delivered a training course on human rights at international borders. A total of 50 border officials provided positive feedback on the impact of the training and reported an increased understanding on human rights principles, recognition that language can change perceptions of migrants and the importance of taking into account different situations that migrants may face, particularly women and those in situations of vulnerability.

UN Human Rights contributed to a meeting of the UN Network on Migration that was held on 3 June, in Bahrain. The Office provided a brief on its support for Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) States in fulfilling their human rights obligations and on a study that is underway on the human rights of migrant workers in GCC countries.

UN Human Rights also supported the "First Regional Review of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in the Arab Region," held virtually from 24 to 25 February. The event maintained a strong focus on the human rights of migrants and involved the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, NHRIs and members of

migrant communities. OHCHR also participated in the Stakeholder Engagement Task Force to ensure an inclusive, whole-of-society approach.

Participation

P1 – Enhance legal, policy and accountability environment to protect civil society groups, human rights defenders and activists.

16

OHCHR contributed to improving the legal, policy and accountability environment, including through advocacy, strategic engagement and partnerships, technical support and capacity-building.

In an effort to counter hate speech, UN Human Rights co-facilitated a discussion with the UNCT in Lebanon and the United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect (OSAPG), in March. This led to the development of a UNCT draft plan of action on hate speech and, in collaboration with the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon (UNSCOL), the launch of quarterly monitoring updates on incidents and observed trends of hate speech. The plan of action, which will be adopted by the UNCT in 2022, outlines a number of actions to monitor and analyse hate speech trends, develop key messages for its mitigation and engage with partners to raise awareness and combat hateful speech. OHCHR will, in collaboration with OSAPG, organize an event on countering hate speech in 2022.

OHCHR established a strategic partnership with nine universities across Lebanon to implement the project "Dealing with the past: Memory for the future." The project aims to promote truth-seeking,

foster collective remembrance and facilitate reconciliation around the legacy of the civil war, which included brutality that was perpetrated against women, men and children. The project activities were designed by the universities, in line with project guidelines, and sought to contribute to consolidating peace and preventing a relapse into conflict. Most of the activities were implemented in 2021. The strategic partnership with universities aims to enhance engagement with youth on peacebuilding, increase their knowledge and build their capacities to participate in peacebuilding processes.

Additionally, UN Human Rights organized a virtual conference on “Monitoring the right to food in Lebanon: Towards empowering youth for the full realization of the right to food amid current and rising insecurities in the country.” More than 80 experts, including the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, academics, civil society actors, youth, government officials, diplomats, lawyers and NHRI members participated in the conference. The event focused on the relationship between policies of the agricultural and food sector and the right to food in the context of increasing food insecurity in Lebanon.

Finally, UN Human Rights organized an online training workshop on youth engagement in human rights, in Bahrain, bringing together 17 university students who gained an increased understanding about human rights norms concerning participation in public affairs.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – National laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination, particularly discrimination against religious, ethnic and national minorities, persons with disabilities, migrants and women. Authorities actively work to “Leave No One Behind,” address the root causes of inequality and link the implementation of the SDG agenda with human rights.



OHCHR contributed to promoting the establishment of anti-discrimination laws, policies and practices across the region.

In an effort to foster human rights education and eliminate gender stereotypes, UN Human Rights and the UN Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region (UNTDC) organized two regional roundtables, in February and April. The roundtables brought together representatives of UN agencies (UNFPA, UNESCO, UNICEF, UN Women), the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO), regional human rights NGOs, women’s studies and research institutes, organizations involved in children’s education and human rights education and researchers and academics working in the field of education. These events provided an opportunity for the development of a road map on the integration of a gender perspective into educational curricula and textbooks, as part of a broader process of combating gender stereotypes and fostering human rights education in primary and secondary school systems.

Two regional webinars were held, in April, on the rights of persons with disabilities in the Middle East and North Africa, focusing on the impacts of COVID-19 on mental health. The webinar featured six panellists, including three human rights treaty body experts (from CEDAW, CRC and CRPD), the former Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and two representatives of governmental organizations on mental health and persons with disabilities from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Jordan. The panellists engaged with more than 20 mental health practitioners and human rights experts from the region, including Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and the State of Palestine, and shared their experiences and good practices.

In May, OHCHR organized a regional virtual symposium on the compliance of national legislation with CRPD. The symposium discussed the compliance with CRPD of relevant national legislation in Arab countries, highlighted the current situation of persons with disabilities and provided recommendations and good practices for the fulfilment of the rights of persons with disabilities in the region. The symposium was attended by 128 activists, experts, academics, government officials, members of NHRIs and individuals, including 60 women, from Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, State of Palestine, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and the United States of America.

Additionally, on 2 December, UN Human Rights and the Arab Organization for Human Rights (AOHR) conducted a virtual conference on “Combating incitement to hatred and promoting tolerance

in the Arab region.” The objective of the online conference was to shed light on hate speech in the MENA region, including by presenting relevant international standards, plans and programmes to combat hatred, discrimination and racism. It also facilitated discussions on the important role of religious, political and societal leaders in promoting the discourse of tolerance, citizenship and acceptance of the Other. The conference brought together human rights experts and defenders, civil society leaders, legislators, media professionals and religious leaders from 14 countries in the Arab region.

Mechanisms

M2 – Promotion of the role of CSOs and NHRIs as key stakeholders within the international human rights mechanisms. Protection from reprisals is ensured.



OHCHR supported substantive submissions by NHRIs, CSOs, UN entities and individuals to the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the UPR.

OHCHR published its first regional thematic report on the right to freedom of association, entitled *Freedom of association in the Middle East and North Africa: An overview of trends, challenges and good practices*. The report focuses on the right to freedom of association in the 10 countries being served by the Regional Office, including Algeria, Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Drawing on information emanating from the engagement of States with the international human rights mechanisms, the report identifies

challenges, good practices and national updates on the right to freedom of association in all 10 countries. The report aims to inspire reflection and dialogue on how to enhance the promotion, protection and enjoyment of the right to freedom of association. It also seeks to encourage States and civil society to work together and collaborate on human rights action. The report will inform a number of events and consultations planned for 2022 and will be complemented by a second report that will focus on freedom of expression.

Peace and Security

PS5 – The Regional Office has dedicated capacity to provide early warning analysis and response.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing awareness and knowledge on the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly.

UN Human Rights supported the Oxford University Price Media Law Moot Court Competition regional rounds for the Middle East, bringing together university students from across the MENA region to debate human rights principles related to the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly. OHCHR’s engagement with universities to promote dynamic discussions and debates on human rights issues is part of its broader work in supporting and advancing youth as a spotlight population.

OHCHR provided human rights analysis based on its monitoring and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms to UNCTs, led the UNCT Human Rights Working Group in Lebanon and coordinated joint UNCT

submissions and analysis, including in relation to the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy risk assessment. UN Human Rights continued to use its case database, which has been utilized by ROMENA since 2020, to register cases of human rights violations.

STATE OF PALESTINE

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
5.22 million	6,000 km ²	0.708 (rank: 115/189 in 2019)	A Status (2015)
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	1996		
Field office(s)	East Jerusalem, Gaza, Hebron and Ramallah		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	26		

XB income **US\$2,158,115**

XB requirements 2021 **US\$5,229,000**

XB expenditure **US\$2,657,358**

Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
77%	13%	10%
\$2,045,883	\$343,378	\$268,097

RB expenditure **US\$2,512,190**

Personnel	Non-personnel
85%	15%
\$2,130,203	\$381,987

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:
Accountability

A1 – A higher proportion of Palestinian legislative instruments and policies, in particular in the security and justice sectors, comply with the State of Palestine’s international human rights obligations.

16

OHCHR contributed to increasing the compliance with international human rights standards of the Government’s oversight, accountability and/or protection mechanisms.

UN Human Rights continued to strengthen Palestine’s human rights treaty implementation and accountability, including by providing technical assistance to key government institutions and enhancing the role of civil society in holding the Government accountable for the implementation of its human rights obligations. In particular, the Office sought to build the capacities of the justice and security sector, such as law enforcement officials, to apply human rights standards in all cases of arrest, detention

and investigation. In July, OHCHR organized a workshop for the Office of the Public Prosecutor on investigating allegations of torture and ill-treatment, which focused on women in detention and the identification of physical and psychological signs of torture and ill-treatment. Another workshop was co-organized with the Ministry of Interior for police officers from the internal complaints’ units within the Palestinian Authority Security Forces to address their role in the protection of human rights, with an emphasis on CAT and ICCPR. The occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) has yet to establish a National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) in accordance with OP-CAT. OHCHR is working in coordination with international partners through the messaging of public advocacy campaigns and bilateral meetings with the Government on the NPM.

A1 – Palestinian duty-bearers have agreed to and sustained a de facto moratorium on the death penalty in the oPt and made progress towards establishing a formal moratorium.

16

OHCHR continued to engage with and facilitate dialogue between diverse stakeholders, with a view to establishing a formal moratorium on the death penalty.

UN Human Rights continued monitoring and documenting all death sentences issued by the courts of the de facto authorities in Gaza. In addition, it advocated for the fulfilment of the obligations of the de facto authorities under international law by establishing an immediate moratorium on executions as a step towards the full abolition of the death penalty. It also raised concerns about individual cases. OHCHR publicized these messages

through local social media posts, reported to the international human rights mechanisms and delivered briefings to Member States about developments. Although the number of death sentences issued and confirmed on appeal in Gaza were significant, with 16 death sentences that were issued by first instance courts and six that were confirmed on appeal, no executions have been carried out in Gaza since 2017.

In commemorating World Day Against the Death Penalty, OHCHR partnered with the European Union (EU), the Human Rights and Democracy Media Centre (SHAMS), the Independent Commission for Human Rights (ICHR), Palestine University and Palestine Aliya University to deliver a number of sessions on the abolition of the death penalty for approximately 80 students in Gaza and the West Bank. Moreover, a series of interactive social media Stories Q&As were shared to raise awareness on Palestine’s obligations related to the death penalty. The campaign was posted on OHCHR’s social media channels and reached over 64,000 people.

A1 – Member States and international and regional actors incorporate OHCHR’s information, analysis and recommendations into their positions demanding accountability for Israeli violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law in the State of Palestine.

16

OHCHR contributed to timely and high-quality information to international forums with regard to violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law committed by Israel.

UN Human Rights carried out monitoring, documentation and reporting on

human rights and violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law across the State of Palestine. Ground monitoring resumed in 2021 and the Office made use of remote monitoring and documentation methods that were put in place during the COVID-19 lockdowns. Over 125 cases were documented and the Office carried out an analysis of relevant legal developments in Israel and in Palestine. Based on information that was gathered from first-hand monitoring and analysis, OHCHR contributed to the drafting of key documents, such as the mandated reports of the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner for Human Rights and provided inputs to Security Council briefings. This information was also used in regular briefings to Member States and monthly briefings to the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), was shared with the UNCT and informed advocacy messaging of the Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC). In addition, OHCHR played a critical role in the justice and security sector working groups and advocated for the inclusion of human rights concerns, including in relation to legislative changes.

Furthermore, OHCHR established a system and trained the team to monitor and document election-related violations that were committed from January to May. As a result, OHCHR became the authoritative source for information on arrests, harassment, intimidation and other violations for the UN system and Member States. During the escalation in hostilities that occurred between Israel and Palestinian armed groups in Gaza, in May, OHCHR monitored and documented casualties and identified the status determination of emblematic cases in order to highlight its concerns regarding violations of international humanitarian law.

A2 – Israeli and Palestinian detention policies and practices conform more closely to international human rights standards. The number of cases of arbitrary detention, ill-treatment and torture has declined.

16

OHCHR contributed to enhancing legislation/policy, in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

Restrictions on access to detention facilities were lifted in the first quarter of 2021, which enabled OHCHR to conduct monitoring and document issues, such as the legality of detention, ill-treatment, torture and concerns specific to women and girls. Regular detention visits resumed in the autumn. A total of 26 visits, including 20 in the West Bank and six in Gaza, were carried out. Regular information exchanges and meetings were held with partners working on detention-related matters in Israel, Gaza and the West Bank. OHCHR was denied access to Israeli detention facilities and faced challenges in accessing Israeli data regarding Palestinians in Israeli detention. Monitoring and documentation on violations against Palestinians in Israeli detention was made possible through communications with released detainees and their family members and lawyers and with prisoners’ organizations.

OHCHR continued to document cases of arbitrary detention, including of women, allegations of ill-treatment, possibly amounting to torture, and concerns related to fair trial guarantees. OHCHR engaged in active dialogue with relevant authorities in Gaza and the West Bank to raise its concerns and provide recommendations. Despite these efforts, the human rights situation deteriorated in the West Bank. Presidential decrees undermined the

separation of powers and independence of the judiciary and abuses were committed by Palestinian Security Forces following the cancellation of long overdue elections. OHCHR undertook advocacy, including through meetings with the Prime Minister, and highlighted detention-related concerns with Member States and donors actively supporting the security and justice sectors. There was no contact with Israeli authorities.

To strengthen the capacity of actors in the justice and security sector to apply human rights standards, OHCHR delivered a workshop for the Office of the Public Prosecutor on investigating allegations of torture and ill-treatment. Another workshop was held for police officers within the Palestinian Authority Security Forces on the role of their internal complaints units in the protection of human rights, with a focus on CAT and ICCPR.



Participation

P1 – Laws, policies and practices that protect civic space and the right to participate, including online, are strengthened and respected by both Israeli and Palestinian authorities.

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OHCHR continued to raise the awareness of both Israeli and Palestinian authorities regarding their obligations related to the protection of civic space.

OHCHR stepped up its monitoring and reporting on civic space-related violations and documented 22 cases of violations. OHCHR met regularly with CSOs to exchange information on how to increase protection for HRDs and increased its cooperation with the national human rights institution (NHRI) on HRDs.

OHCHR provided trainings and technical support to CSOs, the NHRI and government institutions on international human rights mechanisms, standards and monitoring. In August, a working session was held with the NHRI in Gaza and the West Bank on working with and protecting HRDs. In July and October, the Office collaborated with the Ministry of Women's Affairs to deliver a series of trainings to CSOs on WHRDs, which was attended by more than 75 participants from Gaza and the West Bank. In July, in cooperation with the NHRI and UNESCO, a working session was held on the international human rights mechanisms, with a focus on free media. The session was attended by 14 journalists from Gaza and the West Bank. In August, the Office partnered with UNESCO to convene a workshop on mechanisms for the safety of journalists.

To raise public awareness about the protection of HRDs, OHCHR engaged with diplomats on Human Rights Day to encourage solidarity with HRDs by posting photos of themselves featuring the hashtag “#IStandwithHumanRightsDefenders” on social media platforms. The campaign was shared on OHCHR's social media channels and reached over 100,000 people.



Non-discrimination

ND3 – Israeli practices (as the occupying power) and Palestinian laws, policies and practices increasingly comply with international human rights standards related to sexual and gender-based violence and other discriminatory practices against women as a first step towards the promotion of women's equality.

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OHCHR contributed to increasing the knowledge of Palestinian women about their rights, including by engaging with relevant actors and creating networks with civil society partners.

OHCHR increased its monitoring of women's rights in priority areas, including the gendered impacts of the occupation in terms of violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, WHRDs, women in detention and SGBV. UN Human Rights continued to gather disaggregated data on women in Israeli and Palestinian detention. It carried out four visits to women in detention in Gaza and the West Bank and to a shelter in the West Bank.

OHCHR engaged with Palestinian security agencies and authorities in Gaza and the West Bank to follow up on cases of concern and identify wider patterns of discrimination against women, including discriminatory movement restrictions in Gaza. In August, in cooperation with the Ministry of Women's Affairs, OHCHR delivered trainings on an HRBA and human rights mainstreaming for staff of gender units within Palestinian Ministries. In December, the Office cooperated with the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Women's Affairs to provide another training on a HRBA for staff of gender units and supporting units within the

general intelligence service and military intelligence service.

The Office consistently highlighted women's rights and gender issues in presentations to donors and the international community. Critical women's rights issues were reflected in OHCHR's public statements and communications products. In partnership with UN Women, the Office marked International Women's Day with a campaign to raise awareness about women's political participation in the context of elections. The campaign was rolled out across the State of Palestine and included a series of six social media cards, five daily radio spots on six local radio stations and an animation video that was shared on social media and aired on the two primary local TV stations. On the occasion of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign, the Office launched its own campaign, with a focus on violence against women in the streets, online and in the home. A series of videos were developed with the testimonies of GBV survivors and a set of social media cards with key advocacy messages were directed towards duty-bearers and the general public. Through OHCHR's social media channels, the campaign amassed over 815,000 views.

ND7 – National authorities recognize and have begun to address discrimination against groups with hidden vulnerabilities who are at a high risk of institutional and social discrimination for cultural reasons.

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OHCHR contributed to improving the narrative on selected human rights issues by identifying and mapping hidden vulnerabilities in Gaza and the West Bank

and monitoring the violations to which they are subjected.

OHCHR increased its work on the rights of persons with disabilities by providing technical assistance to government institutions, strengthening civil society engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, such as CRPD, and increasing awareness-raising and advocacy campaigns on disability rights. In cooperation with ICHR, OHCHR organized a workshop on alternative reporting and engaging with the CRPD Committee. In February, the Office launched an awareness-raising campaign to disseminate COVID-19-related information, in accessible formats, for persons with disabilities and their families, including information on psychological and social support services that are provided by the Government and NGOs. The campaign was developed and implemented in cooperation with organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), the Ministry of Social Development and the Ministry of Health. The campaign registered more than 230,000 views on the social media channels of OHCHR, Palestinian Television, the Government and CSOs. In March, OHCHR cooperated with the NHRI and the Central Elections Commission (CEC) to conduct workshops on the equal participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities in elections. On the occasion of International Day of Persons with Disabilities (3 December), OHCHR partnered with the Palestinian NGO Network (PNGO) to produce a video featuring the experiences of activist Ms. Rabab Nofal, from Gaza, who speaks about the daily challenges, stigma and discrimination she faces as a woman living with a disability and the lack of available services in Gaza. The video has amassed more than 200,000 views.

With regard to LGBTI rights, UN Human Rights continued to monitor individual situations and cases and participated in an informal group, composed of international and national civil society actors and the NHRI, to exchange information and devise responses and protection strategies in relation to individuals at risk. Collaboration with UNFPA, as the GBV Sub-Cluster coordinating agency, was strengthened to provide various means to address sensitive cases, particularly in light of insufficient protection offered by the authorities in the West Bank and the total absence of protection in Gaza. Efforts were initiated to map and analyse the situation and applicable domestic legislation across the State of Palestine.



Peace and Security

PS5 – Human rights are integrated into the Humanitarian Programme Cycle, including its strategy, planning and programming, and into advocacy efforts undertaken by the Humanitarian Coordinator and Humanitarian Country Team.

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UN Human Rights contributed to ensuring that humanitarian operations integrate into their work the international human rights norms, standards and principles and the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR responded to shifting needs, including as a result of the 11-day escalation in violence that took place in May, by strengthening its coordination with partners and authorities, adapting its work modalities and enhancing remote responses in line with global minimum standards. In ensuring updated information, the Office consistently met reporting

requirements and circulated daily updates and situation reports. In addition, the Office developed and coordinated protection components of the Flash Appeal, in May, and incorporated funding for projects addressing child protection, service provision for GBV survivors, mental health, housing and land and property. It also ensured that programmes to monitor and document violations of international law during the escalation were included in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and the oPt Humanitarian Fund. Moreover, the Office led the Protection Sector’s annual needs analysis and response planning through extensive consultations with implementing partners, thereby contributing to the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and the 2022 HRP. It was also responsible for the implementation of the 2021 HRP Protection Response. OHCHR ensured that protection, including human rights and international humanitarian law, remained central to the humanitarian context analysis. During the May escalation, the Office activated the Protection Cluster’s Contingency Plan and Emergency Preparedness Response for Gaza and supported the implementation of the Gaza Inter-Agency Contingency Plan. The Office organized a lessons learned exercise regarding the emergency response, in May, and contributed to the OCHA-led After Action Review. The lessons learned reports will be used to revise the 2022 Emergency Preparedness Plan and simulation exercises. Finally, the Office produced its first protection analysis update, in line with the new Protection Analysis Framework that was developed by the Global Protection Cluster, which served as pilot experience for the Framework and closely contributed to its development.

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
18.28 million	185,000 km ²	0.567 (rank: 151/189 in 2019) -	-
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	2018		
Field office(s)	Based in Beirut, Lebanon with presence in Gaziantep, Turkey and Amman, Jordan		
UN partnership framework	-		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	16		
XB income	US\$1,430,492		
XB requirements 2021	US\$4,941,000		
XB expenditure	US\$2,809,341		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC⁴	
83%	8%	9%	
\$2,317,607	\$231,005	\$260,729	

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A5 – Regular integration of human rights-based issues into the ongoing work of the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria (OSE).

16

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which the peace missions integrate international human rights norms, standards and principles and the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into their work.

Over the course of the year, the Office produced the legal note on the “Accountability in Syria under the Convention against

Torture: The Joint Canada/Netherlands’ Initiative,” which was disseminated in English and Arabic. It also prepared a number of ad hoc advisory documents for its UN, diplomatic and civil society partners on topics such as sieges, returns and economic and social rights.

In addition, OHCHR shared its data and analysis with UN partners, including the OSE, on topics that are relevant to their respective mandates, including detention, abduction and missing persons; the situation in areas of shifting control; economic and social rights; protection and human rights concerns arising in the al-Hol camp and the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Office’s long-standing work on detention and missing persons was a particular focus in its 2021 programming and it reached out regularly to OSE and the ICRC around its work in this area. These two agencies are key members of a forum of international actors that the Office has been working with for more than four years to strengthen communication among stakeholders. OHCHR organized two collective meetings with forum members, in February and June, and maintained quarterly (or more frequent) bilateral meetings with each agency. OHCHR’s messaging on this issue was reflected in public statements delivered by the High Commissioner for Human Rights and in interventions of the High Commissioner, Deputy High Commissioner and other senior officials at General Assembly meetings, the Fifth Brussels Conference on “Supporting the future of Syria and the region” and other activities. Furthermore, the Office developed a briefing on the right to know the truth about the circumstances of an enforced disappearance and the fate of a disappeared person in order to help Syrian and international counterparts understand the legal framework of this right.

A3 – Accountability initiatives address sexual and gender-based violence. Syrian civil society has increased its capacity to monitor SGBV and associated violations.

5 10 16

OHCHR contributed to strengthening protection mechanisms and accountability for SGBV, including through advocacy work.

OHCHR supported Syrian civil society to know their rights in this area. In September, the Office organized a two-day online training on international mechanisms and resolutions for the promotion, protection

and advancement of women’s rights. A total of 21 participants, including 14 women and seven men from 11 organizations, attended the workshop. The workshop covered a variety of topics, including the concept of gender and gender-based violence, an introduction to CEDAW, international human rights mechanisms for the protection of women’s rights, the SDGs and its interlinkages with human rights and gender and an introduction to Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. In 2022, the Office will be working bilaterally to follow up with the participants and provide support.

OHCHR has long emphasized the gender-based impact of detention and enforced disappearance in Syria and consistently highlights its specific impact on women and girls in its public advocacy and messaging. This was further elaborated during a three-day workshop, in September, with family associations and other Syrian CSOs on applying an HRBA to their advocacy and programming, including through the use of the international human rights mechanisms to raise their claims. Such activities are an important element in the Office’s cross-cutting programming on missing persons across all units. Substantial progress was reported in 2021, with an escalated momentum in the call for an independent mechanism to clarify the fate and whereabouts of missing persons. This culminated in the adoption by the General Assembly Third Committee of a resolution that tasks OHCHR with undertaking a study to bolster efforts in this area.

For Human Rights Day, the Office organized an online roundtable on “Equality and the right to health in Syria,” during which Syrian CSOs were invited to present their work and concerns on issues of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and in relation to

persons with disabilities. The Deputy High Commissioner and the Deputy Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for Syria made opening remarks, which were followed by statements from key guest speakers, including the OHCHR Disability Adviser, the UNFPA Regional Adviser, international NGOs and Syrian CSOs working on these issues. A pre-recorded message from the UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences was relayed to participants.

Participation

P4 – The civic space in the Syrian Arab Republic has expanded, enabling civil society actors and victims’ rights groups to defend human rights in a safe and enabling environment.

8 16

OHCHR facilitated the engagement of CSOs working inside and outside of Syria with the international human rights mechanisms.

The Office’s work with Syrian civil society remained robust in 2021. Particular emphasis was placed on supporting the sub-granting process for five grassroots Syrian CSOs working inside the country. More specifically, the Office worked with an implementing partner to provide technical and financial assistance and mentoring to organizations implementing community-level HRBA projects in government-held areas. OHCHR sought to engage organizations inside Syria that have had less access to international expertise and capacity-building opportunities as those abroad. Selected projects addressed issues such as social cohesion, women’s rights and child protection. OHCHR

organized a series of roundtables for CSOs on the rights of the child and their protection; effective advocacy strategies, including social media; international human rights mechanisms and resolutions for the promotion, protection and advancement of women's rights; and risk assessment and security training. A total of 66 individuals (49 women, 17 men) participated in the roundtables.

This process is paving the way for new partnerships between the Office and a broader array of local organizations, including CSOs undertaking capacity-building for other groups, with a view to promoting this methodology as a valuable entry point to human rights work in a context that is marked by restricted civic space. While the preparation of a publication was anticipated, the Office temporarily deferred this activity due to the timeframe required for the completion of the projects.

In 2022, OHCHR will build on this work by organizing a new round of sub-grants to support grassroots Syrian CSO programming.

To support engagement in Syria's third UPR cycle, scheduled in January 2022, the Office organized three trainings to facilitate the participation of Syrian CSOs. A total of three online trainings were held, in March, for nearly 70 CSO representatives working with organizations based inside and outside of Syria. Following the trainings, at least nine CSOs submitted organization-specific alternative reports and additional organizations contributed to joint reports. The Office also facilitated a meeting, in December, during which CSOs presented their concerns to Member States.

Furthermore, OHCHR renewed its capacity-building support for CSOs in relation to monitoring and documentation with a three-day training, in December, for 18 participants based inside and outside of

Syria. The Office conducted two thematic workshops in 2021. The first workshop focused on international human rights mechanisms for CSOs working on women's rights and gender issues and the second elaborated on the HRBA for those working on enforced disappearance. These activities were complemented by a three-day training on monitoring and evaluation.

Dedicated support was offered to Gaziantep-based organizations through the long-established Human Rights Reference Group (HRRG), which held bimonthly meetings throughout 2021. Established to provide a space for Syrian human rights NGOs to share information with humanitarian actors, the HRRG meetings addressed topics such as the engagement of the international human rights mechanisms on key economic and social rights, gender equality and the Office's forthcoming work on Leaving No One Behind.

Peace and Security

PS4 – Syria has embarked on a process which appropriately integrates a gender perspective in order to meaningfully address the past, with support from the international community.

16 

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which transitional justice mechanisms that conform to international human rights norms and standards are in place and/or functioning.

OHCHR retained its programmatic focus on missing persons as a key priority, cutting across all programming areas. The Office maintained a strong gender perspective in its reporting, analysis and advocacy messaging given the gendered harms of enforced disappearance. Specifically, the

Office included this issue as a key theme within its monitoring and reporting activities. OHCHR took steps to strengthen the work of family associations and other CSOs by encouraging the application of an HRBA to their programming and advocacy and the use of OHCHR's platform to amplify their messages.

The Office convened regular inter-agency discussions of UN and non-UN actors (the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic (CoI), the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, OSE, ICRC and the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)) that are working on issues related to detainees and missing persons in Syria. Furthermore, it organized a high-level meeting between OHCHR, the CoI and OSE on the mechanism and convened a meeting of Member States, in May, so that family associations could present diplomats with their vision of how this issue should be addressed.

Moreover, OHCHR developed inclusive transitional justice-related messaging that emphasized the importance of the right to know the truth and accountability. It also provided materials to support the call of the families for the establishment of a mechanism to clarify the fate and whereabouts of those who have gone missing.

Finally, the Office focused on this issue in public and private advocacy initiatives, such as the 10-year statement by the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the delivery of high-level messages at the Fifth Brussels Conference and the production of a web story on missing persons in Syria.

PS5 – Human rights are effectively integrated into the humanitarian response in Syria, including in planning and strategic approaches and in operational terms.

3 5 8 10 13 16 17 

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which humanitarian operations integrate into their work the international human rights norms, standards and principles and the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR succeeded in securing greater support from humanitarian leadership and partners to include human rights issues in their response based on verified monitoring information and data gathered in their Syria response. More specifically, stronger language that reflects international human rights law and international humanitarian law was used in key humanitarian documents, including the Humanitarian Needs Overview and the Humanitarian Response Plan. In addition, a humanitarian leadership Protection Advocacy Plan was adopted. Moreover, the Office contributed to the improved use of relevant legal norms by these partners, within the framework of their respective mandates.

Specifically, OHCHR supported the UNCT's revision of the United Nations Strategic Framework, the preparation of the Collaborative Risk Management Strategy, an update of the Risk Register and the report on the COVID-19 Socio-economic Impact Assessment. OHCHR also provided support to the UNCT sub-structures, including the Resident Coordinator's Office, the Project Management Team and the Working Groups on gender, the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and risk management.

The Office also worked with senior humanitarians to strengthen advocacy messaging in response to crisis situations, such as reduced water levels in the Euphrates River, civilian casualties in Al Atareb and Aleppo City, severe interruptions at the Alouk Water Station, the situation in Afrin, including a strike on the al-Shifaa Hospital and increased hostilities in Dara'a.

OHCHR also supported the Humanitarian Liaison Group (HLG) meetings and the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) in Gaziantep by providing technical advice on international human rights law and international humanitarian law issues, including on protection-related developments in north-west Syria. Further, it participated in meetings of the Syrian Salvation Government (SSG), delivered written and oral updates on the situation in Syria, including in al-Hol and other areas of concern, and issued recommendations on required action to the co-chairs and humanitarian leadership.

Between April and June, the Office delivered nine briefings to UNCT members on the UPR process, the reporting framework and how to draft a report for consideration in the review. In August, it supported the submission of the UNCT's first joint report for inclusion in the *Compilation of UN Information* report.

Finally, OHCHR provided support for the revision/operationalization of the Humanitarian Coordinators' Protection Advocacy Plan, which was endorsed by the SSG, in June. OHCHR worked with Whole of Syria (WoS) stakeholders to identify key protection issues that will be emphasized in forthcoming high-level advocacy initiatives and operations, including: 1) protection of civilians in the conduct of hostilities; 2) freedom of

movement; 3) mitigating risks of gender-based violence; and 4) addressing explosive ordnance. OHCHR's suggestion to table a regular protection briefing at SSG meetings was endorsed. Despite the ongoing provision of technical guidance and support to the Humanitarian Coordinators and WoS Protection Sector, the SSG delayed the decision to table the protection item on its agenda that was endorsed in June.

TUNISIA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
11.94 million	164,000 km ²	0.740 (rank: 95/189 in 2019)	B Status (2009)
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	2011		
Field office(s)	Tunis		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2021-2025		
Staff as of 31 December 2021	18		

XB income	US\$579,267		
XB requirements 2021	US\$3,405,000		
XB expenditure	US\$1,145,421		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
66%	23%	11%	
\$753,977	\$259,638	\$131,806	

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Non-discrimination

ND1 – National laws, policies and practices more effectively combat racial discrimination and discrimination against ethnic and national minorities, people of African descent, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, migrants, women and LGBTI persons.



Through technical assistance provided to relevant partners, OHCHR supported the prevention of discrimination and the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities.

In the context of a project on the integration of an HRBA and economic, social and cultural rights (ESCRs) in planning processes at the municipal level, the Office delivered its first workshop, in April, with one of the two pilot municipalities, Menzel Bouzelfa. Nearly 25 attendees participated in the workshop, including persons with disabilities, members of the municipality Council and leaders of youth networks. The workshop focused on ESCRs, the rights of persons with disabilities as enshrined in CRPD and national legislation related to the fundamental rights of persons with disabilities. In November, the Office organized a second workshop

with the Municipality of Menzel Bouzelfa on the application of a disability-inclusive approach to local policies, with the aim of supporting the development of an inclusive development programme. As a result of this work, persons with disabilities in Menzel Bouzelfa have increased their participation in municipal-level decision-making fora.

Furthermore, in September, OHCHR supported a group of women with disabilities from Tunis, Sfax, Gabes and Gafsa governorates in the process of creating the first association of women with disabilities in Tunisia. The Office facilitated two training sessions for 21 women representatives from CSOs on the legal framework for disability services and support associations in Tunisia and on the rights of persons with disabilities and relevant national legislation.

Peace and Security

PS2 – The State develops and implements policies and practices to counter terrorism and violent extremism that are in compliance with international human rights standards and relevant UN resolutions and guidelines and ensures that civil society participates meaningfully in this process.



Through training and awareness-raising activities, OHCHR aimed to support the increased compliance of policies on counter-terrorism and violent extremism with international human rights norms and standards, and to promote societal dialogue based on tolerance and inclusion.

On 7 April, the Office launched a joint project with UNESCO on “Empowering the education system and school communities

through the promotion of human rights, global citizenship education and media literacy.” The project, through the mainstreaming of human rights language and concepts, aims to build the capacity of the national education system and community education actors to prevent violence and hate speech among youth, while also supporting Tunisia in implementing its National Action Plan on the Prevention of Violent Extremism.

The Office continued to support the National Counter-Terrorism Commission, including by facilitating a consultation between the Commission and civil society that was co-organized with UNDP to review the National Strategy to Combat Violent Extremism and Terrorism for 2022-2026.

PS4 – The Specialized Criminal Chambers, the Government, the Parliament and civil society are equipped to fulfil their respective mandates and roles with regard to the transitional justice process.



OHCHR continued advocating for the pursuit of the transitional justice process in Tunisia.

The final list of 126 martyrs and 634 wounded during the revolution was published on 19 March in the Official Journal of the Tunisian Republic. It has been more than five years since the list was published by the Higher Committee for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. OHCHR delivered the initial training, as required by law, to the judiciary of the Specialized Criminal Chambers. It also supported CSOs in their monitoring of the transitional justice-related trials. To date, no judgments have been handed down.

On 10 December, the Office and Lawyers Without Borders co-organized an event, in the Delegation of Gaafour, to commemorate the implementation of one of the recommendations outlined in the final report of the Truth and Dignity Commission, namely, the establishment of a museum that is dedicated to the fight against torture. The museum is housed in the premises of the police station where the martyr Nabil Baraketi was tortured and killed in 1987. Two public memorial stones bearing the names of the four martyrs of the region were installed and a theatre performance was held in front of the old Gaafour police station. More than 150 participants attended the event, including the Delegate of Gaafour, the President of the municipality, CSO representatives, the President and three members of the Truth and Dignity Commission, the former Cabinet Minister responsible for relations with Constitutional Bodies, Civil Society and Human Rights and the former Chief of the National Bar Association and former President of the General Authority of Resistance Fighters, Martyrs and Wounded of the Revolution and Terrorist Operations.

Participation

P7 – There is increasing public recognition of the importance of human rights education. Public education helps learners to develop effective responses to violence, including terrorism and violent extremism.



OHCHR contributed to increased levels of engagement by the religious community in support of human rights.

Under the Memorandum of Understanding between UN Human Rights and the Ministry of Religious Affairs, the Office supported the Ministry and the Union of Imams in organizing a series of three workshops for a total of 73 imams preachers and professional worship staff from across the country, including 23 women, dedicated to freedom of expression and countering hate speech. The workshops aimed at reinforcing the understanding of the imams about international standards on freedom of expression and the Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence. It also sought to enhance their ability to identify, prevent and/or counter hate speech, with the aim to contribute to the promotion of pluralism and non-discrimination within their communities.

Accountability

A2 – The National Preventive Mechanism is operational and delivers its mandate in compliance with international human rights standards.

10 16

OHCHR supported the increased compliance of the NPM with international human rights standards on the prevention of torture and ill-treatment in places of deprivation of liberty.

In 2021, the NPM proactively pursued its mandate to monitor prison facilities and issued several public statements to express its concerns, particularly in relation to the police handling of and response to the January riots, cases of torture allegedly committed by the Internal Security Forces and suspicious deaths that occurred in detention. In April, the Office and the NPM undertook the first joint visit to the prison of Borj El Amri in the Manouba Governorate, with a focus on the conditions of detention, including issues of overcrowding, due process standards and family visits. Several recommendations were made to the Director of the prison at the end of the visit.

A3 – Judges assigned to cases that involve gender-based violence are trained on the application of national legislation, in compliance with international human rights standards.

5 10 16 

OHCHR continued to develop the capacity of the judiciary to use national and international accountability mechanisms to address gender-based violence.

In December, the Office completed and publicly launched a study on the status of the implementation of Law No. 58-2017 on violence against women by the justice sector. It also contributed to a special session dedicated to the examination of the Law, which was organized at the request of the Parliament. More specifically, the Office delivered a session to Members of Parliament on relevant international human rights standards. Furthermore, at the request of the Ministry of Justice, the Office provided 28 courts of first instance with copies of the Guide and a Trainer’s Manual that were issued in 2019 and 2020, respectively, as part of a comprehensive capacity-building programme for judges. The publications provide examples of good practices of fighting gender stereotypes and adjudicating cases of violence against women.

YEMEN

Population size¹ 30.49 million **Surface area¹** 528,000 km² **Human Development Index²** 0.470 (rank: 179/189 in 2019) **NHRI (if applicable)³** -

Type of engagement	Country Office
Year established	2012
Field office(s)	Sana’a, Aden
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022-2024
Staff as of 31 December 2021	15

XB income **US\$4,384,518**

XB requirements 2021 **US\$8,612,000**

XB expenditure US\$3,841,483	
Personnel 58% \$2,216,854	Non-personnel 31% \$1,181,245
	PSC⁴ 11% \$443,384

Key OMP pillars in 2021



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.176 and p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – National institutions, including the Ministry of Interior’s Corrections and Rehabilitation Authority and the Yemeni National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), curb human rights violations.

16

OHCHR continued to improve accountability and strengthen the capacity of NCIAVHR.

Between February and June, OHCHR held capacity-building sessions for staff

of NCIAVHR on administrative support, including logistics, procurement, finance and human resources. Under the International Development Law Organization project, OHCHR delivered online training on the investigation of violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law. In November, a dedicated training was delivered to 38 field monitors, in Aden, which included information about stress management related to human rights work. OHCHR also contributed to strengthening the IT capacities of NCIAVHR through the installation of new hardware and software to enable improved support for the Commission’s field monitors.

In September, OHCHR facilitated a mission to Geneva of nine committee members to increase their understanding of the work and modalities of the international human rights mechanisms, including by engaging with the international human rights experts. On this occasion, the committee members met with members of the international community in Geneva, presented NCIAVHR’s 9th annual report and outlined the activities planned for the biennium 2021-2022.

Participation

P4 – Civil society assistance to victims of human rights violations is strengthened.

8 16 

OHCHR contributed to increased levels of engagement by the religious community in support of human rights.

In July, OHCHR organized a workshop for Government counterparts and CSOs on the reporting cycle and drafting alternative reports to the CEDAW Committee. OHCHR also supported national partners in the preparation of progress reports and engaged the National Committee for Women and Ministry of Human Rights and Legal Affairs (MOHRLA) to discuss the status of recommendations issued by CEDAW during the previous reporting cycle. In Aden, OHCHR facilitated the engagement of the Civil Alliance for Rights and Feminism (CARF) in the work of CEDAW, which resulted in the submission of an alternative report.

In November, OHCHR convened the fifth meeting of the Human Rights Network to discuss its mission statement and future activities. This is a recently established coalition of six Aden-based CSOs and individuals that provides a platform

for networking and discussions on substantive human rights issues. At the same time, OHCHR's Senior Minority Fellow continued to engage representatives from various religious minorities (i.e., Christian converts, Jews, Bahai, Ismailis) and the Muhamasheen minority on human rights issues. As a result, preparations are ongoing to launch a minority rights platform in 2022 with a public event in Cairo.

During the year, OHCHR improved the knowledge and skills on the promotion and protection of human rights of more than 300 CSOs, including human rights defenders, by disseminating information on the work of the international human rights mechanisms, documenting violations and providing other relevant resources.



Participation

P5 – The capacity of CSOs to promote and protect human rights is strengthened.



OHCHR continued to monitor and report on violations of freedom of expression and opinion.

Following the escalation of the conflict, many organizations closed and activists fled the country or resumed their operations outside the country. OHCHR continued to document restrictions on civic space and to analyse the impacts of COVID-19 on freedom of expression across the country.

Throughout the year, OHCHR documented 29 incidents of violations of freedom of expression and opinion, including four killings, three injuries, 10 detentions, two arrests, three employment dismissals and seven raids of media outlets that resulted in a confiscation of goods and ultimate closure.



Peace and Security

PS1 – Violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law are monitored and reported. Particular attention is paid to abuses perpetrated by parties to the conflict, especially arbitrary detention and abuses that target civilians and civilian objectives. The information gathered informs UN responses.

5 16

OHCHR continued to strengthen the capacities of relevant authorities of the Government of Yemen by monitoring, documenting and reporting on human rights violations, including those affecting vulnerable groups, with a focus on detention facilities.

From January to November, OHCHR documented a total of 1,420 human rights violations and 643 incidents, including 883 civilian casualties, 290 cases of arbitrary detention, six cases of enforced disappearance, 29 violations of the rights to freedom of opinion and expression, 24 cases of gender-based violence and 188 attacks against civilian objects. In addition, between January and September, OHCHR referred 208 victims to protection partners for assistance, including legal aid, medical assistance, access to shelter, non-food items, psychosocial support and financial support.

Three fact-finding missions took place in the Governorates of Marib, Saad'a and Al-Dhaleh. Despite the challenges resulting from COVID-19 restrictions, OHCHR visited the Shabwah Criminal Investigation Prison (Shabwah Governorate), in March, and the Al Mansoura Central Prison (Aden Governorate), in November. After the latter visit, OHCHR reported its observations and recommendations on improving

detention conditions to the Ministry of Interior and the Office of the Attorney General.

In addition, OHCHR promoted joint advocacy efforts and engaged authorities, NCIAMHR, CSOs, the UN system and members of the international community on the promotion and protection of human rights in Yemen. This included press statements and inputs to the reports of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Secretary-General on issues related to violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, the death penalty, the rights of minorities, reprisals, the rights of persons with disabilities and freedom of religion and belief. In partnership with UNICEF, training workshops were organized on the monitoring and reporting mechanisms of grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict, in Aden and Sanaa, in August and October, respectively.

Finally, OHCHR supported the early informal translation and dissemination of the concluding observations issued by CEDAW following its consideration of Yemen's seventh and eighth periodic reports. In December, OHCHR participated in the Fourth Feminist Summit, held in Aden, and contributed to discussions regarding the formulation of Yemen's next National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, which is anticipated to be renewed in 2022 with support from an adviser seconded to UNDP and working with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

UN HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING AND DOCUMENTATION CENTRE FOR SOUTH-WEST ASIA AND THE ARAB REGION

Type of engagement	Regional Centre
Countries of engagement	Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, State of Palestine, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen
Year established	2009
Field office(s)	Doha, Qatar
Staff as of 31 December 2021	5

XB income	US\$236,400		
XB requirements 2021	US\$720,000		
XB expenditure	US\$165,608		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
56%	32%	12%	
\$93,426	\$53,130	\$19,052	
RB expenditure	US\$858,448		
Personnel	Non-personnel		
75%	25%		
\$640,334	\$218,114		

Key OMP pillars in 2021



⁴ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.179

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.

16

OHCHR contributed to the enhanced capacity of judges and other stakeholders to increase accountability for serious

violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

In February, UN Human Rights and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar co-organized a training on CAT for judges, prosecutors, law enforcement officers, prison staff, health officials and representatives of the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It aimed to improve the understanding of participants about the international legal framework for the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading

treatment or punishment through the application of international standards and the use of UN tools in investigations and reporting. It also provided support to the Government to further develop its policies and practices and strengthen accountability measures.

OHCHR supported the UNAMI in delivering a training for CSOs on the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance and to enhance their capacities to address related issues. Participants were introduced to ICPED and the role of CSOs in supporting victims of enforced disappearance and their families, as well as the obligations of the Government to follow up on the recommendations issued by the Committee on Enforced Disappearances. Furthermore, OHCHR delivered a training to Iraqi officials to develop their capacities to handle cases of enforced disappearance, encourage follow-up on recommendations issued by the Committee and emphasize the importance of submitting Iraq's State Party report on time. The training was attended by officials from law enforcement, security, intelligence, forensics and judicial bodies.

In an effort to provide stakeholders with access to key publications, which are also used in trainings, UN Human Rights published *The general comments of the Committee against Torture*; the *Updated set of principles relating to the protection and promotion of human rights through taking action to combat impunity*; and *The basic principles and guidelines on the right to a remedy and reparation for victims of gross violations of international human rights law and serious violations of international humanitarian law*. Additionally, OHCHR translated into Arabic the *Guidance on casualty recording*; and *Preventing torture: The*

role of National Preventive Mechanisms. It also reviewed the Arabic translation of the *Manual on human rights monitoring*; and the *Resource book on the use of force and firearms in law enforcement*, both of which will be published in 2022.

Mechanisms

M1 – Stronger National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRFs), with a clear and comprehensive mandate, are established/promoted.

16 17

OHCHR strengthened the capacities of States in the Arab region to effectively engage with the international human rights mechanisms.

UN Human Rights organized four online training workshops to foster the engagement of civil society during the UPR of the Syrian Arab Republic. Sixty-one participants (29 women, 32 men) attended from various CSOs operating in Syria, including women's rights groups. The participants received useful resource materials, such as a compilation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms in relation to Syria.

As part of OHCHR's efforts to increase the engagement of CSOs with the international human rights system, OHCHR cooperated with the Geneva Institute for Human Rights to hold a virtual training programme for CSOs from 18 Member States in the Arab region. Participants were introduced to human rights terminology and the international human rights treaties. They were also provided with a general overview of the work and modalities of the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the UPR as tools to promote

and protect human rights. The training also covered the regional and national human rights mechanisms, human rights indicators and links between human rights and the SDGs.

In addition, OHCHR organized a regional training on “Reporting to the human rights mechanisms and follow-up to recommendations,” to increase the knowledge of participants regarding the preparation and drafting of State reports and the role and functions of NMRFs. It provided participants with tools and good practices related to follow-up on recommendations, which included an introduction to the Universal Human Rights Index (UHRI) and the National Recommendations Tracking Database(NRTD). Thirty participants from 14 countries in the region attended the training.

OHCHR and the Arab Network of National Human Rights Institutions co-organized a training workshop, in Comoros, on “Introducing the international human rights system and establishing national human rights institutions in accordance with the Paris Principles.” The workshop outlined the accreditation process of GANHRI and was attended by 40 participants, including representatives from the National Human Rights Committee, relevant line ministries, the Parliament, members of the judiciary, lawyers, CSOs, journalists and academics.

M2 – CSOs, NHRIs and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes.

17 

OHCHR strengthened the capacities of actors in the Arab region to effectively engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes.

UN Human Rights collaborated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar to organize a training on “The Engagement of the State of Qatar with the international human rights mechanisms,” to improve the knowledge and skills of participants on the engagement and implementation of the recommendations issued by those mechanisms. Participants were introduced to the contents and tools of the UN human rights system, including the international human rights treaties, with special emphasis on the work and functions of the CAT, CEDAW and CRPD Committees; the work and modalities of the Human Rights Council; the UPR; and the role and mandate of the special procedures, with a focus on the work of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education and the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention. The participants were also introduced to human rights indicators and the UHRI.

In partnership with the League of Arab States, OHCHR organized the first phase of a training of trainers to strengthen the knowledge of participants about the international and regional human rights systems and mechanisms and thematic and non-thematic topics, including respecting human rights while countering terrorism, trafficking in persons, refugees and transitional justice.

During the reporting period, UN Human Rights produced a variety of guidance, reference and training materials, such as *Qatar's obligations under international human rights law* for the Human Rights Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Qatar; *Recommendations made by the Universal Periodic Review to Mauritania*; and *Recommendations made by the special procedures to Mauritania*; and for the NHRI in Kuwait, *Status of ratifications, reporting status, reservations and declarations and objections to the main treaties ratified by Kuwait*; *Recommendations made to Kuwait by the human rights treaty bodies*; and *Recommendations made to Kuwait by the Universal Periodic Review*.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – National laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination against religious, ethnic and national minorities, persons with disabilities, migrants and women. Responsible authorities actively work to “Leave No One Behind,” including by addressing the root causes of inequality and creating linkages between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and human rights.

5 10 16  

OHCHR continued to enhance the knowledge of State institutions and other stakeholders on the rights of persons with disabilities and gender equality.

UN Human Rights and the Qatar Social Work Foundation co-organized a workshop on “The rights of persons with disabilities” for the staff members of several entities of the Foundation. The workshop focused on how to effectively engage with the international human

rights system, the guiding principles of CRPD, Qatar's obligations under the Convention and its forthcoming State Party report and promoting the rights of persons with disabilities in all aspects of society. Participants were also introduced to the mandate and work of the special procedures in relation to the rights of persons with disabilities, the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members and the human rights of persons with albinism. Also discussed at the workshop was the 2019 Doha Declaration and Roadmap “Toward greater complementarity between the UN CRPD and UN SDGs in the context of disability.”

Moreover, OHCHR collaborated with the Qatar Social Work Foundation to organize a training to strengthen the knowledge of participants on the principles of reporting to CRPD, the importance of using human rights indicators and the preparation of alternative reports to CRPD.

OHCHR organized and delivered a workshop on a “Human rights-based approach to advocacy” for Syrian CSOs working on women's rights and gender-related issues. The workshop aimed to build their capacities to apply a HRBA and develop a results-based framework that focuses on planning and advocacy.

A roundtable was organized on “Gender stereotypes in educational curricula” to facilitate an exchange of experiences and prepare a road map for the integration of a gender perspective into educational curricula and textbooks as part of a wider objective to combat gender stereotypes and foster human rights education in primary and secondary school systems. Thirty-six participants from 12 countries in the region were in attendance.

A second roundtable was organized for representatives of various ministries of education in the Arab region to provide an opportunity for discussion, evaluate educational curricula from a gender perspective and propose practical recommendations regarding methods and measures to address gender stereotypes in these curricula. The roundtable led to the creation of a road map for the integration of a gender perspective, the elimination of gender stereotypes and the introduction of a gender-neutral curricula. A total of 47 participants from eight countries in the region attended the roundtable.

OHCHR also organized an online training on the role of young WHRDs in human rights monitoring and reporting and on international human rights standards and mechanisms relevant to women's rights and WHRDs. In the first half of the training, participants were introduced to the concept of gender-based discrimination, the international legal framework for the protection of women's rights under CEDAW and the role of the CEDAW Committee and the special procedures. The second part of the training covered principles related to human rights monitoring, documentation, collecting information, reporting on human rights violations and interactions between the international human rights system and civil society. Thirty-five participants representing 12 countries in the region took part in the training.

Participation

P1 – Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.

16

OHCHR worked closely with State institutions, NHRIs and CSOs to ensure that an HRBA is integrated into their programmes and activities, including in COVID-19 responses.

UN Human Rights organized a roundtable on “Challenges to the right to information and ways to provide more guarantees” for 75 participants, including journalists, legal professionals, NHRIs, CSOs, human rights activists and postgraduate students. OHCHR and experts from the region introduced and discussed guarantees and standards under international humanitarian law regarding the right to information, the right to participate in public affairs and the status of the right to information in the Arab region. Discussions also touched on ways to provide safeguards, ensure access to information during armed conflict and address challenges to hate speech and the right to information during the pandemic.

OHCHR organized a training of trainers on guidelines regarding the right to participate in public affairs for UN staff from Arab-speaking field presences. The training aimed to enable participants to deliver workshops to develop the capacities of national actors in relation to the right to participate.

Targeting stakeholders, including government actors, civil society, academia, journalists and human rights defenders, UN Human Rights printed and distributed the Arabic version of *Guidelines for States on the effective implementation of the right to participate in public affairs*. It also published and translated into Arabic a number of relevant training materials, including *Evaluating the impact of human rights training: Guidance on developing indicators*; and *Evaluating human rights training activities: Workshop guide*.

UN Human Rights at headquarters

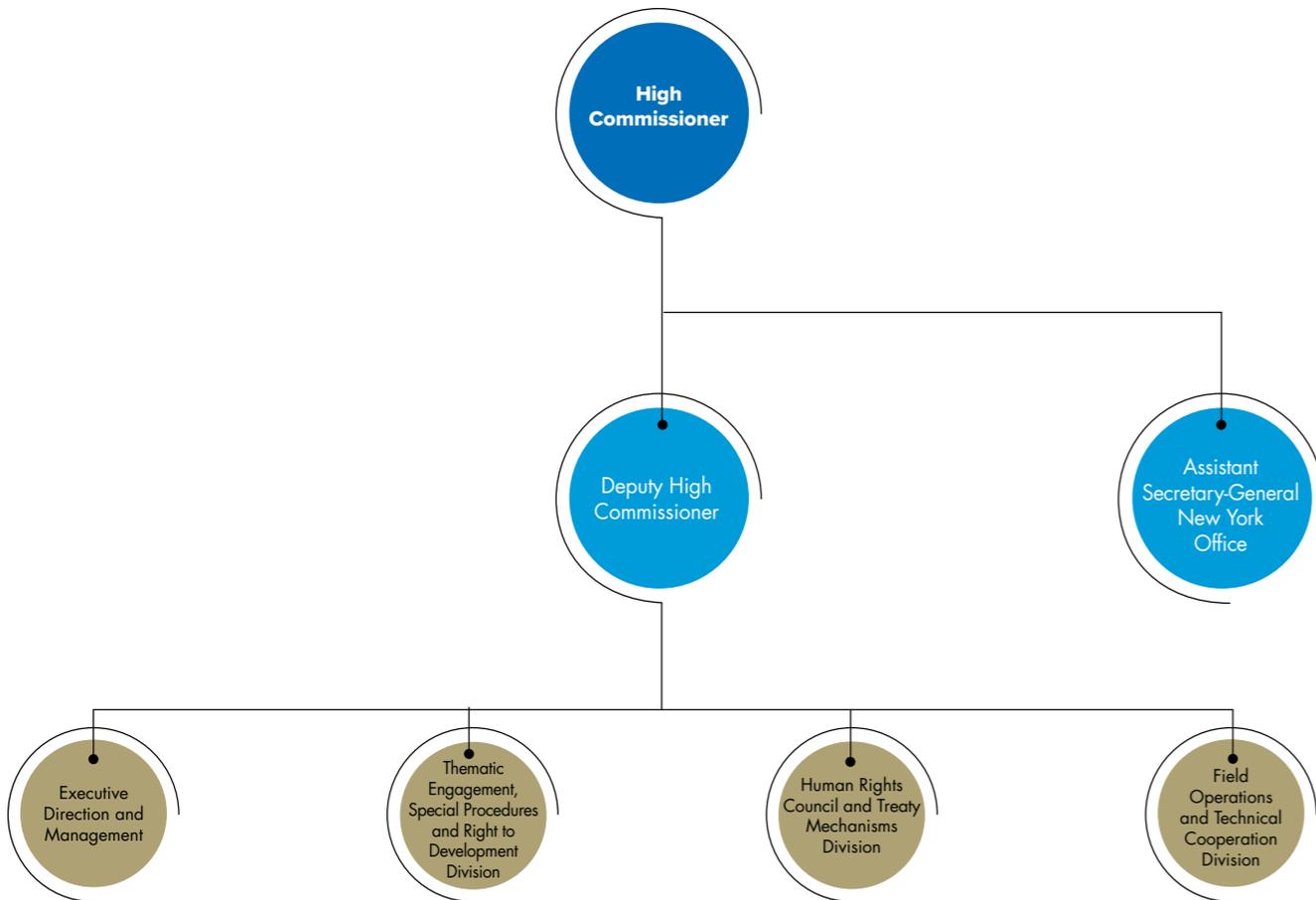


Palais Wilson, OHCHR Geneva headquarters. © OHCHR

Introduction

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) headquarters is located in Geneva and an office is maintained in New York. The Geneva-based headquarters consists of three substantive divisions and the Executive Direction

and Management, which handles management, planning, coordination and outreach functions. This chapter outlines their structure, functions and key achievements in 2021.



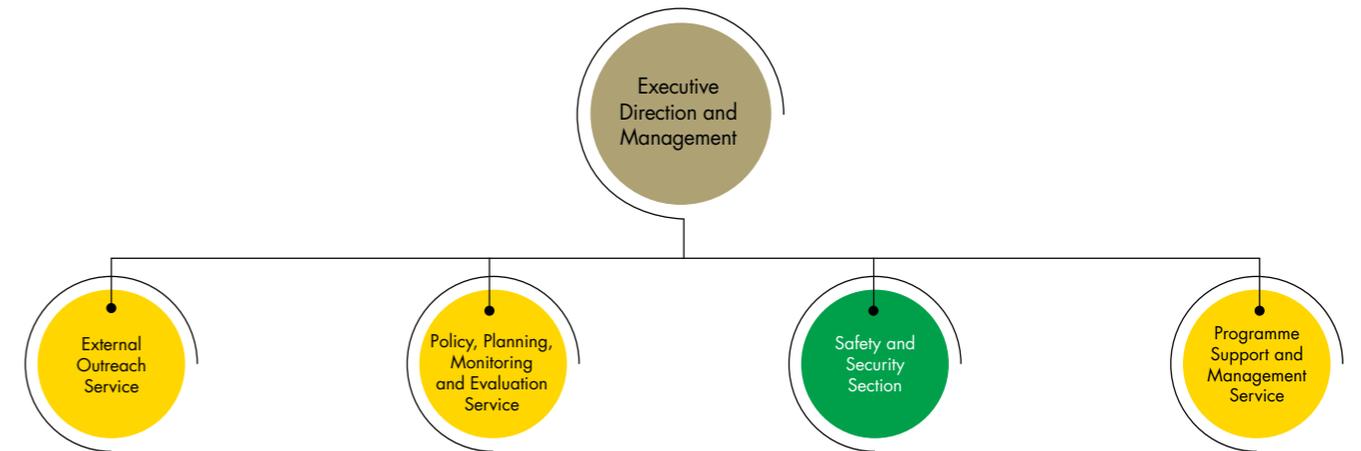
EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT

The Executive Direction and Management (EDM) directly supports the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Deputy High Commissioner and the Assistant Secretary-General (ASG) for Human Rights in their work and indirectly, the entire Office. It is composed of the Executive Office, the New York Office, the External Outreach Service, the Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Service, the Programme Support and Management Services and the Safety and Security Section.

In 2021, the High Commissioner continued her advocacy work on building a robust response to the human rights challenges created or exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, with a focus on addressing inequalities. In addition, the High Commissioner continued to work towards strengthening the role of Member States as duty-bearers by proposing assistance that would enable States to build effective national human rights protection systems, including legal frameworks, institutions and practices, and promote respect for and enjoyment of human rights for all, without discrimination.

The High Commissioner, the Deputy High Commissioner and the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights engaged in dialogue with Members States, the Human Rights Council (HRC), the General Assembly and numerous other stakeholders, despite the challenges posed by the pandemic. These efforts were guided by the OHCHR Management Plan (OMP), which was extended until 2023 to consolidate results and recalibrate OHCHR's focus in response to the human rights impacts of COVID-19 and to include recent developments.

Member States, civil society, national human rights institutions (NHRIs), regional organizations and many other partners benefited from the High Commissioner's leadership and advocacy role in addressing issues of mutual interest and concern. These same actors contributed to the High Commissioner's analysis of activities that can bring about positive change.



Executive Office

The Executive Office (EO) supports the High Commissioner and the Deputy High Commissioner in their daily work, including by assisting with their strategic leadership and management activities and interactions with partners. It also ensures coordination between divisions of the Office and the integration of the Office's priorities, including a gender perspective, into submitted inputs.

The Executive Office is the principal focal point for overall coordination with the UN system and the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG), in close collaboration with the New York Office. It also facilitates the processing of internal and external communications and correspondence.

The EO provides guidance to all parts of OHCHR headquarters and field operations on key legal issues, in preparation for meetings with partners and in relation to the speeches and reports of the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner to the UN's intergovernmental bodies.

In 2021, the EO continued to support the High Commissioner and the Deputy High Commissioner in their roles as coordinators of OHCHR's response to COVID-19, helping them to develop, lead and implement an office-wide coherent strategy that responded to the human rights challenges that were created or exacerbated by the pandemic, with a focus on inequalities. The EO conducted similar work in supporting the emphasis on economic, social and cultural rights (ESCRs) in the context of recovering better. These additional functions included ensuring OHCHR's participation in frequent senior-level COVID-19 inter-agency meetings in the humanitarian, development and peace and security fields.

Beyond COVID-19-related work, the EO continued to serve as the Office's focal point for the implementation of the UN Human Rights Screening Policy, leading to a substantial increase in its workload during the reporting period. The legal policy team in the EO provided advice to the High Commissioner on existing and emerging issues and identified areas where the High Commissioner's legal advocacy could have an impact. In 2021, the submission of formal amicus curiae briefs by the High Commissioner to the European Court of Human Rights on climate change issues, as well as to a senior national court on appropriate victims' participation in judicial proceedings, were key achievements.

Under the leadership of the High Commissioner and the Deputy High Commissioner, the Executive Office supported efforts to strengthen the Office's response to discrimination and inequality issues, both internally and externally.

New York Office

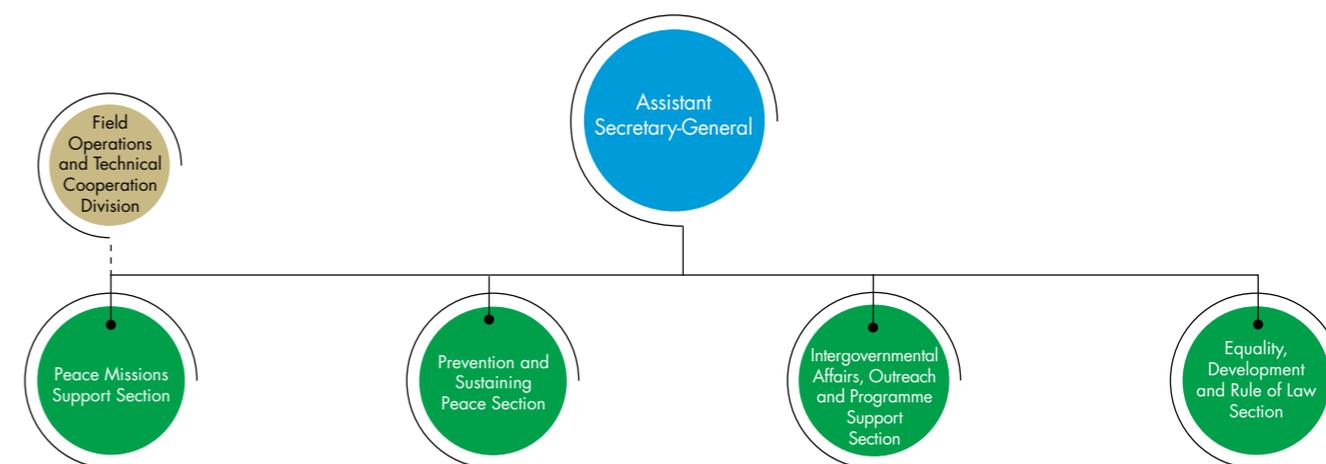
OHCHR's New York Office (NYO) is headed by the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights. The principal objective of the NYO is to integrate human rights norms and standards into policies, discussions and decisions made in inter-governmental, inter-departmental and inter-agency bodies at UN Headquarters in New York, including by engaging with Member States, intergovernmental bodies, UN system entities, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the media. Under the leadership of the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, the NYO is responsible for the reprisals mandate, which seeks to strengthen the UN's response to intimidation and reprisals against those cooperating with the UN on human rights matters. The NYO is composed of the following four substantive sections:

The **Intergovernmental Affairs, Outreach and Programme Support Section** leads engagement with the General Assembly and other intergovernmental bodies, media correspondents, CSOs and academic institutions in New York.

The **Equality, Development and Rule of Law Section** covers all special groups and issues relating to equality and non-discrimination, the rule of law, counter-terrorism, justice, reprisals and human rights and development issues.

The **Prevention and Sustaining Peace Section** works to mainstream human rights into wider UN efforts to prevent conflict and crisis and promote sustainable peace.

The **Peace Missions Support Section** works to support the integration of human rights into UN peace operations through support for planning and the operations of human rights components of peace missions. It has a dual reporting line to the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division at headquarters.



External Outreach Service

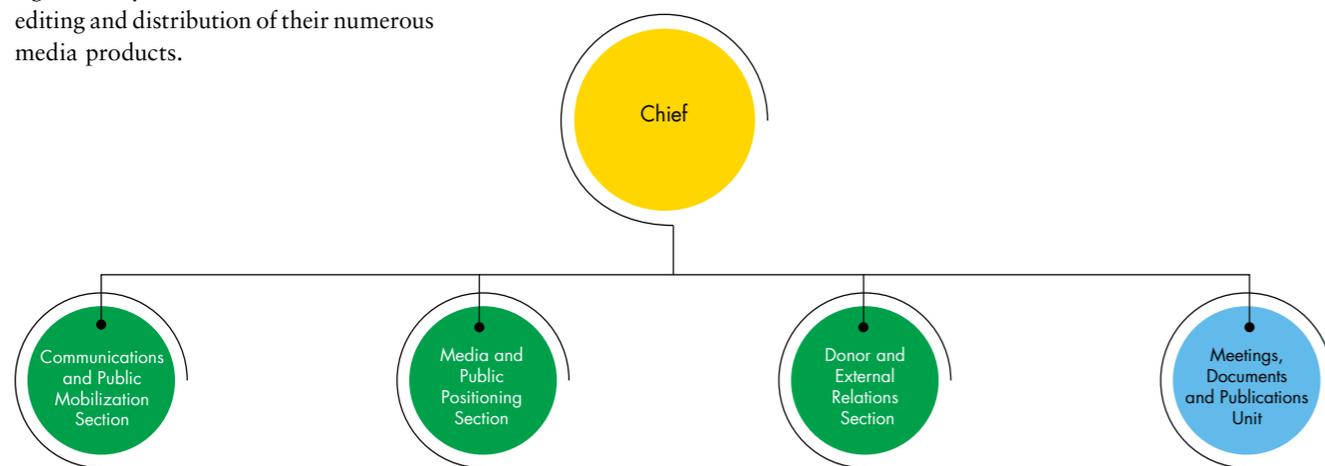
The External Outreach Service (EOS) leads OHCHR’s external relations efforts. It consists of four sections, which work in synergy to maximize its impact:

The **Communications and Public Mobilization Section** develops strategies for public information outreach to a broad constituency about OHCHR, human rights and the work of the UN human rights programme. It mobilizes a variety of audiences through engagement and partnerships. The Section develops communication campaigns and produces branded print, audiovisual and online materials. It engages with the public through social media and with UN partners to mainstream human rights into outreach efforts.

The **Media and Public Positioning Section** engages with the media and promotes the messaging of the High Commissioner and the Office through news releases, press briefings, interviews and other media products and activities, as well as speeches and video statements. It provides advice to the special procedures and the human rights treaty bodies and assists with the editing and distribution of their numerous media products.

The **Donor and External Relations Section** is responsible for mobilizing financial resources to enable OHCHR to implement its programme of work, as outlined in the OMP 2018-2021, which was extended to 2023.¹⁷ It does this by building robust relationships with existing partners and exploring funding opportunities with potential partners. The Section mobilizes funds, negotiates and manages a large number of contribution agreements and organizes meetings, briefings and consultations with partners. It serves as an entry point for Member States and others seeking information on OHCHR’s work, priorities and funding needs.

The **Meetings, Documents and Publications Unit** coordinates OHCHR’s annual programme of meetings and plans, verifies and submits all OHCHR official documents for processing. The Unit manages the OHCHR publications programme and develops policies for the planning, quality assurance, distribution and impact assessment of publications. It provides policy advice and operational support to the Office’s publications oversight body, the Publications Committee. It also oversees the production of printed and electronic publications in all official UN languages and disseminates print materials to diverse target audiences around the world.



¹⁷ In 2021, OHCHR’s Senior Management Team decided to extend the OMP 2018-2021 for two years, until 2023.

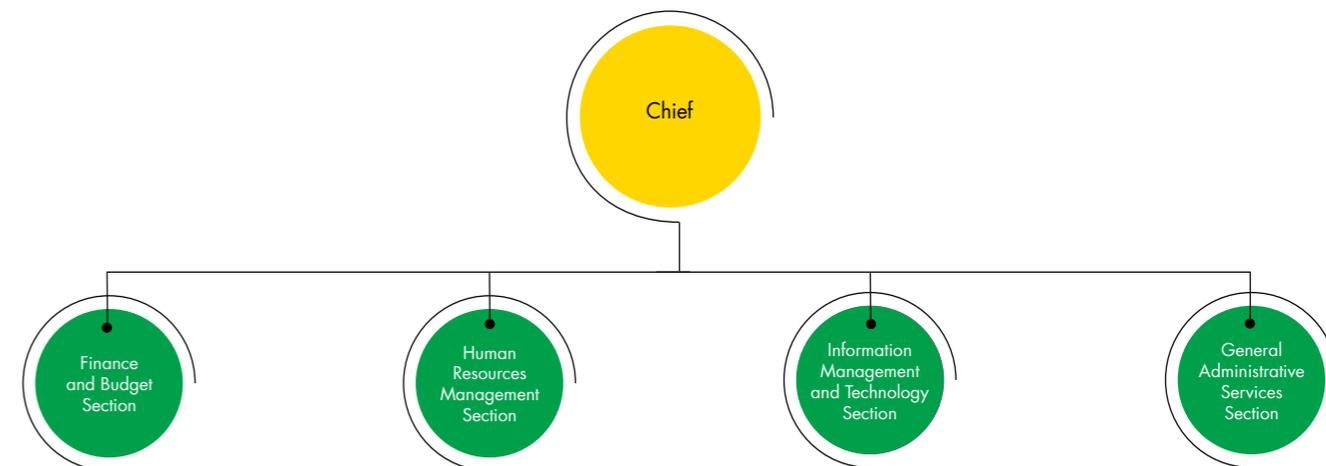
Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Service

The Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Service (PPMES) takes the lead in translating the High Commissioner’s strategic vision into concrete priorities and operational programmes that focus on the achievement of results. The Service works to instil a culture of results-based planning, programming and budgeting across OHCHR. It ensures that programme implementation and results are effectively monitored and evaluated, including programme risks, and that good practices and lessons learned are incorporated into policy development, programme design and implementation. Through an ongoing analysis of OHCHR’s organizational environment, PPMES helps to identify substantive or managerial gaps in OHCHR’s policies, results-based programming, organizational effectiveness and change management and internal communications. It then proposes actions to address those gaps.

Programme Support and Management Services

The Programme Support and Management Services (PSMS) provides administrative support within the Office, including budgetary and financial management, recruitment and human resources management, procurement, asset management and general logistical support, travel services, information technology and staff development support. PSMS consists of the Finance and Budget Section, the General Administrative Services Section, the Human Resources Management Section and the Information Management and Technology Section. PSMS delivered on its mandate and supported divisions and field offices, in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic. Travel has not yet returned to pre-pandemic volumes, but it began to pick up at the end of 2021 due to a mix of remote as well as physical presence meetings during the year. PSMS ensured that all financial

transactions and adequate logistical and human resources support were made available to field presences and headquarters divisions to guarantee the continuity of OHCHR operations. In addition, a chartered psychologist was hired to support the psychological needs of staff as the COVID-19 pandemic continued. Other deliverables included webinars on stress management, trauma, secondary trauma prevention, practical interventions for managers and the availability of one-on-one sessions for all staff. These services were provided alongside multilingual psychological support, in conjunction with staff counsellors and regional contacts.



Safety and Security Section

The Safety and Security Section coordinates the security of OHCHR operations worldwide, in accordance with UN security risk management policies and in coordination with host governments and the UN Department of Safety and Security. It supports the international human rights mechanisms, including those mandated by the Human Rights Council. It participates in UN security policymaking forums to ensure that human rights are mainstreamed into staff security policies and the procedures of UN entities. At the operational level, the Section conducts security risk assessments and provides technical supervision and guidance on security management and security clearance. It also provides travel advisories to field presences.

FIELD OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION DIVISION

The Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division (FOTCD) is responsible for overseeing and supporting OHCHR’s work at country and regional levels, including through advisory services and technical cooperation.

FOTCD is composed of the Office of the Director and three geographic branches, as well as three specialized sections. The geographic branches are divided into six sections, namely, Africa I (East and Southern Africa), Africa II (West and Central Africa), Asia-Pacific, the Middle East and North Africa, the Americas and Europe and Central Asia. Together, they are responsible for the day-to-day work of OHCHR in the field, including by following human rights developments at the national and regional levels, engaging with governments, regional mechanisms, NHRIs, civil society and the UN system, and interfacing with the international human rights mechanisms.

The three specialized sections are the National Institutions and Regional Mechanisms Section, the Emergency Response Section and the Peace Missions

Support Section, which is located in the New York Office.

FOTCD is responsible for the implementation of the High Commissioner’s mandate at the field level. This is achieved through 103 human rights presences in the field that undertake monitoring, analysis and reporting on human rights developments, early warning and prevention activities, provide advisory services and technical cooperation, deploy human rights capacity to the Resident Coordinators (RCs) and the UN Country Teams (UNCTs) under the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) Framework and manage the deployment of monitoring, fact-finding and emergency response missions.

FOTCD provides analysis and advice on human rights situations, including situations of risk and emerging crises, to OHCHR’s leadership and the United Nations system, and develops and strengthens strategies for OHCHR’s engagement on the ground. FOTCD further contributes to the three United Nations pillars through broader UN efforts on human rights, peace and security and development, including through the integration of human rights into

all pillars and the mainstreaming of human rights-based peacebuilding, in conjunction with human rights-based programming for sustainable development.

FOTCD supports the implementation of specific OHCHR mandates of the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly in relation to public reporting on human rights issues in countries and disputed territories and provides technical assistance and technical cooperation. This includes support for 13 special procedures country mandates of the HRC and the establishment of and assistance for international commissions of inquiry, fact-finding missions and investigations mandated by the Council. The Division also administers the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights and acts as the Secretariat of its Board of Trustees.

In 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic posed challenges to the implementation of technical cooperation activities. Nonetheless, FOTCD continued to adjust its methods of work and prioritized efforts aimed at the promotion of the Secretary-General’s Call to Action for Human Rights, post-COVID-19 recovery and resilience and sustained work on ESCRs in support of all stakeholders, with a particular focus on vulnerable populations, including Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) through capacity-building and awareness-raising activities.

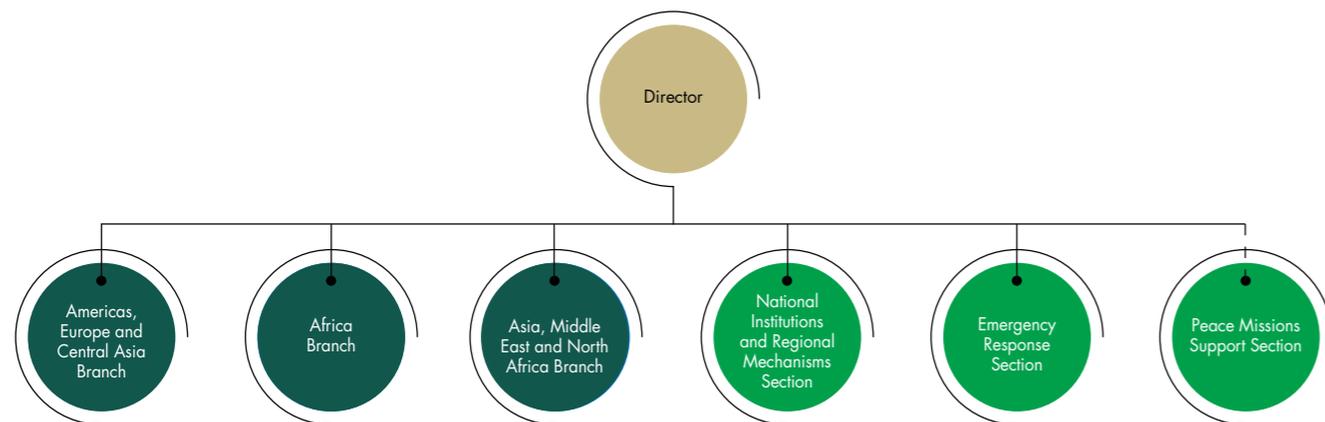
The **Emergency Response Section** coordinates OHCHR’s engagement in and effective response to ongoing or emerging crises and it ensures, from a prevention perspective, that potential emergency situations are addressed through the deployment of fact-finding, monitoring or emergency response missions, the provision of early warning and information management and the integration of

human rights into humanitarian action. The Section leads the provision of early warning information management and analyses to various UN processes, including the UNOCC and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) on Early Warning, Early Action and Readiness. Moreover, the Section is responsible for the establishment of Emergency Response Teams (ERTs) in OHCHR regional offices to which it provides substantive and programmatic support. Through its Investigation Support Unit, the Section is responsible for the operationalization of activities mandated by UN intergovernmental bodies (primarily the HRC), such as the establishment of and support to commissions of inquiry and fact-finding missions. The Unit coordinates the deployment of human rights teams in the context of complex emergencies or natural disasters or for the purpose of preventive advocacy and action.

The **Peace Missions Support Section** (PMSS), located in the New York Office, provides strategic and operational support and guidance to the human rights components of UN peacekeeping and special political missions. It supports the implementation of Security Council mandates for UN peace operations on human rights, in close coordination with FOTCD geographic branches, ensuring that the UN peace and security agenda integrates human rights into activities undertaken at the political, strategic and operational levels. PMSS carries out strategic planning for the integration of human rights into police and military planning to deliver on human rights protection and to ensure compliance with international human rights norms and standards. This includes supporting the African Union’s regional and subregional operations, such as the G5 Sahel Joint Force, supporting the United Nations Office to the African

Union (UNOAU) and working with the European Union (EU) on the integration of human rights into its engagement with conflict and crisis management, including through the development of human rights risk management and due diligence policies. PMSS also facilitates the operationalization of the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces, especially in the context of UN support packages.

The **National Institutions and Regional Mechanisms Section** provides advice and assistance to the establishment and strengthening of NHRIs, in line with the Paris Principles and in coordination with FOTCD geographic desk officers and field presences, other UN agencies, funds and programmes and regional networks of NHRIs. The Section serves as the Secretariat for the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) and its Sub-Committee on Accreditation. It supports the interaction of NHRIs with the international human rights system, including the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures, the HRC and Universal Periodic Review (UPR).



THEMATIC ENGAGEMENT, SPECIAL PROCEDURES AND RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

The Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division (TESPRDD) is composed of the Office of the Director, the Development and Economic and Social Issues Branch, the Rule of Law, Equality and Non-Discrimination Branch, the Special Procedures Branch and the Methodology, Education and Training Section. The Division's main functions include:

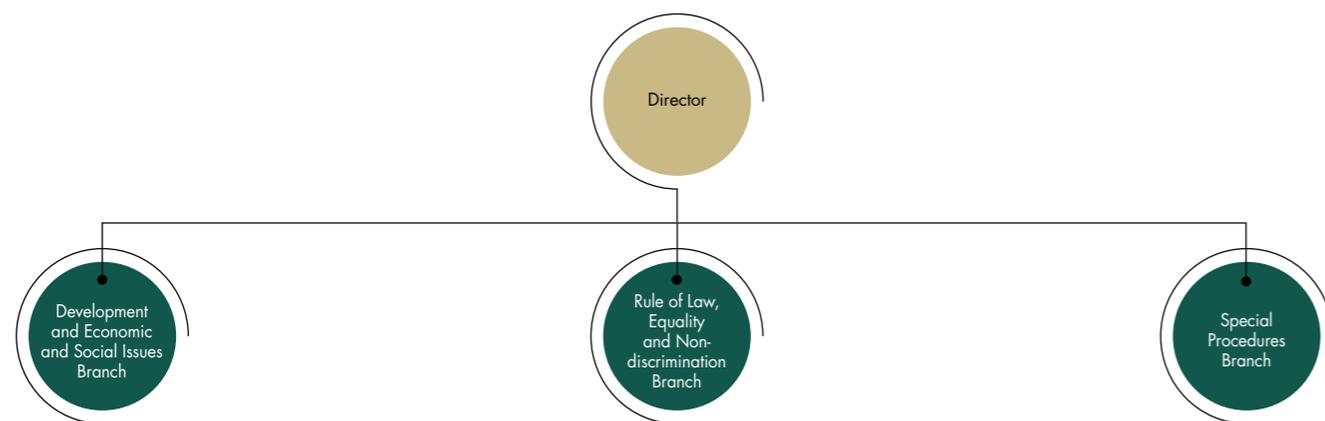
- Supporting the High Commissioner's global leadership role in advocacy on thematic human rights issues in terms of research, advice, advocacy and capacity-development;
- Providing substantive support to countries on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and thematic support to Member States and UNCTs, including through the Surge Initiative;
- Promoting a rights-based recovery from COVID-19, including through the implementation of the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights and Our Common Agenda;

- Developing methodologies and guidance relating to human rights work, namely, translating international human rights law and principles into practical methods, approaches, standards, procedures and tools for the human rights work that is carried out by OHCHR and other UN, international and national actors;
- Promoting the integration of human rights into the policy, management and operational work of the UN to strengthen its normative and operational linkages. In the area of development, this is primarily undertaken through OHCHR's participation in inter-agency groups, during meetings and through bilateral cooperation with UN agencies, programmes and the UNCTs;
- Contributing to increased knowledge and an enhanced understanding of human rights through education and training, the development of materials, policy guidance, methodologies and programmes and the provision of training, advice and coordination under the Plan of Action for the Fourth Phase (2020-2024) of the World Programme for Human Rights Education;

- Strengthening knowledge management, connecting and leveraging expertise, collective practice and evidence-based knowledge for human rights results;
- Supporting the international human rights mechanisms, in particular the special procedures and providing substantive support to investigative bodies mandated by the Council;
- Taking the lead with respect to ensuring that a human rights-based approach (HRBA) and a gender perspective are effectively integrated into all OHCHR policies, programmes and processes and contributing to enhanced staff skills in this regard;
- Taking a leading role in supporting OHCHR's digital transformation to strengthen its capacity to deliver on its mandates and using the potential of the digital platform to advance human rights, reinforce data-driven human rights advocacy and make OHCHR's information and processes more accessible to users, while establishing rights-based standards in managing and using data.

The work of the **Development and Economic and Social Issues Branch** and of the **Rule of Law, Equality and Non-Discrimination Branch** includes: conducting thematic research and contributing to policy development and the mainstreaming of human rights across the work of the UN; producing tools and learning packages and providing expertise on human rights themes to many stakeholders, as mandated by the HRC, the General Assembly and ECOSOC; and leading efforts to advance the right to development, in accordance with the High Commissioner's mandate to promote and protect the realization of the right to development, and enhance support from relevant UN bodies for this purpose. The two branches also undertake human rights research and advocacy work and contribute to national-level implementation, including through advisory services, legal and policy reviews and capacity-development, which is often undertaken by OHCHR field presences.

The **Special Procedures Branch** supports the special procedures system and its thematic mandates. The special procedures system is comprised of 58 mandates (45 thematic and 13 country mandates) with 80 mandate holders, 14 of whom were appointed in 2021. The special procedures contribute to the development of international human rights law; undertake thematic studies; conduct country visits; send communications to States and other actors regarding human rights cases and issues; provide advisory services; and engage in awareness-raising activities. The Branch supports these mandates in the abovementioned functional areas, on policy issues and by adopting efficiency measures that streamline work processes and strengthen the special procedures system. This is primarily achieved through cooperation between human rights systems at the international, regional and national levels and other stakeholders. The Special Procedures Branch assists the Coordination Committee of Special Procedures and supports the engagement of special procedures with regional mechanisms, such as the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR).



Special procedures mandate holders (as of 31 December 2021)

MANDATE	ESTABLISHED	MANDATE HOLDER(S)
Country mandates		
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan	2021	Mr. Richard Bennett (New Zealand) since April 2022*
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus	2012	Ms. Anaïs Marin (France) since November 2018
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi	2021	Mr. Fortuné Gaetan Zongo (Burkina Faso) since April 2022*
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia	1993	Mr. Vitit Muntarbhorn (Thailand) since May 2021
Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic	2013	Mr. Yao Agbetse (Togo) since November 2019
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea	2004	Mr. Tomás Ojea Quintana (Argentina) since August 2016
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea	2012	Mr. Mohamed Abdelsalam Babiker (Sudan) since November 2020
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran	2011	Mr. Javaid Rehman (Pakistan) since August 2018
Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali	2013	Mr. Alioune Tine (Senegal) since May 2018
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar	1992	Mr. Thomas H. Andrews (United States of America) since May 2020
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967	1993	Mr. Michael Lynk (Canada) since May 2016
Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia	1993	Ms. Isha Dyfan (Sierra Leone) since May 2020
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic	2011	Mr. Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro (Brazil) will start once the mandate of the Commission of Inquiry ends

* Appointed at the forty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council.

Thematic mandates

		Ms. Dominique Day (United States of America) since November 2018
Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent	2002	Ms. Barbara G. Reynolds (Guyana) since November 2021 Mr. Sushil Raj (India) since August 2021 Ms. Miriam Ekiudoko (Hungary) since August 2021 Ms. Catherine S. Namakula (Uganda) since May 2021
Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism	2015	Ms. Muluka-Anne Miti-Drummond (Zambia) since August 2021 Ms. Priya Gopalan (Malaysia) since May 2021 Mr. Mumba Malila (Zambia) since November 2020 Ms. Leigh Toomey (Australia) since August 2015 Ms. Miriam Estrada-Castillo (Ecuador) since November 2020 Ms. Elna Steinerte (Latvia) since November 2016 Mr. Githu Muigai (Kenya) since August 2018 Mr. Surya Deva (India) since May 2016
Working Group on Arbitrary Detention	1991	Ms. Anita Ramasastry (United States of America) since August 2016 Ms. Elzbieta Karska (Poland) since August 2018 Ms. Fernanda Hopenhaym (Mexico) since November 2021
Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises	2011	Mr. Ian Fry (Tuvalu) since April 2022*
Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change	2021	Ms. Alexandra Xanthaki (Greece) since November 2021
Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights	2009	Mr. Saad Alfarargi (Egypt) since April 2017
Special Rapporteur on the right to development	2016	Mr. Gerard Quinn (Ireland) since November 2020
Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities	2014	Ms. Koumbou Boly Barry (Burkina Faso) since August 2016 Mr. Henrikas Mickevičius (Lithuania) since September 2015 Ms. Gabriella Citroni (Italy) since August 2021
Special Rapporteur on the right to education	1998	Mr. Luciano Hazán (Argentina) since May 2017 Mr. Tae-Ung Baik (Republic of Korea) since August 2015 Ms. Aua Baldé (Guinea-Bissau) since November 2020
Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances	1980	Mr. David R. Boyd (Canada) since August 2018
Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment	2012	

* Appointed at the forty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council.

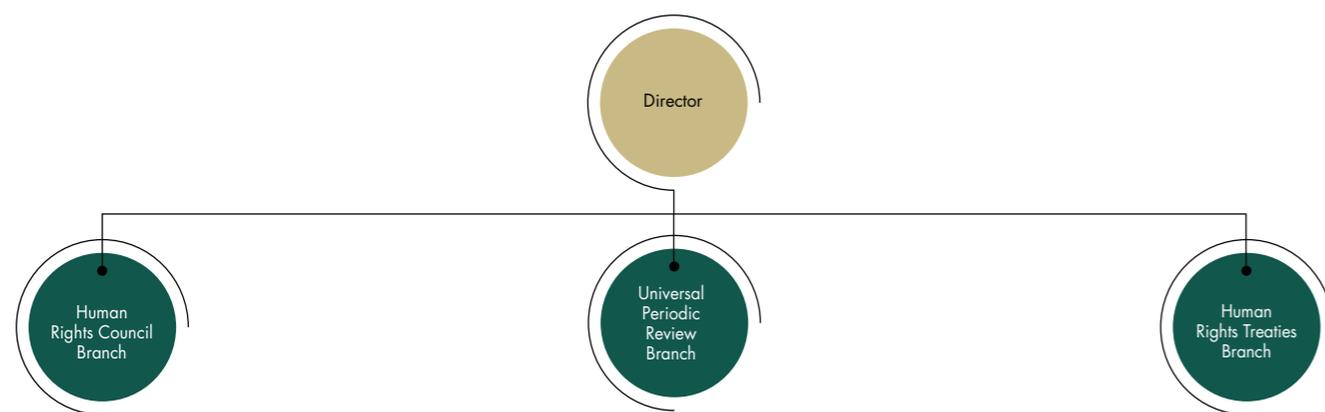
Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions	1982	Mr. Morris Tidball-Binz (Chile) since May 2021
Special Rapporteur on the right to food	2000	Mr. Michael Fakhri (Lebanon) since May 2020
Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights	2000	Ms. Attiya Waris (Kenya) since August 2021
Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression	1993	Ms. Irene Khan (Bangladesh) since August 2020
Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association	2010	Mr. Nyaletsossi Clément Voule (Togo) since May 2018
Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes	1995	Mr. Marcos A. Orellana (Chile) since August 2020
Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health	2002	Ms. Tlaleng Mofokeng (South Africa) since August 2020
Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context	2000	Mr. Balakrishnan Rajagopal (United States of America) since May 2020
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders	2000	Ms. Mary Lawlor (Ireland) since May 2020
Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers	1994	Mr. Diego García-Sayán (Peru) since December 2016
Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples	2001	Mr. José Francisco Calí Tzay (Guatemala) since May 2020
Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons	2004	Ms. Cecilia Jiménez-Damary (Philippines) since November 2016
Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order	2011	Mr. Livingstone Sewanyana (Uganda) since May 2018
Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity	2005	Mr. Obiora C. Okafor (Nigeria) since August 2017
Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members	2017	Ms. Alice Cruz (Portugal) since November 2017
		Ms. Jelena Aparac (Croatia) since May 2018
		Mr. Ravindran Daniel (India) since November 2020
Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination	2005	Ms. Lilian Bobea (Dominican Republic) since May 2018
		Mr. Chris Kwaja (Nigeria) since May 2018
		Ms. Sorcha Macleod (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) since August 2018

Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants	1999	Mr. Felipe González Morales (Chile) since August 2017
Special Rapporteur on minority issues	2005	Mr. Fernand de Varennes (Canada) since August 2017
Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons	2013	Ms. Claudia Mahler (Austria) since May 2020
Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights	1998	Mr. Olivier de Schutter (Belgium) since May 2020
Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy	2015	Ms. Ana Brian Nougrères (Uruguay) since August 2021
Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism , racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance	1993	Ms. E. Tendayi Achiume (Zambia) since November 2017
Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief	1986	Mr. Ahmed Shaheed (Maldives) since November 2016
Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children , including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material	1990	Ms. Mama Fatima Singhateh (Gambia) since May 2020
Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity	2016	Mr. Victor Madrigal-Borloz (Costa Rica) since January 2018
Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery , including its causes and consequences	2007	Mr. Tomoya Obokata (Japan) since May 2020
Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism	2005	Ms. Fionnuala Ni Aoláin (Ireland) since August 2017
Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment	1985	Mr. Nils Melzer (Switzerland) since November 2016
Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children	2004	Ms. Siobhán Mullally (Ireland) since August 2020
Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth , justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence	2011	Mr. Fabián Salvioli (Argentina) since May 2018
Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights	2014	Ms. Alena Douhan (Belarus) since March 2020
Special Rapporteur on violence against women , its causes and consequences	1994	Ms. Reem Alsalem (Jordan) since August 2021
Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation	2008	Mr. Pedro Arrojo-Agudo (Spain) since November 2020
		Ms. Elizabeth Broderick (Australia) since November 2017
		Ms. Melissa Upreti (Nepal) since November 2017
Working Group on discrimination against women and girls	2010	Ms. Meskerem Techane (Ethiopia) since November 2017
		Ms. Ivana Radacic (Croatia) since November 2017
		Ms. Dorothy Estrada-Tanck (Mexico) since November 2020

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL AND TREATY MECHANISMS DIVISION

The Human Rights Council and Treaty Mechanisms Division (CTMD) consists of the Office of the Director, the Human Rights Council Branch, the Human Rights Treaties Branch and the Universal Periodic Review Branch. The Division has a core mandate to support the HRC and its subsidiary mechanisms, the UPR and the human rights treaty bodies. It is therefore well placed within OHCHR to ensure that the significant normative value of the international human rights mechanisms is matched by committed follow-up to the implementation of their recommendations.

The Human Rights Council Branch (HRCB) supports the Human Rights Council, an intergovernmental body composed of 47 Member States that are elected by the General Assembly for a three-year period. Established by the General Assembly, the body is responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights around the globe. In 2021, the Branch assisted the HRC to fully implement its programme of work, including five special sessions on the human rights implications of the crisis in Myanmar; the grave human rights situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, including East Jerusalem; the serious human rights concerns and situation in Afghanistan; the human rights implications of the ongoing situation in the Sudan; and the grave human rights situation in Ethiopia.



Highlights of the Human Rights Council in 2021

Despite the many obstacles posed by COVID-19, the Human Rights Council managed to hold its three scheduled regular sessions and five special sessions, a new record for the Council, enabling it to address a long list of topics that required its attention in 2021, resulting in 16 new initiatives (resolutions, decisions and presidential statements). The Council's essential role in addressing urgent human rights situations this year, combined with the communication and outreach efforts of the HRC media team, led to an increase in the number of its Twitter account followers of nearly 500,000. The HRC account is now in the middle of the top 50 international organizations, ranked by followers.

In terms of technical innovation, the Council enhanced its modalities for remote participation to enable live and webcast services, in the six UN languages, for all regular and special sessions and for the sessions and meetings of the Council's subsidiary bodies, organizational meetings and intersessional activities.

Virtual participation yielded a higher number of participants in the Council's activities, including a record number of 123 speakers during the high-level segment of the Council's session, in March. In addition, for the first time in the UN's history, voting was conducted using an e-voting system that was developed in cooperation with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management in New York. This allowed the Council to overcome COVID-19-related restrictions and take action on more than 40 initiatives.

This year, the Council continued to promote gender equality through a focal point, who was appointed by the HRC President. The Consultative Group of the Council surpassed gender parity among its special procedures mandate holders for the first time and since 1 November, 51 per cent of the mandate holders are women.

The **Universal Periodic Review Branch (UPRB)** provides full secretariat support to the UPR mechanism of the Human Rights Council, including the preparation of the background documentation, assisting the Troikas during the UPR's Working Group (WG) sessions and supporting the adoption of the outcome reports in the HRC plenary. The UPRB also ensures prompt responses to requests for assistance by Member States in connection with the preparation of UPR national reports, their participation in the UPR WG and HRC plenaries, and the implementation of UPR recommendations.

Due to the pandemic, UPR WG sessions continued to be held as hybrid modalities during the year, combining virtual participation through the delivery of pre-recorded and live video statements, with limited in-person participation. In 2021, three UPR WG sessions were held (thirty-seventh, thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth), during which a total of 41 countries were reviewed. Their outcomes were adopted by the HRC at the forty-sixth, forty-seventh and forty-eighth sessions. During the UPR WG sessions, OHCHR held briefings for members of delegations participating in the review of their countries and provided them with information on follow-up processes and measures for the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. OHCHR also produced tools to facilitate the follow-up to UPR recommendations by Member States, as well as their integration in UN country programming processes.

Despite the pandemic, the accessibility of and participation in the UPR review process was enhanced during 2021. Support provided by the Voluntary Fund for participation in the UPR enabled representatives of Member States, particularly Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) that would have been ineligible for travel assistance due to travel restrictions, to participate virtually in their reviews. By the thirty-ninth session, in November, COVID-19-related restrictions had eased and, in parallel with assistance for virtual participation, OHCHR was able to provide travel assistance to delegates from some eligible States for their in-person participation in their reviews, in Geneva. As a result, the UPR continued to see a 100 per cent participation rate by States under review.

The **Human Rights Treaties Branch (HRTB)** supports the 10 human rights treaty bodies, which are independent committees that were established under the nine international human rights treaties and their optional protocols. The treaty bodies monitor the implementation of the international human rights treaties through the examination of reports that are periodically submitted by States Parties to them or through in situ visits. The treaty bodies collaborate with a wide range of stakeholders, including Member States, CSOs and NHRIs. They also issue recommendations to States Parties, encourage priority follow-up on certain matters and adopt general comments/recommendations on thematic or procedural issues.

In 2021, OHCHR supported 71 weeks of online, in-person and/or hybrid sessions, starting in September. The Office supported the human rights treaty bodies to adopt 314 views or decisions related to individual communications and undertake a total of 61 State Party reviews. The treaty bodies adopted 59 concluding observations and 132 list of issues and list of issues prior to reporting. It further supported the registration of 368 new individual communications and 452 new urgent actions for CED, the review of 23 situations and the preparation of 19 letters under CERD's early warning and urgent action procedure. The committee secretariats continued to provide support to the committee focal points on reprisals and responded to seven allegations of reprisals.

In 2021, the Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme, established by General Assembly resolution 68/268 to support States Parties in building their capacity to implement their treaty obligations, organized 83 capacity-building activities worldwide for more than 2,300 participants (995 women, 1,396 men). Due to COVID-19 restrictions, 63 of these activities were carried out remotely, 13 in a hybrid format and seven in-person. In addition, the Programme convened five online regional consultations on National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRFs), as mandated by HRC resolution 42/30, which gathered together over 700 participants.

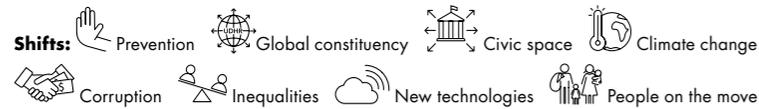
The Division administers the following six Trust Funds:

- the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the work of the Human Rights Council;
- the Voluntary Fund for Participation in the Universal Periodic Review;
- the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review;
- the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture;
- the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery; and
- the Special Fund of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

Detailed information on the Trust Funds is presented in the chapter on Funds Administered by UN Human Rights on pp.124-142.

Pillar results

Mechanisms (M)



COVID-19 response and recovery

In response to the deepening effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the **space for civil society engagement with the international human rights mechanisms was kept open** through a number of initiatives, including the creation of an online platform and simplified guidelines for the submission of written statements by NGOs. A list of virtual events for NGOs was regularly updated on the OHCHR web page in an effort to make these events more visible.

The Human Rights Council (HRC) adopted two resolutions related to COVID-19. Resolution A/HRC/RES/46/14 on “Ensuring equitable, affordable, timely and universal access for all countries to vaccines in response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,” emphasizes the importance of international cooperation and the central role of the State in adopting a gender-responsive and multi-sectoral approach to ensure the accessibility to and affordability of vaccines for developing countries. It mandates the High Commissioner to provide a report and an oral update and to hold a panel discussion on the issue in 2022. Resolution A/HRC/RES/48/12 on “Human rights implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on young people” recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures to combat its spread have exacerbated existing challenges faced by young people, in particular young women and girls, in exercising their human rights. It also requests that the High Commissioner conduct a detailed study on ways to mitigate this impact.

In its contribution to the third volume of the report, *How COVID-19 is changing the world: A statistical perspective*, which was jointly compiled by 36 international organizations under the aegis of the UN Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities, OHCHR highlighted the ways in which the **recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms** were helping States to focus on discrimination and other human rights violations in their pandemic responses.

In the context of the Responsible Business Conduct in Latin America and the Caribbean project, three national public policies in the region incorporated **human rights-based actions into COVID-19 response and recovery plans**. These are the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, adopted in Peru, in June, the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights of Colombia, adopted in December 2020 and the Plan on Social Responsibility and Human Rights of Panama, updated in 2021.

M1 – NATIONAL MECHANISMS for REPORTING and FOLLOW-UP – National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and implementing their recommendations.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

Technical assistance provided through the Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme contributed to the establishment or strengthening of National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRFs) in Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Egypt, Eswatini, Haiti, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Malaysia, Namibia, the Philippines, the Republic of Moldova, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Turkmenistan, Uruguay and Uzbekistan. In particular, as a result of capacity-building support that has been extended since 2016, the newly established NMRF in Eswatini submitted long overdue reports in 2021. In Lesotho, the Government approved the establishment of an interministerial committee, in August, that will serve as an NMRF. In Egypt, OHCHR developed the capacity of the Standing Supreme Committee for Human Rights, including through consultations on preparing an action plan for the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and the use of the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD).

In 2021, a comprehensive redesign of the NRTD was initiated. First launched in 2019, the NRTD is a digital application that is made available to States to support their management relating to human rights treaty obligations and engagement with the international human rights mechanisms. The recommendations from the human rights mechanisms are imported from the Universal Human Rights Index (UHRI) into the NRTD. The redesigned version of the NRTD will be launched in 2022.

M2 – ENGAGEMENT with human rights MECHANISMS – Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

During the reporting period, OHCHR continued to support the **engagement of NHRIs with the HRC and its mechanisms**. It facilitated the circulation of 27 NHRI submissions as official UN documents, as well as 68 video statements that were pre-recorded by NHRIs, the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) and its regional networks.

Despite the difficulties posed by COVID-19, including a significant decrease in the number of delegations of **civil society organizations, NHRIs and other actors** visiting Geneva, OHCHR maintained a high level of engagement, especially through virtual contacts, to support their **interactions with the international human rights mechanisms**. Engagement around HRC mandates increased in relation to specific countries, such as the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), Myanmar, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. Regarding the **Philippines**, CSOs were actively involved in the design and implementation of the new UN Joint Programme, a pillar which focuses on increasing the capacities of CSOs for engagement with the international human rights mechanisms. The Office provided advice to CSOs in **Egypt** on presenting submissions to the special procedures and the human rights treaty bodies, resulting in a submission to CEDAW in anticipation of its November review of Egypt’s State Party report.

Enhanced **communication with and accessibility to the international human rights mechanisms by civil society actors** was facilitated through the systematization of the NGO video and written statement process, improvement of the online submission platform and the dissemination of timely and targeted information to NGOs through informal exchanges, electronic broadcasts and online platforms. As a result, the mechanisms became more accessible to NGO representatives from the field that would have not been able to travel to Geneva to deliver in-person statements, including prior to the pandemic.

OHCHR and the European Commission held **peer-to-peer learning events on the use of the #Faith4Rights toolkit** in the context of the European Union (EU) Gender Action Plan III, which explicitly calls upon the EU to support the mobilization of religious actors for gender equality, in line with the “Faith for Rights” framework.

The Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent undertook a fact-finding visit to Portugal (29 November – 6 December) and completed the preparation of a fact-finding visit to Switzerland (17 – 26 January 2022), with the objective of gathering information on all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in order to assess the overall human rights situation of people of African descent. During these country visits, former Fellows from the OHCHR Fellowship Programme for People of African Descent coordinated the engagement of the Working Group with civil society activists, thus contributing, together with the Working Group, to building a network of civil society and a global constituency of human rights activists working towards advancing the human rights of people of African descent around the world.

M3 – USE of MECHANISMS' RECOMMENDATIONS – Policymakers, legislators and courts make increased use of the outcomes of the international and regional human rights mechanisms.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

Technical assistance was provided to further strengthen national capacities for the implementation of Universal Periodic Review (UPR) recommendations. Through the Voluntary Fund for UPR implementation, OHCHR provided support to several countries, including Belize, Bhutan, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Grenada, Guyana, the Republic of Moldova, Saint Kitts and Uruguay. Activities focused on creating synergies between the implementation of key UPR recommendations, strengthening the institutional capacity of governments to ensure comprehensive follow-up and reporting on progress achieved and strengthening the capacities of UN Country Teams (UNCTs) to support national efforts to implement recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR cooperated with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) to facilitate a workshop, in October, aimed at **strengthening the capacity of parliamentarians** from OIF member states in the UPR process. The in-person event took place in Geneva and included the participation of 18 Members of Parliament from Armenia, Cameroon, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, France, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, the Republic of North Macedonia and Senegal. Four parliamentarians from Viet Nam remotely participated in the meeting. Participants shared information on the engagement of their countries with the UPR process, as well as the level of involvement of their respective parliaments before, during and after their reviews. They also discussed cooperation with NHRIs and CSOs in the implementation of the recommendations issued by the UPR.

In an effort to leverage the **implementation of UPR recommendations in humanitarian operations**, a module on the international human rights mechanisms, including the UPR, was developed and incorporated into the human rights engagement training for Protection Clusters in the field.

The launch of the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights, in February 2020, and the issuance of the Common Agenda in 2021, provided an important impetus for the integration of human rights into all UN action. The Call to Action focuses on the role of the international human rights mechanisms and the Common Agenda encourages the full use of the special procedures to respond to social, economic and political emergencies. OHCHR contributed to the Call to Action **to ensure the integration of the work of the international human rights mechanisms throughout the UN**. As a result of this work, the Inter-Agency Working Group responsible for the implementation of the Call to Action decided to create a dedicated platform on engagement with the international human rights mechanisms. This decision will be implemented in 2022.

OHCHR promoted the use of the recommendations issued by the mechanisms, including through **human rights indicators and data**, in Common Country Analyses (CCAs) and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs). OHCHR and UNDP initiated a project to stimulate the local production of disaggregated indicators and data on marginalized and vulnerable groups through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the NHRI, the National Statistical Office and other stakeholders. Consequently, the UN, States and CSOs can use the indicators to track the results of their CCA/UNSDCF and in relation to implementation, reporting and follow-up on recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

M4 – DEVELOPMENT of INTERNATIONAL LAW – International human rights mechanisms contribute to the elaboration of international law and jurisprudence, in particular in the context of emerging human rights concerns (“frontier” issues).

Shifts / SDGs



Results

OHCHR supported the **Committee on Migrant Workers on the development and launch of its General Comment No. 5** on migrants' rights to liberty and freedom from arbitrary detention (CMW/C/SR.470). The General Comment is intended to provide guidance to States regarding the rights of all migrant workers and members of their families against arbitrary detention. The Office also supported the development of a General Comment on land and economic, social and cultural rights (CESCR), a General Comment on sustainable development and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), a General Recommendation on the rights of indigenous women and girls (CEDAW) and a General Comment on the rights of persons with disabilities to work and employment (CRPD).

During the year, OHCHR received 2,867 new **communications** that were subject to prima facie admissibility analyses. Of these, 399 new cases were registered, as they appeared to fulfil prima facie admissibility requirements. OHCHR is currently managing 3,158 registered cases. A total of 1,763 cases are pending examination by the human rights treaty bodies and 1,395 cases are now being reviewed under the follow-up procedure after decisions were adopted on findings of violations of the international human rights treaties. Over the year, 317 draft views were prepared for adoption and 314 decisions/views were adopted.

OHCHR supported the adoption of **decisions by the human rights treaty bodies that developed human rights standards in the area of climate change** and environmental harm. These included five decisions by the Committee on the Rights of the Child, in cases filed by 16 child activists, which noted that the failure of a State to reduce carbon emissions may result in violations of the rights of the child for those who are located outside its territory, if the State has effective control over the sources of emissions that caused the foreseeable harm to the children. The Human Rights Committee found that the State's failure to prevent and control the environmental harm caused to an indigenous community due to the intensive use of pesticides by nearby commercial farms violated the community's rights and sense of “home.”

OHCHR maintained regular exchanges with the European and Inter-American human rights systems to ensure that individual communications registered with the human rights treaty bodies are not pending consideration by the regional systems.

M5 – EFFECTIVENESS of human rights MECHANISMS – International human rights mechanisms are increasingly effective in promoting and protecting human rights.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

OHCHR contributed to the effectiveness of the international human rights mechanisms by providing reliable information and reports based on its monitoring, as well as other forms of assistance. In particular, the Office successfully supported the **establishment of new investigative bodies that were mandated by the HRC**. Start-up teams were created to assist the new mandates on Belarus and on the occupied Palestinian territories (oPt)/Israel. As a result, the work of the mandates commenced immediately and the experts received support as soon as they were appointed.

OHCHR increased its capacities to provide common services support to the various investigative mandates, particularly with regard to **information management** systems, with the phased roll-out of the new relativity software.

Significant progress was made in **integrating human rights information**, including information generated by the international human rights mechanisms, **into the UN’s Regional Monthly Review (RMR)** process, notably through the treaty body prevention assessments and the inclusion of a standard human rights slide in the RMR briefing decks. This resulted in an increased awareness about the role of the international human rights mechanisms in opening up a space to engage with national authorities on key risk areas identified in the RMR that have limited entry points for the UN system. For instance, RMRs on Djibouti and Eritrea identified specific entry points for UN engagement based on UPR recommendations that were accepted by the respective governments.

At the end of 2020, the Office conducted a thorough assessment of its digital technology needs in order to lay the foundation for a **sustained digital transformation**. The assessment mapped digital gaps and needs, as well as tools that are in use, in particular with regard to the international human rights mechanisms. In 2021, OHCHR embarked on a two-year project to develop and deploy fit-for-purpose digital tools, which will make these mechanisms more accessible to stakeholders and enhance their efficiency in everyday operations. While the new tools are under development, improvements are being made to the existing tools. For example, the retrieval of information functionality of the treaty bodies database was streamlined, including in relation to the follow-up procedures and general comments, resulting in the increased visibility of the human rights treaty bodies. The Petitions database was upgraded with the introduction of new functionalities to streamline workflows and allow for a more efficient handling of individual communications. In addition, a new digital case management and portal function was introduced.

In the context of preparing for virtual dialogues, the human rights treaty bodies compared methodologies, with a view to **sharing experiences and harmonizing procedures**. For example, CAT adopted measures to encourage the coordination of lists of issues and concluding observations between the treaty bodies, building on similar processes adopted by the Human Rights Committee and CESCR in 2020. CERD adopted new guidelines on cooperation with NGOs and NHRIs and the elaboration of general recommendations. The first two were inspired by guidelines previously adopted by other committees and sought to harmonize CERD’s procedures with those of the other treaty bodies.

The **treaty ratification** dashboard, released in 2013, continued to be regularly updated and used by various stakeholders, including States, researchers and other UN agencies. Following numerous requests from users, the ratification data related to the 18 human rights treaties and their optional protocols was uploaded to the dashboard. Due to this increased accessibility, treaty ratification data is now included in measurement frameworks, such as the Human Rights and Gender Database created by the Statistics Development Division of the Pacific Community and the Migrants’ Rights Dashboard created by IOM.

Development (D)



COVID-19 response and recovery

Through the **Surge Initiative**, OHCHR implemented eight projects in the field aimed at **building back better from the COVID-19 pandemic**, including by undertaking more focused analysis on groups left behind, building disaggregated datasets and evidence to advise States, UNCTs, CSOs and other national partners and stakeholders on human rights-based socio-economic responses. For example, in Ukraine, OHCHR carried out human rights analyses of 10 municipal budgets in relation to social protection, including by considering whether such budgetary processes and related structures enable the effective participation of affected rights-holders, particularly the most marginalized. In Nepal, the Office identified the minimum essential health care interventions, with an emphasis on sexual and reproductive health, for four marginalized communities of women working in the informal sector. It further analysed budgets and trends in government allocations for sexual and reproductive health care services at the national and federal levels, which will serve as a basis for recommendations on appropriate budgetary provisions. In September, a High Commissioner’s report on the work of the Surge Initiative was submitted to ECOSOC, highlighting efforts undertaken in the context of COVID-19 response and recovery in 24 countries.

OHCHR strengthened advocacy to **promote the human rights of older persons in the COVID-19 response**. With WHO and other UN partners, OHCHR is co-leading inter-agency efforts to support the implementation of the new UN Decade of Healthy Ageing 2021-2030. OHCHR also co-launched the latest *Global report on ageism*, in March, as well as a regional initiative to uphold the rights and dignity of older persons in connection with the COVID-19 response in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

D1 – BUSINESS and human rights – Judicial and non-judicial mechanisms hold business and other economic actors to account for rights abuses and provide remedies to victims.



Results OHCHR actively contributed to **policy processes aimed at introducing mandatory human rights due diligence regulations**, including by publishing a paper with the non-profit organization, Shift, on how such regulations can be enforced through administrative supervision. Further, OHCHR made a submission to the open-ended intergovernmental working group mandated to draft a legally binding instrument on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights (IGWG).

Building on the report of the UN Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises regarding the *Role of national human rights institutions in facilitating access to remedy for business-related human rights abuses*, and in the context of the Responsible Business Conduct in Latin America and the Caribbean project, OHCHR enhanced the capacity of 23 local and provincial human rights institutions of **Argentina** through a series of workshops organized between May and June, in coordination with the NHRI. As a result, a protocol of actions to deal with business-related human rights abuses, including facilitating access to remedy, was developed and agreed upon by the 23 local and provincial human rights institutions of Argentina.

The tenth **Annual Forum on Business and Human Rights** was held from 29 November to 1 December under the theme “The next decade of business and human rights: Increasing the pace and scale of action to implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.” Over 3,000 participants registered to participate in the Forum, which was, once again, held virtually. Over 180 panellists, including representatives from States, businesses and business associations, civil society, NHRIs, unions, indigenous peoples, human rights defenders (HRDs) and academics, shared their experiences and perspectives, with a particular focus on how to improve implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) in the next decade and beyond.

With the support of OHCHR, ILO and OECD, the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises convened the sixth **Regional Forum on Business and Human Rights in Latin America and the Caribbean**, from 4 to 6 October. The event gathered together 3,000 participants from business, civil society, unions, academics and States. A road test version of the regional road map for the next 10 years of the UNGPs was subsequently developed. Implementation will begin in 2022.

D2 – GUIDING PRINCIPLES on Business and Human Rights – Business actors effectively implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

Interpretive **guidance was issued on the application of the UNGPs** for the financial sector and on the requirement for tech companies to conduct human rights due diligence on the end use of their products, thereby advancing a normative understanding of the implications of the UNGPs. OHCHR produced additional guidance materials, including a “Trailhead” learning tool on the UNGPs, that was developed with the company, Salesforce; a guidance note on the effectiveness criteria for non-State-based grievance mechanisms; and six background papers related to implementation of the UNGPs in the tech sector.

The Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, developed guidance for multi-stakeholder initiatives to address **trafficking in supply chains**. The guidance, which is divided into three chapters, includes one that is dedicated to the establishment of grievance mechanisms and was founded on the work and recommendations emanating from the OHCHR-led Accountability and Remedy Project.

Within the framework of the collaboration with the World Economic Forum Partnership for Global LGBTI Equality (PGLE), OHCHR disseminated the **Standards of conduct for business: Tackling discrimination against LGBTI people** and co-developed a self-assessment tool with PGLE and the UN Global Compact, which was launched in September, to enable companies to analyse their performance in the implementation of the Standards of Conduct.

OHCHR collaborated with the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises to facilitate the establishment of and **provide technical support to nine national hubs in Latin America** in order to strengthen their business capacities and peer learning. For example, in Brazil, OHCHR supported business to carry out human rights due diligence and assessed emerging practices in that field. In Argentina, OHCHR supported the creation of an alliance of six chambers of commerce that are leading on responsible business conduct.

D3 – LAND and HOUSING laws/policies – State authorities adopt and implement laws, policies and strategies on land and housing that increasingly comply with human rights.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

The Office supported the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, in seeking worldwide **accountability for violations of the right to housing** through a communications tool. In 2021, the mandate sent out 109 communications, representing an unprecedented increase in the number of communications, compared to previous years. Many of the communications focused on the impacts of forced evictions and other housing rights violations that occurred in the context of COVID-19, reinforcing the Special Rapporteur’s call for a global moratorium on evictions during the pandemic. As an example, after an urgent appeal was sent by the Special Rapporteur to the Bahamas and the issuance of an injunction by the Supreme Court, the planned forced eviction of 2,000 persons of Haitian origin was halted.

The Special Rapporteur on adequate housing prepared a report entitled **Twenty years of promoting and protecting the right to adequate housing: Taking stock and moving forward** (A/HRC/47/43). The report provides an assessment of the mandate’s achievements and contributions at local, national and international levels since its establishment and highlights the development of important guidelines on forced evictions, security of tenure and the implementation of the right to adequate housing. It also outlines recommendations to enhance its working methods and identifies seven priorities for its future.

OHCHR led inter-agency efforts under the UN-Water framework to develop a **UN-Water road map to strengthen the integration of the human rights to water and sanitation**, which opens up more opportunities for joint advocacy and country engagement on this issue in 2022.

D4 – HEALTH POLICIES and human rights – Public health approaches, including sexual and reproductive health policies, comply with international human rights standards and provide non-discriminatory access, especially to children, adolescents, women and migrants.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

OHCHR continued to expand the global constituency for **sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)**, by engaging with health workers on their fundamental role in the realization of human rights. For example, in **Uganda**, OHCHR partnered with the Ministry of Health and UNAIDS to design and deliver a pilot training to 20 health workers to build their awareness and capacities to apply a human rights-based approach (HRBA) to the provision of sexual and reproductive health and HIV-related services, while also identifying and eliminating stigma and discrimination affecting women living with HIV.

In November, OHCHR organized an intersessional consultation on mental health and human rights, as mandated by Human Rights Council resolution A/HRC/43/13. Under its Framework of Cooperation with WHO, the Office continued to develop joint guidance on the drafting of mental health laws that are in compliance with international human rights standards, particularly CRPD, and initiated work on developing guidance on the application of an HRBA to universal health coverage.

OHCHR facilitated the **integration of human rights norms and principles into the work of the Committee for World Food Security**, including its Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition. OHCHR actively engaged in the Food System Summit, bringing human rights concerns to the forefront of discussions around sustainable food systems and healthy diets. In collaboration with WHO, the Office also stressed the potential role of the private sector in encouraging the public to make the shift towards sustainable and healthy diets, thereby contributing to the enjoyment of the right to food and the right to health. Finally, in Jordan, OHCHR and the UNCT launched a policy brief with concrete recommendations on promoting healthy diets in the national context.

D5 – ENVIRONMENT and CLIMATE policies – Environmental and climate policies and plans increasingly respect, protect and fulfil human rights, guaranteeing those affected access to information, decision-making, public participation and remedies.



Results

OHCHR continued to work closely with the Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment, UNEP and other UN partners, as well as States, CSOs, indigenous peoples and other relevant stakeholders, to advocate for the global recognition and **advancement of the human right to a healthy environment**. This contributed to the adoption of HRC resolution 48/13, which recognizes that a clean, healthy and sustainable environment is a human right.

OHCHR continued to raise awareness on the **linkages between human rights and the environment** and built capacity to address them. More specifically, the Office launched its first publication on climate change, *Frequently asked questions on human rights and climate change*, and worked with the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) to develop and launch an e-learning course on human rights and climate change.* It also issued new advocacy materials, which were jointly developed with UNEP and other partners, on *Human rights and biodiversity, human rights and hazardous substances, as well as human rights, the environment and gender equality*.

OHCHR launched a number of new **partnerships and communications efforts related to the right to a healthy environment**, including the Right Here, Right Now Global Climate Alliance, a monthly newsletter on the Environment and Climate Change and a WikiforHumanRights campaign on the right to a healthy environment. The campaign was co-organized with the Wikimedia Foundation and UNEP and produced more than 27 community events and 2,000 articles in more than 30 languages.

The Office supported the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes to produce a report for the Human Rights Council on the right to science (A/HRC/48/61). The report argues that the right to science implies that truthful scientific information is available and accessible and that **information on hazardous substances** should not be kept away from the public domain. It also calls for policymaking and legislation to be based on scientific evidence.

D6 – HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACT assessment – Human rights assessments and impact analyses mitigate, prevent or redress the negative effects of economic, trade and development policies and projects.



Results

In collaboration with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Geneva Office and the UN Economic Commission for Africa, OHCHR promoted the use of **human rights impacts assessments in trade agreements**. The Office also disseminated the recommendations of an ex-ante impact assessment of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and updated its policy messages to consider the implementation of the AfCFTA in the context of socio-economic recovery from COVID-19.

OHCHR undertook advocacy with the Asian Development Bank, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and the European Investment Bank with regard to their **safeguard policies** and issued recommendations to improve gender integration and a commitment to address gender-based violence, including through the establishment and implementation of a self-standing gender equality standard. In 2021, the AIIB's Environment and Social Framework made increased references to consideration for gender equality.

* UN CC: Learn, An introduction to climate change and human rights, Accessed 29 April 2022, <https://www.uncclearn.org/courses/an-introduction-to-climate-change-and-human-rights/>

D7 – HUMAN RIGHTS INTEGRATION in implementing the SDGs – States integrate human rights, including the right to development and the outcomes of the international human rights mechanisms, as they implement the Sustainable Development Goals and other development and poverty eradication efforts. The UN supports them in these purposes and integrates human rights into its own development work.



Results

OHCHR continued to lead the inter-agency team revising the draft **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals operational guide on Leaving No One Behind**. The Guide has been approved by the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) Core Group and will be finalized soon. It will be a key reference tool for UNCTs in relation to the implementation of the new CCAs and UNSDCF and therefore crucial to ensuring a focus on inequalities and the application of the human rights-based approach.

OHCHR substantially contributed to the UN support to States in the **implementation of the SDGs and other development efforts**, including through the integration of human rights into the UN's development work and by placing human rights at the centre of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and COVID-19 response and recovery plans. In particular, the Office provided analytical contents and operational advice for CCA and UNSDCF documents and processes, including in relation to Albania, Chad, Guinea-Bissau, Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Maldives and Zimbabwe. OHCHR also provided support to Voluntary National Review (VNR) processes in a number of countries, including Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eswatini, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Lao PDR, Saudi Arabia and Zimbabwe. In addition, OHCHR supported UNCTs and Resident Coordinator's Offices (RCOs) in applying an HRBA and a Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) approach and using recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms for their programming. This was achieved through targeted capacity-building activities and participation in and support to UN regional and cross-regional platforms that are dedicated to development operations. In the case of Egypt, OHCHR provided support to the UNCT on the integration of human rights into the CCA and the draft UNSDCF (2023-2027), which led to the CCA's reference to vulnerable groups in Egypt.

OHCHR helped several UNCTs to integrate **COVID-19 human rights indicators** into CCAs and the results frameworks of UNSDCF. To ensure that the best quality data and statistics are available to support decision-making during and after the pandemic, OHCHR worked with UNICEF and UN Women to conduct COVID-19 rapid gender assessments on the impacts of COVID-19 on violence, discrimination, inequality and injustice in Central and Western Africa.

OHCHR continued to systematically develop **matrixes linking UPR recommendations with the SDGs** for all countries reviewed, making it easier for Member States and UNCTs to integrate recommendations into planning and implementation at the country level.

The ongoing OHCHR-UNDP project on "Enhanced Resident Coordinator and UNCT strategic engagement with the UPR and other human rights mechanisms and with NMRFs and NHRIs to achieve the SDGs" provided tailored support for six selected proposals (from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Tunisia and Uruguay) and led to the creation of a **repository of good practices on the use of the UPR by the UN system**. The repository revealed the increasing integration of UPR recommendations into CCAs/UNSDCFs and the planning and programming of UN entities, in line with their mandates.

The Office supported the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights in continuing to advocate for **the right to social protection** and the establishment of a Global Fund for Social Protection as a means to realize this right (SDG 1.3). The Special Rapporteur presented his thematic report on the establishment of this new mechanism (A/HRC/47/36) to the forty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council, in June. He also launched a global survey on non-take-up of social protection, analysing the gap between legal and effective coverage of social protection. The report and results of the survey will feed into a report that will assess the status of the implementation of the right to social protection and propose ways forward in its universal implementation. It will be submitted to the fiftieth session of the Human Rights Council in 2022.

The Office supported the mandate of the **Special Rapporteur on the right to development** in continuing to advocate for the integration of the right to development in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 14) and the Paris Agreement. The Special Rapporteur presented a report to the Human Rights Council (A/HRC/48/56) and to the General Assembly (A/76/154), examining the relationship between the right to development and climate action at national and international levels. In October, the Special Rapporteur also issued a policy brief entitled *Climate action and the right to development: A participatory approach*, encouraging all countries participating in the UN Climate Change Conference 2021 to integrate the recommendations, included in the brief, in their decision-making.

Through the Surge Initiative, OHCHR delivered HRBA trainings to 15 UNCTs and 27 human rights capacity-strengthening activities. For example, in September, the surge team delivered training to government officials in Sudan on **the role of public budgets in realizing economic, social and cultural rights** and advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The objective of the training was to familiarize officials with an HRBA to public budgeting and encourage collaboration between OHCHR, the Ministry of Social Development and other government line ministries and departments on the application of an HRBA to planning and programming. Similar initiatives were undertaken in Haiti, Niger, the State of Palestine* and Zambia.

OHCHR continued to strategically engage with a wide range of UN actors to ensure **meaningful contributions to key UN development policies and guidance**. For example, OHCHR contributed to the revised *Management and accountability framework of the UN Development and Resident Coordinator System*, ensuring a clear framework for management and accountability within UNCTs, including on performance and mutual accountabilities for human rights, in line with the RC's job description and the objective of the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights.

OHCHR increased its advocacy on the **right to development**, including through the production of public materials, such as reports on the right to development and on international cooperation, training resources, and engagement in policy discussions, notably on COVID-19 responses, international solidarity, cooperation and partnerships to ensure that no person, group, community or country is left behind. The Office also supported the engagement and advocacy by the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development with NHRIs and civil society regarding the integration of human rights into SDG implementation, including through an online dialogue between the Expert Mechanism, CSOs and social movements.

OHCHR worked with UNESCO and a group of NHRIs that was coordinated by the Danish Institute of Human Rights to develop a framework to help States **track progress in implementing human rights education** under the World Programme for Human Rights Education and the 2030 Agenda. The assessment was endorsed by the UNESCO-led Technical Cooperation Group that oversees the monitoring of SDG 4.

D8 – DISAGGREGATED human rights DATA – National institutions, assisted by communities, systematically collect, disaggregate and use data that are relevant for advancing human rights when they monitor and implement the SDGs.



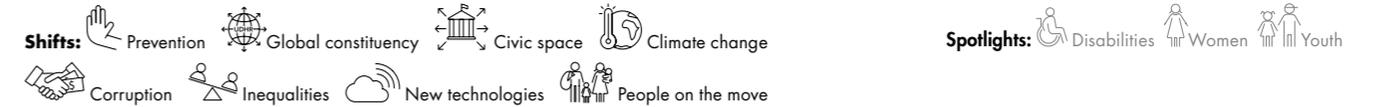
Results With the support of OHCHR, NHRIs and National Statistical Offices in Albania, Jordan, Mongolia, the Philippines and the Republic of Moldova signed MoUs in 2021 to establish formal agreements to **disaggregate data and integrate human rights into official development statistics**.

The *Sustainable Development Goals report 2021 and other reports*, such as the Secretary-General's report on *Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals* and its statistical annex, include the latest disaggregated data on the four **SDG indicators under OHCHR's custodianship**, namely, SDG 16.1.2 on conflict deaths; SDG 16.10.1 on killings and attacks against human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists; SDG 16.a.1 on NHRIs; and SDG 10.3.1/16.b.1 on the experience of discrimination and harassment.

The EU-supported project on human rights indicators was completed in November. The project contributed to strengthening **OHCHR's capacity in using data and statistical methods to support and measure the implementation of human rights** norms and obligations and assess human rights and related risk factors. It expanded the compilation of human rights indicators and their incorporation into relevant reports, particularly regarding the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. More than half of the global SDG indicators are recognized as being directly relevant to measuring human rights and include indicators based on OHCHR's methodology.

* All references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with General Assembly resolution 67/19.

Peace and Security (PS)



PS1 – PROTECTION of CIVILIANS, CONFLICT and PEACE – Parties to conflict and actors involved in peace operations increasingly comply with international human rights law and international humanitarian law and provide greater protection to civilians.



Results OHCHR made good progress in advancing the **compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law by armed forces** in regional organizations and ad hoc coalitions, for example, by contributing to the development of UN guidance regarding the establishment of criteria that is applicable to Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) where there are grounds to believe that their armed and security forces have been involved in grave human rights violations.

The Internal Security Forces project in Chad, Mauritania and Niger continued to deliver capacity-building assistance that is instrumental to ensuring **human rights compliance by Internal Security Forces**. To this end, OHCHR developed substantive guidance and training materials.

PS2 – Counter-TERRORISM and preventing VIOLENT EXTREMISM – Efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism comply with international law.



Results OHCHR's engagement and normative leadership role in relation to **counter-terrorism and human rights** among Member States and within the UN counter-terrorism system significantly increased, largely due to its strategic engagement during the seventh review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. This resulted in the inclusion of strengthened language on civic space, the rights of the child, women's rights and gender equality. OHCHR also informed the development of various thematic initiatives launched by UN entities, including strategies for prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration for terrorist suspects; model legal provisions on victims of terrorism; and the global framework for repatriation of third country nationals held in Iraq and in the Syrian Arab Republic. OHCHR was the lead author of the Secretary-General's report on terrorism and human rights, which provides Member States with authoritative guidance on an HRBA to counter-terrorism. The Office also reviewed a **substantial number of counter-terrorism laws, policies and UN programmes**, including Egypt's national human rights strategy and counter-terrorism legislation, Switzerland's counter-terrorism legislation and the UN Joint Programme for the Philippines.

PS3 – HUMAN RIGHTS protection in PREVENTION/RESPONSE – Strategies to prevent and respond to conflict consistently integrate human rights protection.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

In collaboration with the African Union (AU) and the World Bank, OHCHR contributed to further **integrating human rights into early warning systems in the AU** and in Regional Economic Communities (RECs). In 2021, a study on good practices in relation to early warning and conflict prevention systems was undertaken to provide recommendations for improving collaboration of NHRIs, the AU and RECs in this area.

OHCHR engaged in the **mandate renewal of 11 peace operations** in order to strengthen and preserve human rights language in relevant resolutions and increase human rights impact across mission contexts, including by coordinating with human rights components and responsible departments and heightening engagement with Security Council members and penholders. For instance, strong human rights language on the implementation of transitional justice mechanisms was incorporated into Security Council resolution 2621 on MONUSCO's mandate, which was adopted on 20 December. OHCHR further reviewed and provided inputs to 26 guidance documents for UN peace missions, for instance, *Conducting peacekeeping training needs assessments*, and represented OHCHR in consultations on guidance development.

OHCHR participated in the **Recovery and Peacebuilding Assessment that was jointly conducted in Mozambique** by UN agencies, the EU and the World Bank. This provided a concrete opportunity to ensure that human rights were incorporated into the Assessment and helped to shape the strategies for prevention and recovery of other partners. In addition, OHCHR's increased engagement with the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) in New York, through an OHCHR staff member who was embedded in the PBSO, resulted in the integration of human rights considerations into its support for the UN's peacebuilding efforts on the ground. For example, the Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative prioritized human rights-related themes in 2020 and 2021.

In **Libya**, technical support extended to the United Nations Support Mission in Libya's (UNSMIL) human rights component led to the establishment of the Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangement. This structure was set up by the Security Council through resolution 1960 (2010) to ensure the timely **documentation of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV)**, improve the coordination of UN responses and inform the actions of the Security Council.

OHCHR coordinated with other UN members of the Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) Working Group to develop policies and tools to support a victim-centred, human-rights-based approach to the **UN's efforts to prevent and respond to SEA**. OHCHR led the development and finalization of the *United Nations policy on integrating a human rights-based approach to UN efforts to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse* and contributed to the development of complementary tools, such as the Victims' Rights Statement.

A 2020 methodology on the **use of human rights treaty body observations and recommendations** to highlight the potential risk of conflicts or crises was systematically applied in 2021 in the preparation for Regional Monthly Reviews. The methodology is also being used to undertake conflict prevention assessments of all countries that will have their State Party reports reviewed by the Human Rights Committee and CESCR.

OHCHR continued to support **CERD's Early Warning and Urgent Action Procedure** and 23 situations were brought to the attention of the Early Warning and Urgent Action Working Group. In response, a total of 19 letters were sent and one statement was adopted. Regarding the CERD's Urgent Action Procedure, 453 new urgent actions were registered in 2021, bringing the total number of registered actions to 1,454. To date, the mechanism has contributed to the location of 424 persons.

OHCHR supported the adoption by CEDAW of a decision on a case concerning **the arbitrary detention and torture of a human rights defender** by a militia group allegedly affiliated with the Libyan Government. The Committee concluded that Libya violated the human rights of the HRD by failing to investigate and prosecute her unlawful detention and torture.

PS4 – TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE and ACCOUNTABILITY – Justice mechanisms, including for transitional justice, provide increased accountability for conflict-related violations.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

OHCHR provided support to **transitional justice processes and accountability mechanisms** across the globe, including in relation to Algeria, Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Gambia, Lesotho, Libya, the Maldives, Myanmar, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, the Western Balkans and Yemen. In **Tunisia**, for example, OHCHR delivered capacity-building training to the judiciary of the Specialized Criminal Chambers and supported CSOs in their monitoring of transitional justice-related trials.

PS5 – INFORMATION and EARLY WARNING – Human rights information and analyses are integrated into early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policymaking, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflict.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

In 2021, OHCHR doubled the number of **Emergency Response Teams** (from three to six) and therefore strengthened the capacity of some of its regional offices (in Bangkok, Dakar, Panama City, Pretoria, Santiago de Chile and Yaoundé) to undertake early warning and analysis and to incorporate a stronger prevention component into their support on SDG implementation and INOB. In 2022, OHCHR aims to establish additional Teams in Addis Ababa, Bishkek and Suva.

OHCHR formalized a sustainable agreement with UNOSAT for the **use of satellite images for human rights monitoring and analysis**. In 2021, over 1,000 inputs were provided by OHCHR to UNOCC and over 200 inputs were delivered to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Early Warning, Early Action and Readiness Analyst Group. The Office and Information Management and Data Analytics (IMDA) co-developed a tool that structures information and data related to the IASC Early Warning and Early Action process to facilitate analysis. In addition, the tool creates an automation component to feed that information into the OHCHR early warning system.

Within the framework of the Global Health Cluster, the Crisis Management Team and the COVAX Humanitarian Buffer, OHCHR supported UNICEF and WHO in **monitoring** and providing advice on national vaccination plans, including by providing information on the human rights dimensions of the COVID-19 **vaccine roll-out in relation to vulnerable groups**. To this end, the Office established a media monitoring system to prepare a weekly global newsletter on information related to access to vaccines of vulnerable groups.

A statistical analysis of the **number of conflict-related deaths in the last 10 years in Syria**, founded on Syrian civil society's and OHCHR's data that was compiled under SDG Indicator 16.1.2, helped bring the country situation back into the headlines through informed media coverage, both internationally and regionally. The data on casualty recording that was gathered by OHCHR supported the High Commissioner's call for accountability. She delivered an oral update to the HRC, in September, and emphasized the importance of using established statistical techniques to provide a more complete picture of the scale of the conflict and its impact on Syrians.

OHCHR facilitated the flow of **information and analysis from human rights components** in peace operations to the early warning structures at UN Headquarters in New York to enable effective action and decision-making. In 2021, OHCHR contributed to 35 Security Council consultations and 43 Secretary-General reports on progress achieved in the implementation of the mandates of peace operations.

Following selected reviews of State Parties, OHCHR prepared **human rights treaty body Prevention Assessment Outcome Documents (PAODs)**. In accordance with an agreed methodology, PAODs use conclusions and recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies to identify risk factors that could lead to conflicts or crises. They also highlight recommendations that the UN could pursue with a State Party in question to help prevent the emergence or deterioration of a conflict or crisis.

PS6 – HUMAN RIGHTS DUE DILIGENCE POLICY – The support of the United Nations to national and regional security forces, law enforcement agencies and non-State actors integrates human rights and complies with the HRDDP.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

OHCHR continued to raise awareness about and strengthen the **implementation of the HRDDP** in countries and regions where UN support to non-UN security forces significantly contributes to advancing the peace and security agenda. In 2021, OHCHR’s technical cooperation resulted in the gradual establishment of “light” HRDDP mechanisms in missions without such mechanisms, including the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), and the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK). The Office also participated in DPO-led assessments of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali’s (MINUSMA) support to the G5 Sahel Joint Force and the UN’s support options to the Joint Force, thereby ensuring a thorough review of the application of the HRDDP, in close coordination with DPPA-DPO and DOS.

The Office continued to provide support and guidance for the **implementation of the HRRDP to the UNCTs**, particularly in relation to the development of standard operating procedures (SOPs), risk assessments and mitigation measures. Such support was provided to UNCTs in 32 countries, including Myanmar, Nigeria, Peru and Uzbekistan.

Non-discrimination (ND)



COVID-19 response and recovery

A number of OHCHR field presences actively undertook **measures to prevent and respond to the impacts of COVID-19 on gender-based violence (GBV)**. For example, some field presences designed innovative ways to collect data on human rights and gender equality issues. This included an unprecedented crowdsourcing project that collected data to improve services and programmes related to GBV, while also ensuring a survivor-centred approach, in India and 23 other countries in Asia. In addition, OHCHR field presences in Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Niger, Senegal and Tunisia developed quantitative surveys on the impacts of COVID-19 on women, which enabled the collection of disaggregated data on the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19, with a particular focus on women.

ND1 – NORMATIVE FRAMEWORKS to combat DISCRIMINATION – Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms and responsible authorities actively work to Leave No One Behind, including by addressing the root causes of inequality.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

The HRC Complaint Procedure contributed to the **promotion and protection of human rights, including by addressing inequality and discriminatory laws**. In this context, concrete measures were undertaken at the national level to prevent discrimination, such as the prohibition of the deprivation of nationality to avoid statelessness and the reintegration into employment of workers who were victims of unlawful dismissal.

OHCHR provided guidance to States and other stakeholders on **preventing and addressing racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance**. Advisory services were provided on indicators related to ethnic origin to the Government of Peru for the data collection on people of African descent, in the context of the implementation of the National Policy of people of African descent. OHCHR also played an active role in the drafting process of the EU draft guiding principles for national action plans against racism, by providing advice on principles, objectives and content of a comprehensive strategy to fight racial discrimination. Once approved, these guiding principles will assist EU member states in the development of their respective national action plans.

In 2021, OHCHR empowered activists of African descent to promote and protect the human rights of their communities through its **Fellowship Programme for People of African Descent**. A total of 18 participants (12 women, six men) from 12 countries attended the three-week human rights training, which, for the first time, was held in two languages, English and Spanish.

During the year, the **Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights** organized several participatory dialogues on discrimination against people living in poverty. He heard directly from participants about their experiences living in poverty and discussed measures that could be adopted to break this cycle and improve social mobility, with a particular emphasis on the role of social welfare services and the conditions under which investments in early childhood can make a difference. The dialogues fed into a thematic report on the intergenerational perpetuation of poverty (A/76/177) that was presented at the seventy-fifth session of the General Assembly, in October.

OHCHR provided substantive support to a high-level meeting at the General Assembly to commemorate the **twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action** under the theme "Reparations, racial justice and equality for people of African descent." During the meeting, Member States adopted a political declaration, affirming their commitment to mobilizing political will and accelerating the momentum to prioritize the fight against racism and the protection of its victims. The Office issued a booklet entitled *Fighting racism and discrimination: The Durban Declaration and Programme of Action at 20*, produced an animated video depicting the importance of the Durban Declaration and created a dedicated web page on OHCHR's website.

ND2 – JUSTICE SYSTEMS investigate DISCRIMINATION – Justice systems and related institutions increasingly monitor and investigate discrimination and provide redress to victims.



Results

In July, the High Commissioner presented her report to the Human Rights Council in which she laid out **an Agenda towards transformative change for racial justice and equality**. The report outlines a four-point agenda and builds on decades of work by international and other human rights mechanisms, as well as a wide consultation process that focused on the experiences of people of African descent. Throughout the process, OHCHR contributed to strengthening advocacy to: address systemic racism and ensure accountability of law enforcement officials for human rights violations against Africans and people of African descent; take further action to ensure that the voices of people of African descent are heard; and confront past legacies and deliver reparatory justice. The report launch was accompanied by a series of media and communications products to enhance the visibility of its findings. Subsequently, the Council **established an international independent expert mechanism to advance racial justice and equality in law enforcement** and requested OHCHR to enhance and broaden its monitoring in order to continue to report on these issues and promote global action to bring about transformative change for racial justice and equality.

Following two years of collaboration and the organization of a number of consultations, OHCHR and the Equal Rights Trust prepared a publication entitled *Protecting minority rights: A practical guide to developing comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation*. After its publication in 2022, the Guide will serve as the leading **guidance anti-discrimination legislation and the right to equality**.

ND3 – WOMEN PARTICIPATION and PROTECTION – Legal and social frameworks increasingly promote the autonomy and choices of women and girls and protect them from violence, including in the digital space.



Results

At its eighty-sixth session, on 2 March, CRC adopted **General Comment No. 25 on children's rights in relation to the digital environment** (CRC/C/GC/25). Through this General Comment, the Committee explains how States Parties should implement CRC in relation to the digital environment and provides guidance on relevant legislative, policy and other measures to ensure full compliance with their obligations under the Convention to promote, respect, protect and fulfil the rights of the child. In 2020, the Committee invited all interested parties to comment on the draft and received 142 submissions from States, regional organizations, UN agencies, NHRIs, children's and adolescent groups, CSOs, academics, the private sector, other entities and individuals.

CEDAW adopted its first decision on the issue of **so-called honour-based crimes**. The case concerned a woman who was a victim of gender-based violence. Her husband's relatives accused her of having an extramarital affair and she was beaten by those relatives, in front of her children, until she lost consciousness. She was later found dead. CEDAW condemned Georgia for failing to protect the victim against so-called honour-based violence and for failing to investigate and prosecute those responsible.

OHCHR organized a two-day virtual roundtable event, in March, to mark International Women's Day and to **recognize women human rights defenders (WHRDs) in the Arab region**. A total of 40 participants (34 women, six men) attended the event, including WHRDs from Algeria, Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, the State of Palestine, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen. The event provided a platform to discuss women's leadership and the challenges faced by WHRDs during the pandemic. It also identified opportunities for strategic engagement and partnerships in combating sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and for the provision of additional UN support to the work of WHRDs in the MENA region. Participants recommended the organization of an annual meeting of WHRDs from the region.

OHCHR advocated for the application of a **human rights-based approach to the use of criminal law from a gender equality and women's rights perspective**, including through an op-ed published in Central America on the discriminatory use of criminal law and a study of the situation of women in detention in West Africa.

ND4 – ERADICATING HARMFUL NORMS – Judicial institutions, media and other sectors increasingly recognize and challenge harmful gender stereotypes and gender norms with a view to their eradication.



Results

OHCHR furthered the debate on ways to **promote and protect the rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations** through the presentation of a report to the Human Rights Council (A/HRC/48/32), mandated by resolution A/HRC/RES/45/28, and an interactive dialogue between the High Commissioner and the Human Rights Council.

ND5 – DIGITAL SPACE – Principles and practices effectively counter discrimination and hate speech in the digital space.**Results**

The Office continued to innovate its methodology and implement technology tools for **monitoring incitement and hate speech**, including in relation to online attacks against HRDs. Through the application of network, account and content analyses, the Office was better situated to analyse online incidents and trends and apply the Rabat Plan of Action threshold test. This strengthened its evidence base and informed work on protection cases and engagement with social media platforms and other stakeholders on freedom of expression and content moderation.

OHCHR undertook advocacy with different **social media platforms** to encourage them to increase their efforts to meet their human rights responsibilities under the UNGPs and to employ the Rabat Plan of Action threshold test. In 2021, OHCHR collaborated with Facebook, Google, YouTube and Twitter, with a view to better **protecting minorities and human rights defenders** and responding to content that could constitute incitement to hostility, discrimination or violence. The Facebook Oversight Board applied the Rabat Plan of Action threshold test in several decisions during the year.

ND6 – MIGRATION – The human rights of all migrants, particularly those in vulnerable situations, are protected.**Results**

In December, OHCHR deployed a **rapid assessment mission to Belarus and Poland** to assess protection gaps at the border and provide stakeholders with recommendations on how to protect and respect the human rights of migrants.

OHCHR continued to support **advocacy on the rights of migrants through regional mechanisms**, including participation in the regional Issue-Based Coalition for Large Movements of People, Displacement and Resilience and collaboration with the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights and Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Migration and Refugees. It also interacted with EU mechanisms related to migration, including the Frontex Consultative Forum on Fundamental Rights and the proposed EU's New Pact on Asylum and Migration. In particular, OHCHR contributed to expert discussions and advocacy regarding the establishment of national independent mechanisms to monitor human rights at EU borders, including through guidance issued to the Greek authorities, together with UNHCR and the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions.

In order to assist States and frontline border officials to adopt a **human rights-based and gender-responsive approach to border governance**, OHCHR finalized, launched and ensured the translation of OHCHR's *Human rights at international borders: A trainer's guide* and related visual materials. The Trainer's Guide was rolled out through the organization of high-level meetings and training courses for border officials and other relevant stakeholders, including in Central Asia (with participants from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan), Mauritania, Morocco and Thailand.

In relation to the **#StandUp4Migrants campaign**,* the Office developed numerous tools, including a podcast series on hopeful migration narratives, a series of comic stories on migration and climate change, a story-telling photo essay in partnership with Reuters, in addition to numerous stories, quote cards, key messages and visual assets.

* UN Human Rights, #StandUp4Migrants, Accessed 29 April 2022, <https://www.standup4humanrights.org/migration/en/index.html>

ND7 – PUBLIC MOBILIZATION for INCLUSION – Public support increases for equal, inclusive and diverse societies, without discrimination.**Results**

Through the **UN Free & Equal campaign**, OHCHR raised awareness of and advocated for the human rights of LGBTI persons in Albania, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Mongolia, Panama, Peru, Serbia, Timor-Leste, Ukraine and Viet Nam, in partnership with UNCTs and national stakeholders. OHCHR also launched a global campaign on the human rights of LGBTI migrants, in partnership with IOM, which received close to 11 million video views, and a video campaign on the human rights of LGBTI youth, in partnership with the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, which received more than 13 million views. Furthermore, as part of the campaign, OHCHR developed social media toolkits on the human rights of transgender persons and LGBTI persons with disabilities, as well as dozens of other social media assets with human rights messaging.

On 31 August, OHCHR, UNFPA and the Government of Costa Rica marked **the first International Day for People of African Descent** through the production of a pre-recorded cultural event, which provided an opportunity to learn about diverse cultures through film, dance, music and artwork. During this observance, OHCHR promoted the extraordinary contributions of the African diaspora around the world, with a view to contributing to the elimination of all forms of discrimination against people of African descent.

ND8 – UN response to INEQUALITY and DISCRIMINATION – The UN system implements a coherent and human rights-based response to inequality and discrimination, including intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination.**Results**

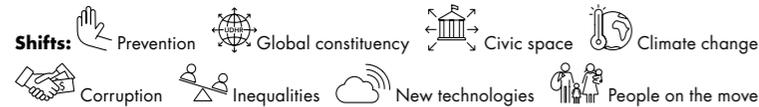
OHCHR actively supported the co-facilitators of the consultation process on the operationalization of the Permanent Forum of People of African Descent, namely Chad and Costa Rica, in facilitating a series of intergovernmental discussions and engagement with civil society constituencies. This consultation led to the General Assembly's adoption of resolution 75/314, in August, which formally **operationalizes the Permanent Forum for People of African Descent**. The Permanent Forum will serve as a consultative mechanism for people of African descent and other relevant stakeholders, as well as an advisory body to the Human Rights Council, in line with the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent. In December, five of the 10 members of the mechanism were elected by the General Assembly and the remaining five will be appointed by the President of the HRC in 2022. The Office has been working towards the creation of a Permanent Forum since 2014, when it was mandated to do so by General Assembly resolution A/RES/69/16.

OHCHR provided UN development partners with inputs to design **recovery strategies and longer-term sustainable development plans**, including to combat inequalities, discrimination and operationalize the LNOB pledge. To this end, OHCHR contributed research and analysis to 61 CCAs and UNSDCFs and 21 Regional Monthly Reviews.

As part of the UN Network on Racial Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, OHCHR supported the development of the *UN Checklist to strengthen UN work at country level to combat racial discrimination and advance minority rights*, which was launched in March. It also contributed to the development and delivery of the first online training on addressing racial discrimination and strengthening the protection of minorities in UN programming processes, which was attended by 41 staff members from 13 UNCTs over a four-week period.

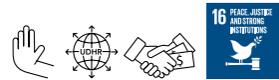
Within the context of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues, the Office followed-up on the **policy statement on indigenous peoples**, which was endorsed by the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) in 2020. In its submission to the CEB, OHCHR highlighted serious data gaps in assessing progress made in achieving the 2030 Agenda in relation to indigenous peoples. Based on the latest global data under SDG Indicator 10.3.1/16.b.1, data on the prevalence of discrimination that is disaggregated by indigenous status was only available for six countries, namely, Bolivia, Canada, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru and Suriname.

Accountability (A)



A1 – ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE and LAW ENFORCEMENT – Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

OHCHR continued to contribute to advocacy efforts and the maintenance of dialogue with governments in relation to specific death penalty cases and imminent executions, paying special attention to persons younger than 18 years of age at the time of the alleged offence, pregnant women and persons with psychological or intellectual disabilities. These actions, combined with interventions by the High Commissioner and other high-level UN officials, led to the **suspension/postponement of various executions**, the abolition of the death penalty in Sierra Leone and a significant global reduction of executions for drug crimes. In 2020, only 30 executions were reported for drug offences, representing a 70 per cent decrease from 2019. However, a significant higher number of executions was reported in 2021, in particular for drug-related offences.

In the context of the **Technical Cooperation and Capacity-Building Programme for Egypt**, OHCHR organized a **five-day** training of trainers for Egyptian law enforcement officials, in Cairo, from 28 November to 2 December. A total of 26 participants, including five women, attended the training from different entities, including the General Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Justice. The participants were introduced to international norms and standards related to the work of law enforcement officials, including in relation to investigations, detention and protests, and the importance of ensuring equality and non-discrimination.

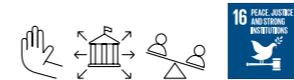
OHCHR supported the **Group of Governmental Experts on Torture-Free Trade**, which was established under General Assembly resolution 73/304 to deliberate on the development of common international standards for the import, export and transfer of goods used for capital punishment and torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. The Group held meetings in October and December and will present its report to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session.

OHCHR continued to collaborate with UNDP, WHO, UNAIDS and other partners to disseminate and promote the 2019 *International guidelines on human rights and drug policy*. As a result of this work, the Council of Europe launched a national assessment tool on human rights and drug policy, using the Guidelines as its foundation. In the Philippines, a national dialogue on the Guidelines was organized, with the support of OHCHR, that contributed to the development of the UN joint programme on human rights to implement Human Rights Council resolution 45/33.

OHCHR continued to support the development of the UNPOL/OHCHR/UNODC *Training manual on investigative interviewing for criminal investigations*. Existing guiding principles informed the development of the manual, which will be validated soon. OHCHR provided inputs, advice and observations that will equip law enforcement personnel with technical tools to improve their performance on investigative interviewing.

A2 – ACCESS TO JUSTICE and REMEDIES – Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

OHCHR advocated for the establishment of a **mechanism to address the fate and whereabouts of missing persons in Syria** and provided support to their families through the High Commissioner's statements and speeches, outreach to Member States and an oral update to the Human Rights Council, in September. In response, the Third Committee of the General Assembly adopted a resolution, in November, calling on the Secretary-General to conduct a study on how to bolster efforts, including through existing measures and mechanisms, to clarify the fate and whereabouts of missing persons in Syria.

In compliance with HRC resolution A/HRC/RES/46/1 and the call for the collection and preservation of evidence for potential accountability processes, OHCHR created a **dedicated evidence repository in relation to Sri Lanka**. To date, 120,000 items have been uploaded.

During the year, the **Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions** issued a total of 219 communications and 66 press releases, alone or jointly with other mandates, to a number of State and non-State actors. The objective of the communications was to address concerns in relation to the protection of the right to life, including through urgent appeals and letters regarding cases involving the death penalty. In a case in Saudi Arabia, two individuals were sentenced to death for crimes that were allegedly committed when they were under 18 years of age. Since 2015, the Special Rapporteur repeatedly raised concerns about the case and in October and November, the individuals were released from prison. The Special Rapporteur's multiple communications helped to maintain international pressure on national authorities, raised awareness about the Government's actions and proved to be instrumental in saving the lives of the two individuals.

A3 – Investigation of GENDER-related CRIMES – Justice systems investigate and prosecute gender-related crimes more effectively.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

In Latin America, OHCHR supported the establishment and strengthening of civil society-led initiatives to **increase accountability for gender-based crimes and to fight against impunity through strategic litigation**. Technical support from the Office contributed to addressing forced sterilizations as crimes against humanity in Peru and sexual violence in the Maya Achi case in Guatemala. In the Dominican Republic, OHCHR supported more than 25 youth activists in relation to the litigation of cases on sexual and reproductive health and rights, including through webinars on strategic litigation and good practices.

As a member of the Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict (ToE), OHCHR supported national authorities in the **investigation and prosecution of sexual violence crimes in conflict and post-conflict settings**. For instance, in the **Central African Republic**, the ToE deployed a specialist to provide mentoring and capacity support to national authorities. This resulted in the finalization of two field investigation reports regarding serious incidents in Kaga Bandoro and Bossangoa. The two cases involving 264 and 150 victims of CRSV, respectively, have been referred to the Office of the Prosecutor in Bangui and Kaga Bandoro's High Court.

OHCHR led the development of a joint United Nations amicus brief to the International Criminal Court in relation to the case of The Prosecutor v. Dominic Ongwen. Dominic Ongwen was found guilty of 61 crimes against humanity and war crimes, including sexual and gender-based crimes, which took place in Northern **Uganda** between July 2002 and December 2005. This case marked the first time that the **crime of forced marriage was considered by the Court**. On 6 May, he was sentenced to 25 years in prison.

A5 – UN ACTION on the RULE of LAW – UN efforts for the rule of law, justice, counter-terrorism and accountability put human rights at the core.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

OHCHR continued to be involved in the development of the **Global Framework for UN Support on Syria/Iraq Third Country Returnees**, until its official launch, in September. OHCHR will continue to play an active role in its implementation, stressing the need for mainstreaming human rights principles and gender perspectives into every stage of the returns process. Furthermore, in its capacity as the Chair of the Working Group on Promoting and Protecting Human Rights, the Rule of Law and Supporting Victims of Terrorism, within the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, OHCHR finalized and published the *Basic human rights reference guide: proscription of organizations in the context of countering terrorism*. The Guide aims to assist Member States in ensuring that the domestic process for proscribing entities and/or individuals and the subsequent consequences comply with international human rights law.

OHCHR led the development of the **report of the Secretary-General on terrorism and human rights**, which was presented at the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly. The report focuses on concerns relating to national counter-terrorism legislation, due process and fair trial rights and the impact of counter-terrorism measures on civic space, the limited progress made in prosecuting sexual and gender-based crimes, procedural fairness and humanitarian concerns associated with sanctions listing and delisting and the situation of third-country nationals with suspected ties to designated terrorist groups.

Due to OHCHR's strategic advocacy for the **seventh review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy**, some of OHCHR's inputs were incorporated into the review resolution (A/RES/75/291), which include: a reference to the UN Guidance Note on the promotion and protection of civic space; a call for the creation of an enabling environment for civil society; an explicit reference to OHCHR and the integration of the reports and recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the UPR; recognition of the differential impact of terrorism and counter-terrorism measures on women and girls; and an explicit reference to freedom of expression.

Participation (P)



COVID-19 response and recovery

OHCHR highlighted the critical **work of women human rights defenders and leaders in the COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery** as part of the #ISStandWithHer campaign throughout the year. This was emphasized on International Women's Day, on 8 March, including through social media, two feature web stories, six video profiles and a series of six quote cards and illustrations. The six videos amassed a total of over 80,000 views across OHCHR's social media channels.

P1 – ENABLING NORMATIVE FRAMEWORK for civil society – Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

OHCHR sought to promote a safer environment for HRDs, including by monitoring legislation and policies that could shrink the civic space, as well as technical assistance. For instance, in 2021, OHCHR provided crucial technical support towards the **adoption of a law dedicated to the protection of human rights defenders in Mongolia**, which would be the first in the region. In addition, OHCHR and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) collaborated on the creation of a "community of practice" among national mechanisms dedicated to the protection of HRDs in the region. Within this framework, OHCHR facilitated two regional dialogues for staff of national protection mechanisms from Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Peru. Participants were able to share good practices, challenges, needs and opportunities to develop new or improved strategies to increase the protection of HRDs in their countries.

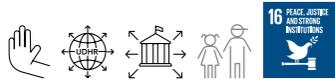
A surge capacity team was deployed to Eswatini, from September to mid-November, to support the RCO in relation to the **UN response to political violence in the context of elections**. Similar surge deployments were made to Chad, the Gambia and Niger to support UN partners and advocate for increased attention to the situation of HRDs.

As part of its **advocacy efforts around online digital space**, OHCHR published explainers on Internet shutdowns and online content moderation. Throughout the year, OHCHR raised issues on regulation in the digital space, including by the EU and a number of Member States. Furthermore, on 19 July, the High Commissioner made some key points on freedom of expression and privacy in relation to spyware, which were widely picked up by the press in different countries.

Significant work was undertaken by the human rights treaty bodies to **address cases of reprisals**. CED and CEDAW adopted specific guidelines on reprisals and OHCHR supported treaty body focal points to follow up on allegations of reprisals (CAT, three cases; CED, two cases; CEDAW, one case; Human Rights Committee, one case). Support primarily involved the identification of information that might corroborate or substantiate allegations of reprisals and the preparation of letters for the respective committees to send to the States Parties concerned. In the context of urgent actions registered with CED and individual communications registered with other committees, protection measures were issued based on actual or potential threats to the life and integrity of the authors. In the case of CED, protection measures were issued in 58 cases concerning Honduras, Iraq, Mexico, Morocco and Paraguay.

P2 – PROTECTION of CIVIL SOCIETY ACTORS – The UN system and international, regional and national mechanisms provide increased, timely and effective protection to civil society organizations and individuals, including from reprisals.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

Following the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan, in August, OHCHR processed more than 1,500 **appeals for assistance or protection from Afghan HRDs**. Of these, interventions were made in relation to 400 cases and approximately 100 HRDs were successfully relocated outside of the country.

In March, OHCHR and the IACHR organized a strategic discussion within the framework of the 2017 **Joint Action Mechanism to Contribute to Protection for Human Rights Defenders in the Americas**. The meeting took stock of the implementation of the Joint Action Mechanism, strengthened and reaffirmed cooperation and established/aligned priorities to contribute to the prompt and effective protection of HRDs in the region. The meeting was attended by all Heads of OHCHR field presences and focal points for the Mechanism in the region, OHCHR Geneva staff members, the IACHR President and Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders, the Acting Executive Secretary and other key staff members. A road map to strengthen collaboration was adopted by consensus. OHCHR also supported the preparation of three joint press releases with the IACHR on the entry into force of the Escazú Agreement, in April; on the protection of women in the context of peaceful protests and their participation in feminist movements, in July; and to mark the International Day of HRDs, in December.

As a result of OHCHR's efforts, the Management and Accountability Framework of the UN Development and Resident Coordinator System now includes **an indicator to assess the engagement of Resident Coordinators and UNCTs with civil society**, including in relation to the CCA processes. At the field level, with OHCHR's support, civic space goals were included in the programmes and plans of UNCTs, including in Cambodia, Ecuador, Fiji, Jordan, Kenya and Sudan.

OHCHR strengthened **networks for women human rights defenders and journalists in Libya**, including through support to develop a protection strategy that they are leading and that is responsive to their gender-specific contexts and situations.

As co-lead of Action Coalition 6 of the Generation Equality Forum, the High Commissioner presented the Office's 12 commitments **for the next five years to support women human rights defenders and feminist movements and expand civic space**. OHCHR also co-signed the Compact on Women, Peace and Security in Humanitarian Action and committed to ensure gender expertise in human rights investigations.

Allegations of **reprisals reported to the HRC Secretariat** were handled according to internal protocols, with a view to recommending appropriate action to the HRC President on each case. At its forty-eighth session, held in October, the Human Rights Council adopted its biannual resolution on reprisals, by consensus. The resolution reflects global trends and critical challenges, in particular those exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and, for the first time, invites the Secretary-General to submit his report to the General Assembly for a more coherent and coordinated system-wide response.

OHCHR **finalized its UN Guidance on intimidation and reprisals for cooperation with the UN, with a specific focus on counter-terrorism**. The Guidance delineates practical steps for UN entities working on counter-terrorism and preventing and countering violent extremism to formulate a policy on reprisals and intimidation, verify and monitor allegations and adopt urgent protective measures. The Guidance also includes information on the gendered nature of counter-terrorism-specific intimidation and reprisals. In 2022, OHCHR will organize events to launch the Guidance and promote its use among relevant UN entities.

P3 – PUBLIC SUPPORT for CIVIC SPACE – Business, policymakers and the public at large increasingly value and support civic space.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

A number of interventions from senior UN officials in different forums highlighted the **key role of civic space for trust and resilience**. For example, the High Commissioner's statement at the Third Committee focused on the centrality of participation and civic space, among other important issues. The crucial role of civil society during the pandemic and in the post-COVID-19 world remained a key focus of interventions by the High Commissioner and other OHCHR senior managers and in meetings with civil society representatives held in Geneva and elsewhere.

On the occasion of the launch of *the Guiding principles on business and human rights: Guidance on ensuring respect for human rights defenders*, the Office supported the UN Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises in holding two regional dialogues in **Latin America**, in September. One dialogue gathered 150 HRDs to discuss collaborative strategies to counter the phenomenon of legal claims against HRDs working on the issue of business and human rights. The other dialogue brought together 400 representatives of business, CSOs, communities and governments to discuss the situation of HRDs working on business and human rights. The discussion pushed for new commitments from governments and the business sector to protect the work of HRDs. As a result, OHCHR's Guidance is being integrated into **CSO advocacy and government policies for the protection of human rights defenders**, notably the protection mechanism for human rights defenders in Peru, the Attorney General of Peru's Protocol for the protection of human rights defenders, the ongoing baseline study for environmental defenders by the Ministry of Environment in Peru and the Policy on protection of social leaders of the Ministry of Mines and Energy of Colombia.

P4 – ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS – Civil society assistance to victims of human rights violations is strengthened.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

OHCHR supported the Danish Institute for Human Rights in developing a **monitoring framework for human rights defenders** and the implementation of the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders. This development includes a consideration of the conceptual issues from a civic space perspective and methodological issues related to indicators. Once finalized, the monitoring framework is expected to be a practical tool for civil society, national institutions, the UN and Member States.

In 2021, the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture awarded 171 annual direct assistance grants and seven emergency grants to support civil society actors, in 79 countries, that are providing **assistance to more than 47,000 survivors of torture** and their family members. Over the same period, the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery awarded 37 direct assistance grants, in 30 countries, that are **assisting more than 17,000 survivors of slavery**.

P5 – CIVIC SPACE MONITORING – More systematic monitoring of the environment for civic space, including threats to it, takes place.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

In **Ukraine**, OHCHR carried out a **mapping of the situation of women human rights defenders**, validated and raised awareness of the findings and supported the network of WHRDs to identify the next steps for addressing the identified challenges. OHCHR also continued to monitor the situation of WHRDs in **Kenya**, including in the context of the upcoming elections. In collaboration with UN Women, OHCHR convened a workshop with 17 grassroots WHRDs to discuss protection plans and strategies. This deepened their protection network and informed OHCHR's strategy, support and collaboration in relation to civic space in Kenya.

OHCHR provided data to the **report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders** entitled *Final warning*, which notes that the killings of HRDs, journalists and trade unionists have been reported in over one third of Member States. Moreover, the killings of 331 human rights defenders were reported in 32 countries, representing an 18 per cent increase over 2019, along with 19 enforced disappearances in 14 countries. Women comprised 13 per cent of the victims. Latin America remains the region that is most affected.

OHCHR enhanced the **monitoring of civic space online** by developing its own capacity to monitor global Internet connectivity and by engaging stakeholders in the Internet measurement community, thereby enabling data-sharing and research for improved detection of Internet shutdowns. OHCHR now accesses global high-frequency data on Internet connectivity, which it uses to detect and report on Internet shutdowns, as part of its broader monitoring and prevention efforts. In 2021, OHCHR used this capacity to investigate 13 Internet shutdowns spanning three continents, the results of which were integrated into OHCHR analysis, reporting, advocacy and public statements.

P6 – PEOPLE HAVE a VOICE – The voices of people affected by decisions, particularly victims and those who face discrimination, are more clearly heard.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

The Office contributed to **increased youth participation in intergovernmental mechanisms**. The HRC's intersessional seminar on youth and human rights, which brought together over 115 participants from across the globe, saw the active participation of 13 UN Youth Delegates from nine countries. This is the highest level of UN Youth Delegate participation in a Human Rights Council-mandated activity in the Council's history. Along with the eight youth panellists who made up the majority of speakers and more than 10 youth organizations who took the floor, young people and youth representatives shaped the discussion, issued key recommendations to Member States and the Human Rights Council on the challenges and discrimination faced by young people and suggested measures to advance youth rights.

In cooperation with Amnesty International and Soka Gakkai International, the Office released the first of a series of **documentaries on young human rights educators across the world**, accompanied by a conversation series on human rights education for youth. Through a course co-organized by the Office together with the Council of Europe, 37 young human rights educators from over 25 countries increased their capacities to develop quality human rights education with their peers and to advocate for it in their countries.

OHCHR supported the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation and paid increased attention to **the voices of those identifying issues related to the rights to water and sanitation**. The Special Rapporteur did so through a series of consultations called the "Open channel of dialogue," which were held from February to December. Through these consultations, the Special Rapporteur held over 50 exchanges with various stakeholders, including NGOs, regional organizations and rights-holders. The consultations strengthened the visibility of this mandate and its outreach, leading to the Special Rapporteur's engagement with new constituencies.

To ensure that new technologies expand UN engagement with civil society, OHCHR conducted a desk review of **key UN processes in relation to the online participation of civil society**, resulting in the identification of common trends, practices and good examples. This mapping served as a basis for further discussions with UN partners and Member States, led to the UNmute Civil Society Dialogue and will inform broader recommendations and a practical tool on conducting inclusive online meetings within the UN system.

OHCHR supported the civil society network, La Sombrilla Centroamericana for the defence of sexual and reproductive rights, composed of approximately 60 women's NGOs from six **Central American countries** and the Dominican Republic, in their advocacy efforts during the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign. This included the production of three radio podcasts on the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls in crisis situations that were based on a report of the UN Working Group on discrimination against women and girls. This work contributed to raising awareness about the **impacts of COVID-19 on the enjoyment of sexual and reproductive health and rights** and the need to ensure the **participation of women and girls in national recovery processes**.

P7 – Human rights RESPONSE to VIOLENCE – Public recognition increases that human rights and accountability make important contributions to effective responses to violence, including terrorism and violent extremism.

Shifts / SDGs



Results

OHCHR developed and implemented a **Member State engagement action plan on counter-terrorism and human rights**. OHCHR tracked and documented engagement with partners including Member States and formulated key messages for specific occasions, such as meetings with Azerbaijan, Belgium, Egypt, India, Morocco, Norway, Pakistan, Sweden and the EU. These advocacy efforts yielded positive results as Member States are now more aware of OHCHR's work on counter-terrorism and human rights.

Organizational effectiveness results

In the following pages, we will provide examples of achievements in the implementation of the UN Human Rights 10 Organizational Effectiveness Action Plans (OEAPs) in 2021 (see pages 89-107 of the report for summary information on progress made towards the achievement of organizational effectiveness results under the 10 OEAPs).



STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP AND DIRECTION

UN Human Rights leadership bodies are making timely, evidence-based strategic decisions in line with results-based management (RBM) principles.

- As the **OHCHR Management Plan (OMP) 2018-2021** proved to be a valuable guiding framework, including throughout the pandemic, OHCHR decided to extend the OMP until the end of 2023. A process to update some of the OMP's aspects took place in 2021. The original six pillars that underpin global efforts to advance the enjoyment of all human rights by all have been retained. Building on the foundation established by these pillars, additional shifts have been defined for 2022 and 2023, along with specific spotlight populations. A series of deep dive events were organized for staff members to explore prominent themes that require closer attention. Based on inputs from these events, an analysis and proposed revisions to the OMP were developed. Furthermore, briefings with Member States and civil society were held to present the overall direction of the extended OMP. Taking into account inputs and feedback received during the process, an extended OMP for 2022 and 2023 was drafted. Its publication and dissemination are planned for April 2022.

- During the year, the Senior Management Team (SMT) met on seven occasions to take **decisions on policy-related matters**. The SMT endorsed the OHCHR Risk Register, the extension of the OMP until 2023, the OHCHR Strategy on the Sahel, the revision of the OHCHR Publications Policy, the recommendations emanating from strategic visioning exercises for the Brussels Office and for the Doha Training and Documentation Centre and the OEAP on Diversity and Inclusion.
- The Programme and Budget Review Board (PBRB) held 11 regular meetings in 2021 and **reviewed 54 fundraising and fund allocation proposals**, representing a 20 per cent increase over the previous year, but lower than the record highs of 2018 and 2019. The lower number of proposals, compared with 2018 and 2019, can be explained by enhanced efforts to encourage the inclusion of expected income during the planning stage in order to avoid budgetary increases throughout the year.
- OHCHR developed a **strategy for engagement on COVID-19 for 2021** and beyond and produced internal guidelines for field presences in relation to their engagement on advocacy and technical cooperation for equitable access to vaccines.
- **Guidance was provided to staff on operational matters** through the COVID-19

Crisis Response Team (CRT), set up by the Deputy High Commissioner. In 2021, the CRT issued more than a dozen staff messages, guidance on telecommuting, return to office, meetings and travel and replied to daily staff inquiries and concerns within a 24-hour timeframe through the COVID-19 staff email system. It also ensured cooperation between different entities to ensure a quick and coordinated response.

- In the context of the extension of the OMP, **12 new country programmes** were created and 15 country and subregional programmes were updated. Most of the country programmes that were created resulted from the deployment of new human rights advisers.
- During 2021, the following **evaluations** were finalized: the UN Free & Equal campaign (the first time that an OHCHR campaign has been evaluated), the Indigenous and Minorities Fellowships Programme, and the Iraq Accountability Project. Other evaluations being conducted include the Colombia Country Programme; the Ethiopia Country Programme; the Youth and Human Rights Project; the project “Strengthening the Capacity of Regional Actors to Promote Human Rights, Accountability, Democratic Space and Gender in the Asia-Pacific Region;” the

projects “Enhancing and Protecting the Civic Space” and “Preventing and Responding to Conflict Related Sexual Violence” in the Democratic Republic of Congo; and the Liberia Country Programme. Regarding the implementation of the recommendations issued following the evaluation of RBM in OHCHR, the Office’s Programming Manual has been prepared and the RBM training package has been updated and includes an evaluation module.

- A **comprehensive all staff survey** was conducted, complementing the Secretary-General’s Staff Engagement Survey and the Secretary-General’s dialogues. Topics included career and development, diversity and inclusion, health and well-being, accountability, innovation and general questions related to leadership and communication. A response rate of 59 per cent across global offices was attained. The results were disseminated to staff in broadcast messages and at an all staff meeting. As a follow-up, focal points and volunteers were nominated to develop an 18-month action plan on the priority areas identified through the survey. The next OHCHR staff survey will take place at the end of 2022 or in early 2023.



DYNAMIC KNOWLEDGE

UN Human Rights’ knowledge base is used strategically to actively shape programming, capacity, culture and structure.

- The development of an **OHCHR knowledge management policy** began in 2021 with a desk review of relevant UN system policies and consultations with the UN Inter-Agency Knowledge Management Network. It is anticipated that the policy will be adopted in 2022.
- The **redesign of the OHCHR Intranet with an integrated Knowledge Hub** continued, building on the scoping phase that began in 2021. Once finalized, the new Knowledge Hub will offer a gateway for staff to find the information and knowledge they need to do their work, connect with knowledge owners and contribute to OHCHR bodies of knowledge in a dynamic way.
- Capacity-building efforts were maintained to enhance the staff capacity to use and adopt **new knowledge-sharing and collaboration tools**, in particular in relation to the un.org tenant migration and access to Office365 tools, such as Teams channels, Yammer and SharePoint online pages.
- **Staff capacities to facilitate and contribute to online knowledge exchange events** were enhanced through several thematic events that focused on civic space, the rights of minorities, hate speech, elections and the sharing of good practices by human rights advisers.
- The OHCHR new onboarding platform, **Welcome Mat**, was completed and launched in 2021. The platform provides new staff with a gateway to the information and organizational knowledge that they need to situate themselves

and perform their jobs in an efficient and coherent way from the start. In 2022, the Welcome Mat will be expanded, with the development of tailor-made welcome booklets for field presences and entities.

- A **study documenting good practices at the country level**, reported during the third Universal Periodic Review (UPR) cycle, was conducted in 2021. The compilation includes practices that demonstrate three or more features that highlight structural, process and outcome indicators of positive change in the human rights situation in a given country.
- In partnership with UNICEF, DCO, DPPA/DPO, the World Bank, IOM and UN Women, OHCHR contributed to the development of a **toolkit to assess knowledge use and uptake**. This toolkit offers a set of indicators, means of verification and examples of tools to assist users in tracking and documenting how knowledge products and processes are used and the impact they facilitate. The toolkit is expected to be finalized and rolled out in 2022.
- UN Human Rights staff created **Yammer groups** to share information and experiences. For instance, staff working within the framework of the **G5 Sahel Joint Force Compliance Framework Project** used a Yammer group to facilitate knowledge management and access to information across the three continents where the project operates. At headquarters, the Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme created a Yammer group called “**Engaging with human rights mechanisms**” to share information on the work of the human rights treaty bodies, the Human Rights Council (HRC), the UPR and the special procedures and on the implementation of their

respective outcomes. The group enabled its members to share good practices and lessons learned, new ideas, developments, events and activities of the international human rights mechanisms; fostered exchanges between the field and headquarters and the dissemination of tools on engaging with the mechanisms and implementing their outcomes; and enhanced support between colleagues.

INNOVATION

Across UN Human Rights, innovation is encouraged, supported and its results are implemented accordingly.

- Based on lessons learned from the COVID-19 Tracker, which was developed in 2020 to capture COVID-19-related issues of concern and actions undertaken by the Office in response to the pandemic, OHCHR developed a **vaccine-focused tracker** to increase monitoring, with an emphasis on vulnerable populations. The COVID-19 Tracker was also used to support the integration of media monitoring data streams that were delivered through OHCHR's partnership with the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission. This work is a component of the early warning systems being developed to respond to the 2020 HRC resolution on the prevention of human rights violations (A/HRC/RES/45/31).
- The Office developed the Kyrgyzstan Tracker as an innovative solution to provide structure to the **information gathering efforts of a field presence**. It incorporates data provided by human rights officers and data collected through the Europe Media Monitor feeds.
- OHCHR launched its annual **Innovation Challenge** and a total of 10 proposals were submitted. The shortlisted proposals will take part in a pitch event that will be held in 2022. A series of webinars were held during the year to promote the Innovation Challenge and to share information, tools and resources related to innovation.

- The pandemic triggered the need for innovative methods and work processes. The **digital transformation** of the Office is ongoing. Meeting spaces are now equipped with innovative, state-of-the-art technology to facilitate online and hybrid meetings, enabling an increase in participation levels around the world. Online evaluations are being conducted to increase the reach of persons being contacted and interviewed. Additionally, to increase the efficiency and accessibility of the international human rights mechanisms, a consultancy was commissioned to assess possible solutions to modernize the technology supporting the mechanisms and prevent unnecessary duplication.
- The **Innovation Engine or Light Up! Innovation Engine** continued to seek innovative means to enhance OHCHR's work processes, methodologies and technology. In collaboration with the University of Geneva, the Innovation Engine developed several projects to: improve the online monitoring of civic space; scale-up the coverage of human rights indicator production by surfacing leads through web scraping; enhance OHCHR's conceptual framework for sustainable environmental management and human rights; and digitize the Gender Accreditation Programme.

- The piloting of the **Ditch UNfair Internships programme**, designed to bring students from the Global South to Geneva through a University UNV (UUNV) contract, was expanded and launched as a project. A total of 10 UUNVs arrived in Geneva for six-month assignments in various divisions. Young graduates from Argentina, Cameroon, Iran, Kenya, Nigeria, State of Palestine,¹⁸ Yemen and Zimbabwe are currently working in each of OHCHR's four divisions, in Geneva. This initiative was a selected finalist for the 2021 Secretary-General Awards in the diversity and inclusion category.

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

UN Human Rights is set on a path to global leadership in sustainable environmental management (SEM), catalysing efforts to build back better and strengthening partnerships and global standard-setting, especially with regard to the right to a healthy environment and climate change.

- OHCHR is working towards the **implementation of an environmental management system** by 2023. The focus in 2021 was carrying out research on similar systems in comparable organizations and the development of a road map. To kick start this project, a consultant with expertise in developing environmental management systems will be hired in 2022 to work with relevant OHCHR colleagues on taking the first steps towards implementation.
- Led by the OHCHR Working Group on Sustainable Environmental Management, an office-wide **sustainability survey** was organized in the first half of 2021 to give staff an opportunity to share their views on this subject, raise awareness about the role of the Working Group, take stock of where the Office stands on sustainable environmental management and gather good practices. The survey received 600 responses from across OHCHR and resulted in nearly 5,000 comments. The responses are being used to align OHCHR's operations, including in relation to procurement and travel, in accordance with sustainable criteria.
- The Office's **carbon emissions** for 2020, which were calculated in 2021, were estimated at 3,307 tCO₂eq, below the UN average and representing a reduction of over 50 per cent, compared with its 2019 footprint. This reduction can largely be attributed to changes related to the pandemic, including a reduction in staff travel. The revised OEAP took steps to lock in some of these reductions, including through a commitment to maintaining travel expenditures in 2022 at 50 per cent of the 2019 levels.
- An **OHCHR Green Fund** was set up to provide field offices with the opportunity to "green" their operations. In 2021, over 30 projects were implemented in 12 countries, across four regions. The types of projects supported included funds for solar panels or supplements for existing solar panels, water filters, portable solar chargers and environmental audits to identify potential improvements. A total of 35 field presences expressed an interest in greening their operations.
- An **e-learning course on Sustainable Environmental Management and Human Rights** was developed, with the objective of identifying areas where SEM can be included in the Office and in the daily activities of staff members. The course modules include SEM and human rights, SEM at the Office, mobility and travel, sustainable procurement and collective engagement to be more sustainable. The draft content was reviewed by the OHCHR Working Group on Sustainable Environmental Management and a pilot, with internal and external reviewers, took place in December. The finalized product will be launched in 2022.

¹⁸ All references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

- OHCHR participated in Phase I of the UN Sustainability Strategy 2020-2030 and was part of the Task Team that developed Phase II of the Strategy. During the consultations and drafting process, OHCHR emphasized the importance of strengthening the social dimension of sustainability and human rights and ensuring the full integration of field perspectives and development frameworks, including CCAs and the UNSDCFs, as well as lessons learned from the Model Approach to Environmental and Social Standards in UN Programming. OHCHR also supported the inclusion of key strategies and guidance documents, including the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights, the UNGPs and the UN Guidance Note on the promotion and protection of civic space. Phase II of the Strategy was adopted at the twenty-seventh Senior Officials Meeting of the United Nations Environment Management Group, in October.

EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS

The human rights impact and messages of UN Human Rights are effectively communicated, helping to position it as a partner of choice for its key stakeholders.

- New **public information officers were deployed to the field** (Dakar and Nairobi), thereby increasing the capacity of OHCHR to communicate at national and regional levels.
- OHCHR's **social media channels** continued to grow with an increase in total follower growth of eight per cent in 2021. Globally, OHCHR has 61 social media accounts in eight languages. The channels have a combined following of 10.5 million followers (compared to 9.7 million followers in 2020).
- The record number of **media articles** generated by the Office reflects the relevance of strong storytelling and effective messaging that is geared towards the needs and requirements of the news media. A total of 64,787 articles were generated in 2021, nearly doubling the number of articles that were posted in 2020 (38,922). In addition, the implementation of a 10-month pilot project to enhance the **TV news coverage** of OHCHR was met with remarkable success. Data from UNifeed shows that 93 news stories that were fed into this vector were broadcast 3,652 times by 459 television stations in over 70 different countries. This number is three times higher than the number of stories that were broadcast in 2020 (1,150).

- Work on the **Web Transformation Project** continued on two fronts, namely, content review and taxonomy and migration to Drupal, the new website management platform. At the end of 2021, over 5,000 pages had been reviewed, rewritten and reorganized and almost 8,000 pages and 50,000 documents had been tagged with a new comprehensive taxonomy. Additionally, a total of 115,000 pages were available in Drupal, including migrated content, manually created content and pages created from integration with other databases. The new OHCHR website was launched in March 2022.
- The OHCHR Library updated the **voting catalogue for each session of the Human Rights Council**. It currently contains 5,095 records and the interface allows users to filter the resolutions by body, type of document, type of vote, date and subject. Each record also provides links to the full text documents.
- The ongoing COVID-19 restrictions in 2021 led to a decrease in the quantity of **print materials that were disseminated**, amounting to 27,268 copies of publications, corporate reports, civil society guides and promotional materials. Nevertheless, OHCHR noted a significant increase in requests from previously untapped geographic regions, totalling 85 countries worldwide. This expanded geographic reach can be linked to linguistic diversity in the distribution of print materials in all available official UN languages. The upward trend towards digital materials continued in 2021. There were over 6.99 million visits to online publications on OHCHR's website, representing an increase of 800,000 visits compared to 2020.

PARTNERSHIPS

UN Human Rights has broadened and diversified its institutional partners and maximized the mutually reinforcing human rights benefits of the exchange of expertise, reach and resources.

- OHCHR strengthened its existing **partnerships with regional institutions**. For example, the first OHCHR-European Union (EU) strategic dialogue was held in Brussels, in October. Further editions of this dialogue will be organized on an annual basis to facilitate discussions on subjects of mutual interest. OHCHR and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) regularly exchanged analysis and views on the human rights situation in priority countries and, following a March meeting attended by representatives from both organizations, a road map was adopted to strengthen collaboration. In addition, collaboration with the African Union (AU) continued on the development of a framework on good practices in relation to early warning and conflict prevention systems of national human rights institutions (NHRIs), as well as on the implementation of a compliance framework for AU peace operations.
- In the context of the Surge Initiative, OHCHR reinforced critical **partnerships with development actors**. Emphasis was placed on collaboration with Resident Coordinator's Offices (RCOs) to reinforce engagement with international financial institutions and advise States on economic policy-making. OHCHR also entered into a strategic partnership with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law to support its work on extending development partnerships and outreach. In cooperation

with the Institute, OHCHR established a collaboration with the Faculty of Economics of the University of Lund and is exploring possibilities of initiating a Master's programme on human rights and economics.

- OHCHR **partnered with UNDP and UNODC to pilot the SDG 16 Survey Initiative** in eight countries, across different regions and diverse development contexts (Cabo Verde, El Salvador, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Somalia, Tanzania, Togo and Tunisia), in collaboration with NHRIs, National Statistical Offices, ministries and CSOs in those countries. This generated vital data on peace, justice and inclusion, which can help the Office to better understand complex human rights challenges at national and subnational levels.
- The Office broadened its **institutional partnerships with universities** in Brazil, Nigeria, Norway, South Africa and the United Kingdom to organize "Faith for Rights" learning events. The interactive methodology and case studies from the #Faith4Rights toolkit were also piloted with civil servants in Brazil and Nigeria and with judges in Indonesia.
- In support of the UN Youth Strategy 2030, UN Human Rights joined forces with **Education Above All and Silatech to promote and protect the human rights of youth around the world**, including the right to education, supporting young people's economic and social empowerment and developing learning opportunities for youth affected by conflict and displacement on peacebuilding and conflict prevention. In 2021, partners issued a call for a Youth Advisory Board to promote a participatory and consultative approach on youth engagement, and to encourage them to act as agents of change and contribute

to building more just, prosperous and peaceful societies. A dedicated tool on youth and human rights will be developed and made available in 2022. The tool will be among the first of its kind to be crafted for and by youth to empower young people to advocate for their rights.

- OHCHR's partnership with UNOSAT **enables the provision of satellite imagery and analysis**. The OHCHR Emergency Response Section facilitates the coordination of all ad hoc satellite imagery requests from OHCHR field presences and headquarters and serves as a liaison with the independent investigative bodies. During the year, OHCHR was able to leverage satellite imagery for remote-based monitoring of attacked villages in Myanmar, airstrikes in conflict zones in Yemen and to undertake further analysis in Afghanistan and Ethiopia. In addition, UNOSAT supported investigative efforts by remotely locating and analysing alleged mass graves in Libya and other investigations in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen.
- **Call for Code: Tech for Good**. In 2021, the awards shone a spotlight on developers taking on the climate change challenge and the interrelated issues of water, hunger and the economy. Over 500,000 changemakers answered the call and developed cutting-edge technology to address the climate crisis. Since 2018, OHCHR has been the Global Challenge Charitable Partner of the **Call for Code Initiative**, which is one of the largest Tech for Good Initiatives of its kind, inviting developers and problem solvers from around the world to build and contribute to sustainable, open-source technology projects that address social and humanitarian issues.

Winning solutions are deployed to make a demonstrable difference.

- Organized in partnership with the Wikimedia Foundation and UNEP, the #WikiForHumanRights campaign, which was held between April and June, widened the focus from climate change to the “triple planetary crisis” of climate, pollution and biodiversity loss and their impacts on the well-being and survival of humanity. In 2021, virtual events were held in all regions, producing 27 community events and 2,000 articles in more than 30 languages.
- OHCHR signed a letter of agreement with the **United Cities and Local Governments**, the world's largest network of regional and local governments with 250,000 affiliates. This agreement will facilitate improved collaboration in a number of areas, including supporting the integration of human rights into the work of local governments, capacity-building, taking stock of promising local human rights practices and increasing interaction between sub-national authorities and the human rights system.

DIVERSITY AND GENDER

Respect for diversity, gender equality and inclusion is at the centre of UN Human Rights’ organizational culture and is fully supported by appropriate organizational arrangements.

- The **OHCHR Gender Accreditation Programme** continued to be implemented in the field offices in Colombia and Ukraine. The implementation of the Programme in the two offices was extended until the end of 2021. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, in-person missions, which are an essential part of the Programme, were challenged. The field offices that previously participated in the Programme (Cambodia and the State of Palestine) increased their activities and outputs focused on gender equality and women, as well as their allocated budgets. In addition, they considerably improved the integration of gender analysis into their monitoring work and consequently, into their public reports, statements, social media campaigns and other relevant outreach materials. Field presences in Guatemala and Syria have been selected to participate in the third round of the programme (2022-2023).
- The OHCHR Working Group on Inclusion drafted the new **OEAP on Diversity and Inclusion**, which will replace the existing OEAP on Diversity and Gender. The new OEAP will introduce an additional focus on race, while updating the components on diversity and gender, taking into consideration existing institutional commitments and emerging developments.

- A network of **Gender Focal Points** has been established to support the integration of gender into OHCHR’s work, culture, policies and processes, in accordance with the OHCHR Gender Equality Policy and the OEAP on Diversity and Gender. This network will encompass the existing focal points in field presences and in sections at headquarters. Furthermore, a new community of practice has been created for this network on Yammer to ensure the consistent provision of information and the exchange of good practices among members.
- A second round of the **Fellowship for LGBTI Human Rights Defenders (HRDs)** was launched in 2021. The Fellowship provides opportunities for LGBTI HRDs to enrich their experiences in working within the international human rights system.
- In 2021, OHCHR continued to implement its **introductory electronic course on the human rights of LGBTI persons** to equip staff and others with information on key terms and concepts related to LGBTI persons, harmful myths and stereotypes, human rights violations faced by LGBTI persons, the role of the UN and steps that UN officials and others can take to tackle violence and discrimination against members of the LGBTI community. More than 250 OHCHR staff members and external stakeholders completed OHCHR’s introductory electronic training course.

- The Secretary-General launched the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS), in June 2019, with a view to enhancing the work of the UN system to more fully include persons with disabilities in its programmatic and operational work. The **UN Human Rights’ Disability Rights Strategy**, aimed at increasing the Office’s performance under the UNDIS, was developed and reviewed by the Senior Management Team, in December.
- OHCHR is approaching the **requirement to achieve gender parity** for staff at each level in the General Service and Professional and higher categories. When combining regular staff appointments for OHCHR contracted staff at their current levels, women account for 60 per cent of the overall OHCHR workforce. By category, women account for 59 per cent in the Professional and higher categories and 69 per cent in the General Service staff category. The status of women at the senior management P-5 level has risen from 43 to 46 per cent and at the D-1 level from 36 to 43 per cent. Gender parity in the General Service category has been achieved at all levels except G-3.

MANAGING OUR TALENT

UN Human Rights is actively unleashing the full potential of its staff, with focused talent and career management accessible to all.

- Through its internal Rapid Deployment Roster, OHCHR continued to **deploy staff members to the field for emergency operations**, fostering opportunities for staff to increase and strengthen their capacities and experiences in other duty stations. More than 20 staff members have been deployed in this manner, half of whom were women, drawing on field- and headquarters-based capacities. A new call for OHCHR staff to join the roster was sent out in September and the renewed roster now includes more than 150 Professional and General Service staff members who are ready to be deployed to emergency settings.
- The Office assumed **full human resources business partner services** from the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), in July, and commenced responsibility for self-administering all OHCHR staff in headquarters and field locations. The Office adjusted its functions and teams and recruited additional human resources experts to meet the career life-cycle needs of its staff members.

- To support the **OHCHR Mental Health and Well-Being Action Plan**, OHCHR’s chartered psychologist was available to meet the psychological needs of staff. Over 200 team webinars were conducted on stress management, trauma, secondary trauma prevention and practical interventions for managers. A further 2,300 individual sessions were undertaken, alongside multilingual psychological support, in conjunction with UN Staff Counsellors and regional contacts.
- The **new organizational approach to Performance Management** was implemented through a combination of messaging and briefings attended by over 260 staff. A dedicated Intranet page complemented office-wide presentations and engagement with communities of practice. Individual client support was offered to over 312 staff members and seven group briefings were conducted in English, French and Spanish across offices.
- OHCHR engaged in several global learning initiatives that underpin and elevate the role of learning, training and career support, including the UN Secretariat Learning Strategy 2021-2025 and the Learning Lab Initiative. As co-lead for the Geneva Learning Network, OHCHR facilitated regular meetings and events on innovation in learning and training with over 200 regular participants. The Office delivered over 60 individual coaching sessions and facilitated 17 Coffee Briefings on thematic human rights issues, alongside administrative topics, such as the web-based Welcome Mat for new staff members.

- OHCHR is increasingly using technology in its human rights training work. An OHCHR learning management system has been set up and 20 courses were designed, developed and delivered through this system.

- The revised Managing our Talent OEAP for 2022-2023 outlines OHCHR's investment in managing career development opportunities for all staff to ensure that it employs a supportive and fully inclusive approach to staffing, while enhancing the demographic profile of the office. Outputs are anchored to the Secretary-General's priorities and call for coherence in learning management, with links to organizational and individual performance and a more articulated learning programme.



RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Investment in and support for UN Human Rights has expanded and donors are expressing confidence in the value delivered by these investments.

- OHCHR developed its first **Resource Mobilization and Partnerships Strategy**, covering 2022-2027, which seeks to support the delivery of OHCHR's mandate by securing predictable, sufficient and sustainable funding, cultivating and scaling-up existing funding partnerships and broadening its donor base. The development of the Strategy was informed by a resource mobilization needs assessment survey that gathered inputs from 260 colleagues in headquarters and the field.

- **Total voluntary contributions** amounted to US\$227.7 million, representing an increase of US\$3.4 million, compared with 2020 (US\$224.3 million). In 2021, 89 donors contributed to the Office, including 59 Member States. In addition, a deepening of partnerships with the UN Multi-Donor Trust Funds (MDTFs), including the Human Rights Mainstreaming and Peacebuilding Funds, led to a significant increase of contributions received, from US\$16.1 million in 2020 to US\$20.5 million in 2021. Unearmarked contributions increased by US\$22 million. The percentage of unearmarked contributions reached 37 per cent, almost 10 percentage points higher than in 2020. This is a welcome development as OHCHR continued to advocate on the importance of unearmarked funds for securing the independence of the Office in the implementation of its mandate.

- Notwithstanding the difficulties created by COVID-19, the Office managed to maintain a **strong relationship with its donors**. It provided regular updates on OHCHR's work through eight consultations and 17 briefings. A total of 120 funding agreements were also signed in 2021. Efforts to reach out to non-traditional donors bore some fruit and resulted in the establishment of nine new partnerships and the receipt of funding from several companies in the technology sector, as well as from private foundations, primarily to support work on business and human rights and climate change. OHCHR received over US\$1 million from eight private foundations/NGOs. Individuals also donated on OHCHR's website, with a 20 per cent increase, compared with 2020.

- OHCHR applied a **results-based management approach** in its fundraising and reporting. This proved to be critical in building the trust of donors and increasing accountability. In 2021, the Office submitted 92 funding proposals and 226 reports to donors that were both narrative and financial. The Office enhanced the development of funding proposals that focus on specific spotlight populations, including: 1) youth (a funding agreement was signed with Silatech and Education Above All to promote and protect the rights of young people, achieve progress on youth components of the 2030 Agenda and implement the United Nations Youth Strategy); 2) persons with disabilities (joint submissions to the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities resulted in funding for four offices in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Georgia, Guatemala and the Republic of Moldova); and 3) women (gender-sensitive results-based proposals and frameworks led to increased financial support from several donors).

- By supporting the operationalization of the **UNDG Strategy for the Deployment of Human Rights Advisers** and securing the required resources, OHCHR ensured the timely and effective processing of extensions of existing human rights advisers and the approval of new deployments, in 2022, to support RCOs in Bahrain, the Republic of the Congo, Kazakhstan, Samoa, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

- Efforts continued to **increase the capacity of OHCHR staff members on resource mobilization**. All tools and resources developed in this respect (i.e., standardized templates and guidelines) were made available through the Office's Intranet page, briefings and virtual workshops. In addition, some key resources, including the resource mobilization guide, were made available on OHCHR's new onboarding portal. A new video platform was also used to highlight key information and resources for effective resource mobilization. In 2022, OHCHR will forge ahead with the development of an e-learning module for resource mobilization, while the recent movement of two donor and external relations positions to the Regional Offices in Southern Africa and South-East Asia will provide further opportunities to strengthen capacity-development in these regions.

- A **customer relationship management platform** was enhanced to respond to OHCHR's needs for donor intelligence in the form of donor profiles, reports and dashboards. The platform hosts a wealth of information on both public and private sector donors and partners, as well as the results of due diligence reviews of potential and actual corporate donors. The Office began to roll out the platform to selected field offices, with 46 licenses in use across OHCHR. The module to record initiatives/events was further developed and it can now track workshops and trainings, as well as appeals and funding proposals.

OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

UN Human Rights managers are enabling the most efficient and responsible use of all available resources, supported by the effective deployment of relevant technologies.

- The Office is developing a **digital transformation strategy** and has adopted a Digital Technology OEAP. The new OEAP will enable the Office to scale-up its impact by fully integrating its technology stack and digital services into efforts to advance its mandate and to take advantage of the huge potential of digital technology.
- The new **Umoja Grants Management Module** was fully implemented in 2021, despite the complexity of the solution. This module will help streamline the process of grants management, along with providing information for comparison and benchmarking across the organization. Primarily due to travel restrictions, the Umoja Procurement Module could not be fully rolled out to field presences. The full roll-out of this module, as well as the delegation of authority for informal procurement, will allow for a more efficient use of available resources.
- The migration of all email accounts from ohchr.org to the un.org domain was completed in 2021. This also required a change in available collaborative solutions, as the Office began using Microsoft Teams, which transformed the way colleagues collaborate and greatly enhanced communications and operations at all levels.
- OHCHR provided **operational support on budget and staffing to human rights components of UN peace operations**. Significant efforts were invested in designing an integrated human rights component for the new special political mission in Sudan, the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) and in the drawdown of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID).

Funding



Human Rights Officers take part in the creation of an Equality mural in Odesa, Ukraine, to celebrate Human Rights Day. © OHCHR

Voluntary contributions to UN Human Rights in 2021

The distribution of funds in this table reflects earmarking by donors (as per major headings of the extrabudgetary requirements presented in the UN Human Rights Appeal 2021).

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN 2021 (by earmarking and in descending order)

	Sweden	United States of America	UNDP	Norway	Germany	European Commission	Netherlands
							
Unearmarked	12,585,401	11,500,000		7,228,482	6,078,633	5,594,406	5,966,587
Executive Direction and Management New York and Geneva			443,756	215,776			750,746
Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis			850,503	2,912,971	1,971,682		3,071,000
Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies					661,157		500,000
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation	1,173,847		537,251	959,003	955,795		
Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures				299,688	653,704		1,055,991
Support to the Programmes							
Field Presences	16,571,107	7,237,641	18,679,877	7,803,884	4,825,745	9,838,028	1,157,492
<i>Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities</i>	176,077	1,150,000	8,686,066		112,613		
<i>Africa</i>	6,051,162		4,709,544	4,531,287	341,470	3,899,152	496,915
<i>Americas</i>	5,627,707	5,100,000	3,449,533	2,073,843	433,289	2,246,497	
<i>Asia and the Pacific</i>	3,752,189		25,000	479,501	547,032	612,241	24,477
<i>Europe and Central Asia</i>	963,972	987,641	1,616,734		678,896	3,080,138	
<i>Middle East and North Africa</i>			193,000	719,252	2,712,445		636,100
Humanitarian Trust Funds		8,000,000		359,626	1,040,595		
Miscellaneous*							
Total contributions by donor	30,330,354	26,737,641	20,511,387	19,779,429	16,187,311	15,432,434	12,501,816

* Includes earmarked contributions that could not be reported above.

Denmark	Finland	United Kingdom	Switzerland	Canada	Belgium	France	Ireland	Spain
								
4,335,956	7,033,998	4,032,258	2,000,000	3,918,495	2,972,652	3,182,927	2,370,482	1,036,960
		348,675		7,743			176,887	
160,488	467,315	131,689	120,000		675,676		176,887	304,054
200,610						609,756		22,523
		540,541						
		107,455	336,863			365,854	33,784	180,180
4,817,369	2,439,024	2,532,527	2,922,240	2,536,130	2,034,116	1,024,390	419,395	1,283,784
4,496,547	2,439,024					73,171		112,613
320,821			200,000	650,862	2,034,116	463,415		
		1,033,292	1,430,634	1,612,541			298,329	1,171,171
		767,488		90,909				
			500,000	181,818		60,976		
		731,747	791,606			426,829	121,065	
802,955		595,166	200,000	47,657		121,951	157,343	22,523
			2,655,629		337,838			33,784
10,317,378	9,940,337	8,288,310	8,234,733	6,510,026	6,020,282	5,304,878	3,334,777	2,883,807

	UNODC	Korea, Rep. of	Australia	New Zealand	Saudi Arabia	Russian Federation	Luxembourg
							
Unearmarked		644,000		2,051,984			242,131
Executive Direction and Management New York and Geneva			142,755		62,433		
Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis		200,000	35,689		472,433	710,000	
Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies		200,000					
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation		200,000	249,822				
Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures		370,000	3,569		50,000	450,000	92,924
Support to the Programmes							
Field Presences	2,117,899	450,000	1,521,058		1,254,244	840,000	1,304,889
<i>Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities</i>		50,000					450,450
<i>Africa</i>	2,117,899						563,063
<i>Americas</i>						50,000	
<i>Asia and the Pacific</i>		400,000	1,521,058				291,375
<i>Europe and Central Asia</i>						790,000	
<i>Middle East and North Africa</i>					1,254,244		
Humanitarian Trust Funds		50,000	139,186		165,000		34,884
Miscellaneous*							
Total contributions by donor	2,117,899	2,114,000	2,092,079	2,051,984	2,004,111	2,000,000	1,674,827

* Includes earmarked contributions that could not be reported above.

Qatar	China	OCHA	Microsoft	Italy	UNESCO	India	UN Women	Portugal
								
								272,350
				30,266				
	470,000		600,000					
150,000								23,209
100,000								
25,000	330,000			24,213		150,000		68,254
500,000		765,285		452,240	491,926	200,000	388,756	
						200,000		
		765,285					261,276	
				225,225				
				227,015	466,447		127,480	
500,000					25,479			
70,000				30,266		50,000		23,209
175,000								
1,020,000	800,000	765,285	600,000	536,986	491,926	400,000	388,756	387,021

	World Bank	Counterpart International	Morocco	UNOCT	Japan	11th Hour Project	Liechtenstein
							
Unearmarked			300,000				26,853
Executive Direction and Management New York and Geneva				159,479			
Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis					240,159	250,000	107,411
Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies							
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation							
Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures							
Support to the Programmes							
Field Presences	380,291	300,000		114,378	18,181		
<i>Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities</i>							
<i>Africa</i>	380,291						
<i>Americas</i>		300,000					
<i>Asia and the Pacific</i>					18,181		
<i>Europe and Central Asia</i>				59,262			
<i>Middle East and North Africa</i>				55,116			
Humanitarian Trust Funds							80,559
Miscellaneous*							
Total contributions by donor	380,291	300,000	300,000	273,857	258,340	250,000	214,823

* Includes earmarked contributions that could not be reported above.

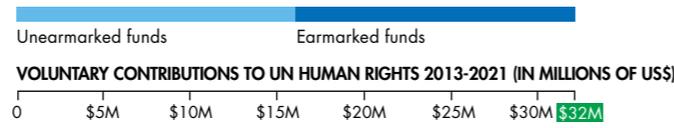
Call for Code	Ford Foundation	Mexico	Czech Republic	Iceland	UNHCR	UN Trust Fund for Human Security	IOM	Thailand
								
148,580		100,000	93,809	154,476				20,000
56,250	200,000		14,071					
		68,322	9,381					
		19,399	14,071					
			28,143		140,000	133,807	123,753	100,000
								100,000
					140,000		10,592	
			14,071				113,161	
						133,807		
			14,071					
		10,000	9,381					
204,830	200,000	197,721	168,856	154,476	140,000	133,807	123,753	120,000

	Singapore	Twitter, Inc.	Montenegro	Latvia	Slovakia	Cisco Systems Inc.	Costa Rica	Brazil	Nicaragua
									
Unearmarked			11,947	11,261	11,025		9,946		2,500
Executive Direction and Management New York and Geneva									
Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis		15,000				10,000			
Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies									
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation									
Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures	15,000								
Support to the Programmes									
Field Presences								9,779	
<i>Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities</i>									
<i>Africa</i>									
<i>Americas</i>								9,779	
<i>Asia and the Pacific</i>									
<i>Europe and Central Asia</i>									
<i>Middle East and North Africa</i>									
Humanitarian Trust Funds									
Miscellaneous*									
Total contributions by donor	15,000	15,000	11,947	11,261	11,025	10,000	9,946	9,779	2,500

* Includes earmarked contributions that could not be reported above.

Donor Profiles

Donor ranking
 Total voluntary contribution in 2021 in USD
 Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor



SWEDEN

1/89
30,330,354 ▶ 41%
 260,700,000 (SEK) \$12.6M
 3

'13 18,421,750
 '14 15,274,483
 '15 13,786,595
 '16 11,941,295
 '17 15,993,922
 '18 21,089,098
 '19 17,885,196
 '20 30,268,739
 '21 30,330,354

UNITED STATES

2/89
26,737,641 ▶ 43%
 \$11.5M

'13 13,260,122
 '14 14,132,626
 '15 16,250,000
 '16 17,050,615
 '17 20,160,912
 '18 18,427,371
 '19 18,200,211
 '20 27,937,650
 '21 26,737,641

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

3/89
20,511,387 ▶ 100%
 \$20.5M

'13 5,798,454
 '14 7,849,741
 '15 6,304,458
 '16 5,704,819
 '17 3,880,995
 '18 9,472,819
 '19 10,219,125
 '20 16,095,560
 '21 20,511,387

NORWAY

4/89
19,779,429 ▶ 37%
 165,000,000 (NOK) \$7.2M
 2

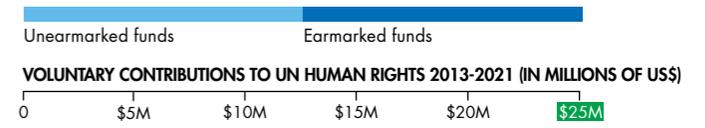
'13 12,708,150
 '14 15,343,191
 '15 14,041,522
 '16 12,303,985
 '17 15,559,270
 '18 22,174,972
 '19 18,835,881
 '20 20,599,006
 '21 19,779,429

GERMANY

5/89
16,187,311 ▶ 38%
 13,730,629 (EUR) \$6.1M

'13 6,839,230
 '14 9,586,460
 '15 6,525,048
 '16 10,651,532
 '17 9,143,552
 '18 9,806,471
 '19 8,411,296
 '20 10,254,726
 '21 16,187,311

Donor ranking
 Total voluntary contribution in 2021 in USD
 Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

6/89
15,432,434 ▶ 36%
 13,064,328 (EUR) \$5.6M

'13 10,015,275
 '14 7,670,133
 '15 13,021,107
 '16 11,252,802
 '17 10,015,275
 '18 19,445,794
 '19 20,689,560
 '20 22,848,273
 '21 15,432,434

NETHERLANDS

7/89
12,501,816 ▶ 48%
 10,510,682 (EUR) \$6M
 4

'13 10,331,405
 '14 10,608,948
 '15 9,766,646
 '16 9,466,798
 '17 9,803,069
 '18 11,335,834
 '19 13,665,987
 '20 14,697,143
 '21 12,501,816

DENMARK

8/89
10,317,378 ▶ 42%
 64,250,000 (DKK) \$4.3M
 2

'13 5,455,649
 '14 5,705,651
 '15 4,798,825
 '16 4,393,030
 '17 4,591,309
 '18 10,820,030
 '19 11,723,058
 '20 13,099,272
 '21 10,317,378

FINLAND

9/89
9,940,337 ▶ 71%
 8,410,000 (EUR) \$7M

'13 3,178,958
 '14 3,100,676
 '15 3,455,542
 '16 2,488,592
 '17 2,873,314
 '18 3,357,672
 '19 3,408,014
 '20 6,481,073
 '21 9,940,337

UNITED KINGDOM

10/89
8,288,310 ▶ 49%
 6,108,977 (GBP) \$4M

'13 4,779,840
 '14 6,783,678
 '15 7,267,203
 '16 5,508,247
 '17 7,201,458
 '18 8,813,612
 '19 8,532,030
 '20 9,151,148
 '21 8,288,310

Donor ranking
 Total voluntary contribution in 2021 in USD
 Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor

Unearmarked funds Earmarked funds

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2013-2021 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)

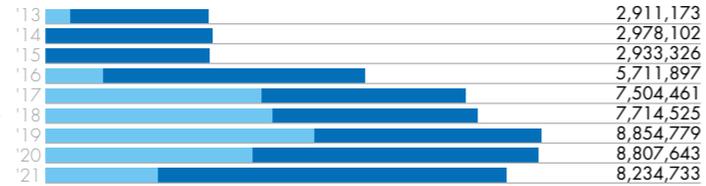
0 \$2M \$4M \$6M \$8M \$10M

SWITZERLAND

11/89

8,234,733
7,619,168 (CHF)

6

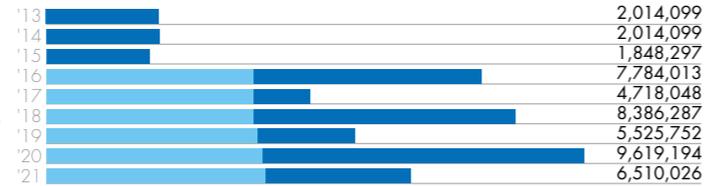


CANADA

12/89

6,510,026
8,348,134 (CAD)

1

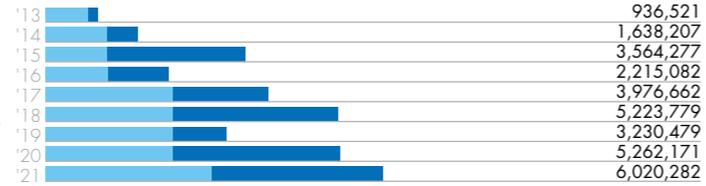


BELGIUM

13/89

6,020,282
5,150,000 (EUR)

1

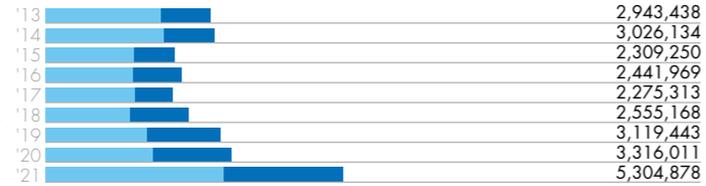


FRANCE

14/89

5,304,878
4,350,000 (EUR)

1



IRELAND

15/89

3,334,777
2,780,000 (EUR)

1



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Unearmarked funds Earmarked funds

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2013-2021 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)

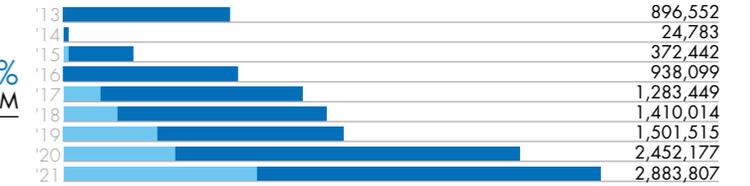
0 \$500k \$1M \$1.5M \$2M \$2.5M \$3M

SPAIN

16/89

2,883,807
2,560,000 (EUR)

1

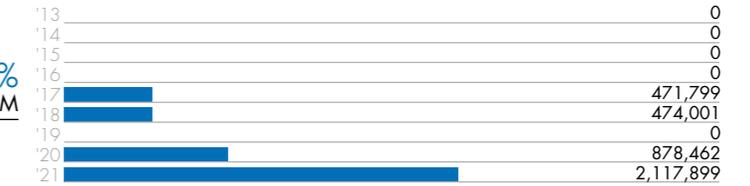


UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIMES

17/89

2,117,899

1

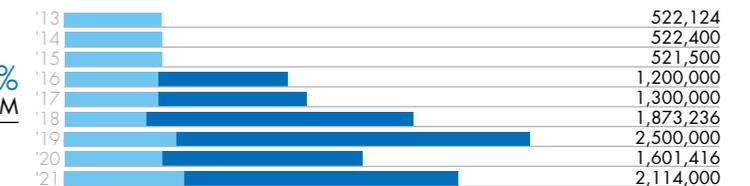


REPUBLIC OF KOREA

18/89

2,114,000

1

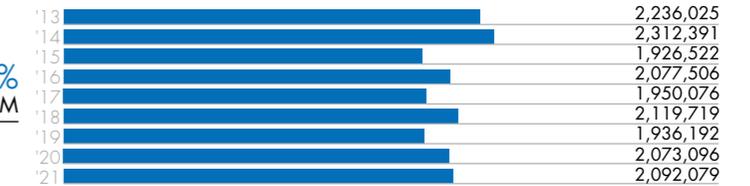


AUSTRALIA

19/89

2,092,079
2,900,000 (AUD)

1

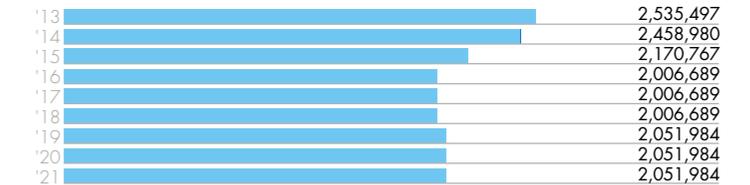


NEW ZEALAND

20/89

2,051,984
3,000,000 (NZD)

1



Donor ranking Total voluntary contribution in 2021 in USD Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor

Unearmarked funds Earmarked funds

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2013-2021 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)

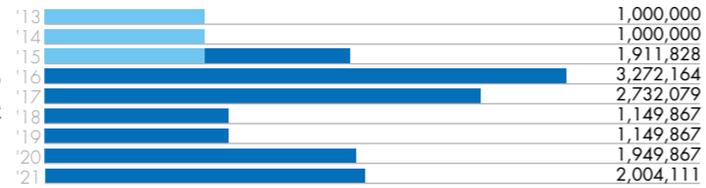
0 \$1M \$2M \$3M \$3.5M

SAUDI ARABIA

21/89

2,004,111

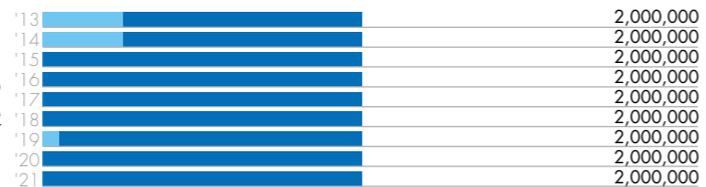
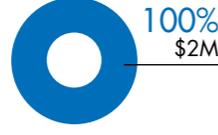
1



RUSSIAN FEDERATION

22/89

2,000,000

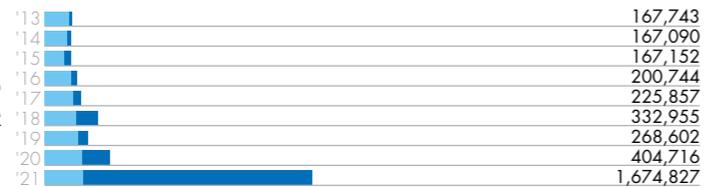
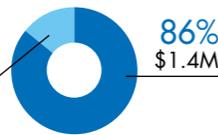


LUXEMBOURG

23/89

1,674,827
1,459,500 (EUR)

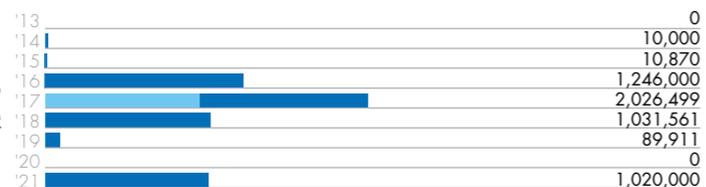
14%
\$242K



QATAR

24/89

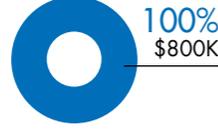
1,020,000



CHINA

25/89

800,000

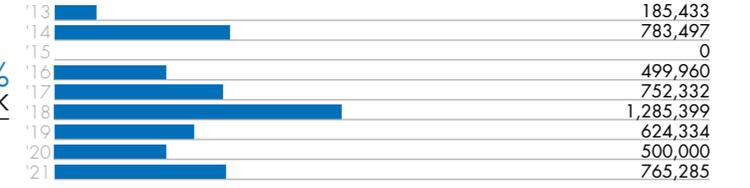


OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS



26/89

765,285



MICROSOFT

27/89

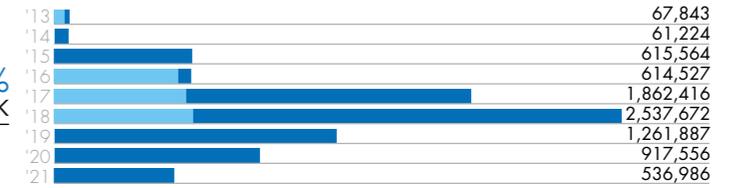
600,000



ITALY

28/89

536,986
470,000 (EUR)



UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

29/89

491,926



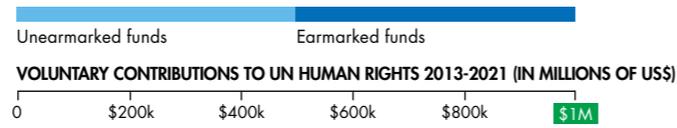
INDIA

30/89

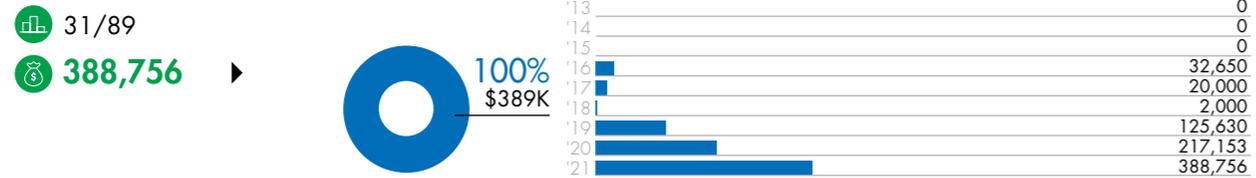
400,000



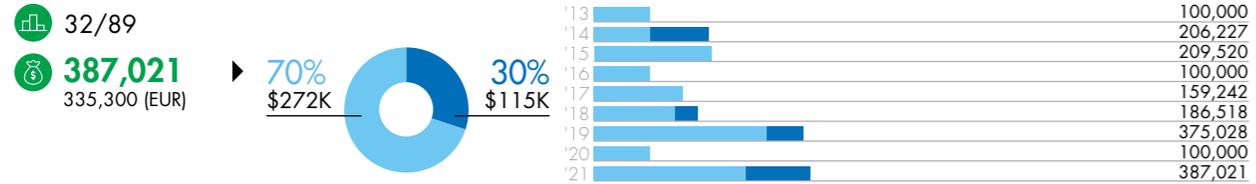
Donor ranking
 Total voluntary contribution in 2021 in USD
 Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor



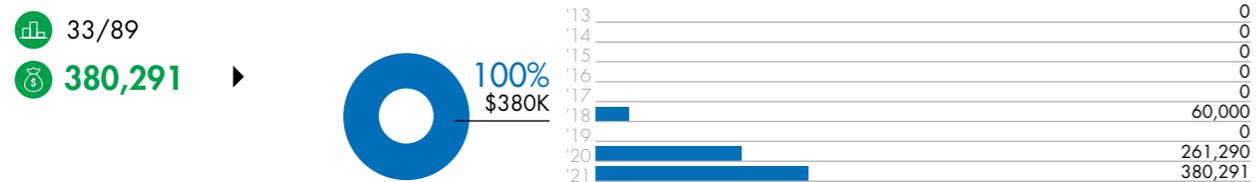
UNITED NATIONS ENTITY FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN



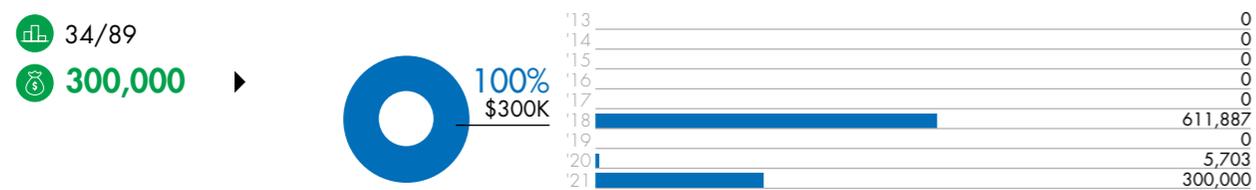
PORTUGAL



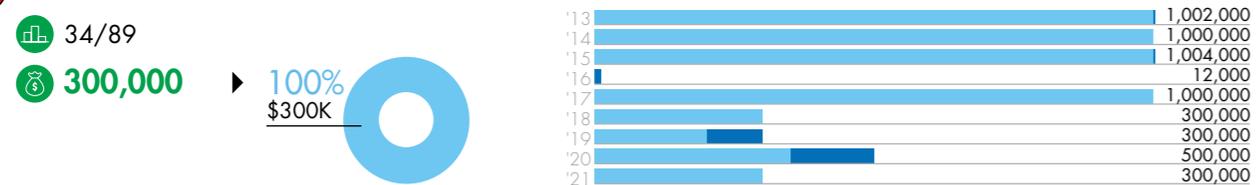
THE WORLD BANK WORLD BANK



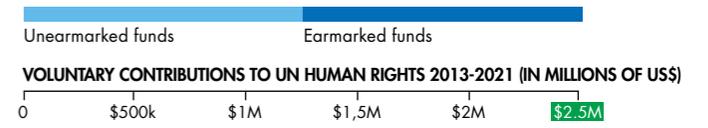
COUNTERPART INTERNATIONAL



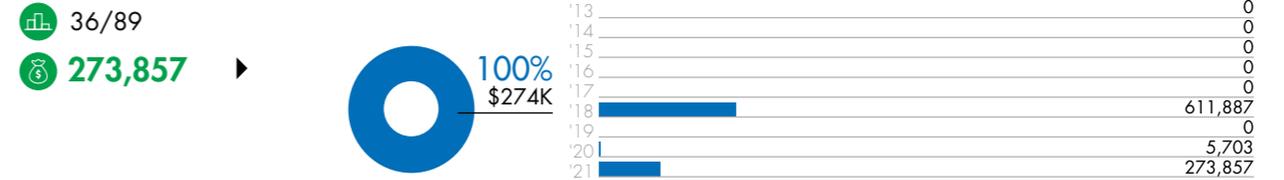
MOROCCO



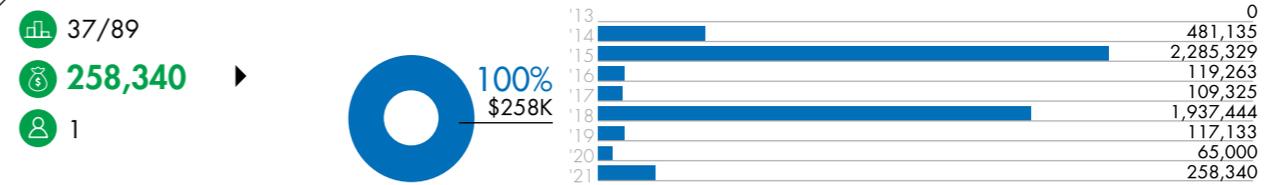
Donor ranking
 Total voluntary contribution in 2021 in USD
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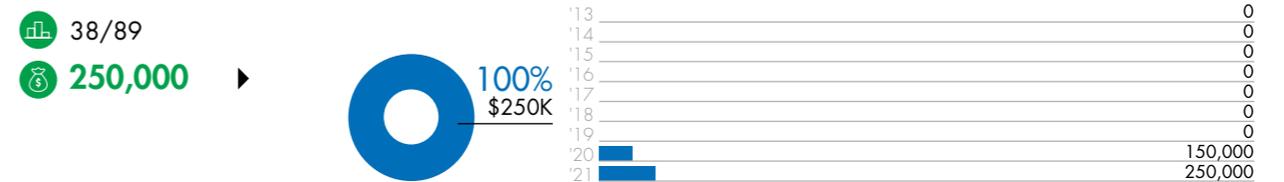
UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM



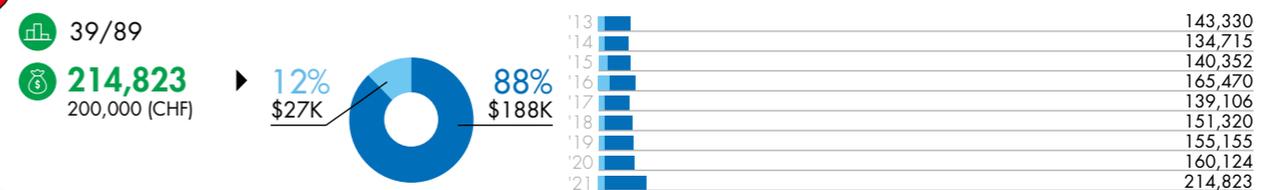
JAPAN



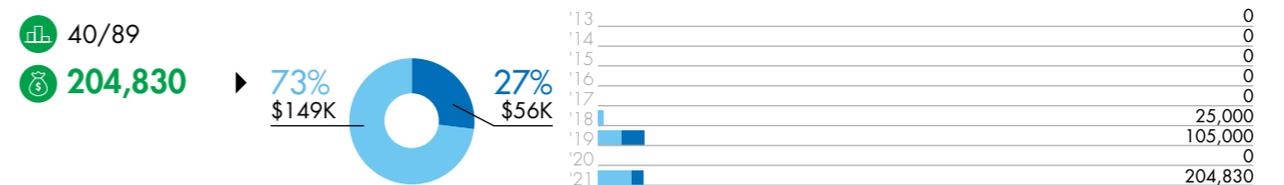
11TH HOUR PROJECT/THE SCHMIDT FAMILY FOUNDATION



LIECHTENSTEIN



CALL FOR CODE



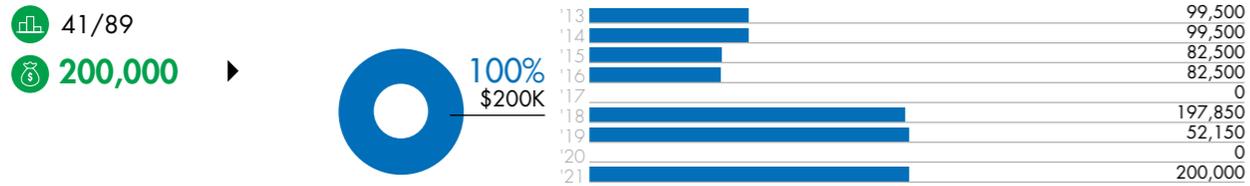
Donor ranking
 Total voluntary contribution in 2021 in USD
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Unearmarked funds
 Earmarked funds

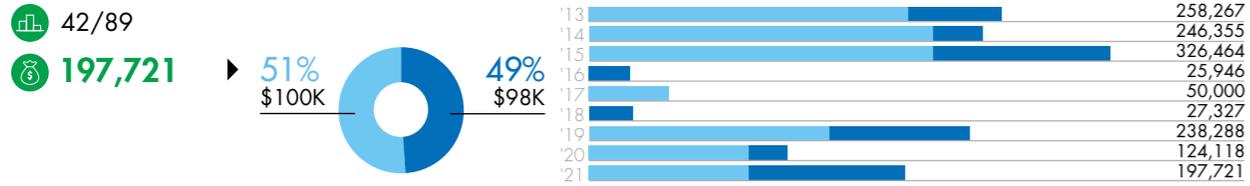
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2013-2021 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)

0 \$100k \$200k \$300k \$350k

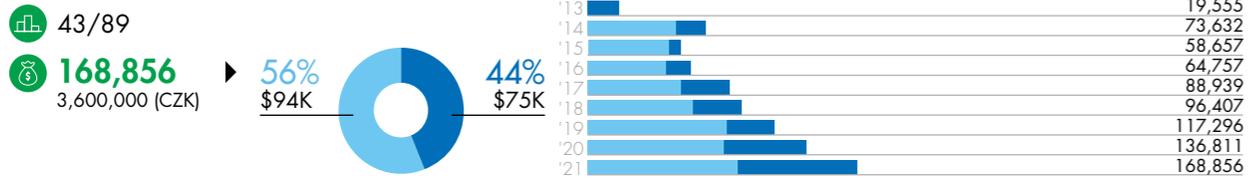
FORD FOUNDATION



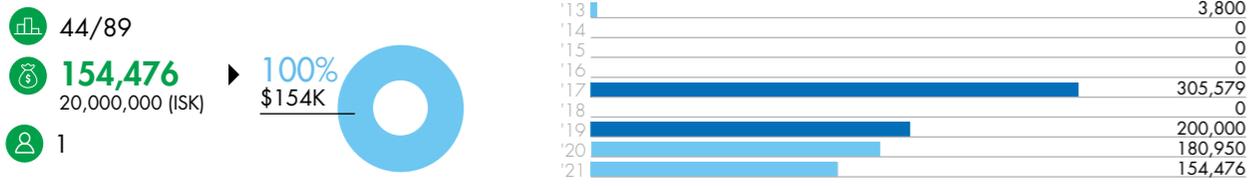
MEXICO



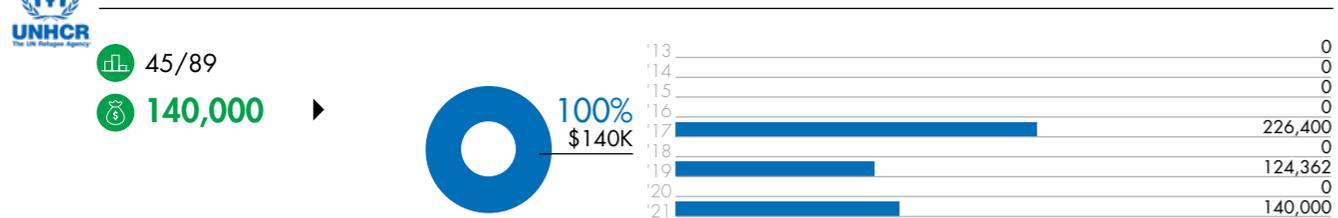
CZECH REPUBLIC



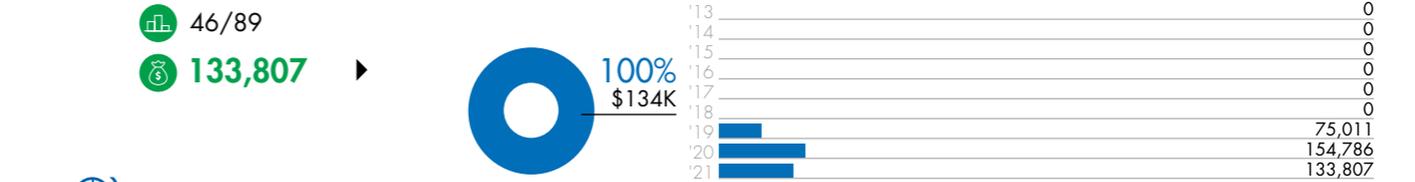
ICELAND



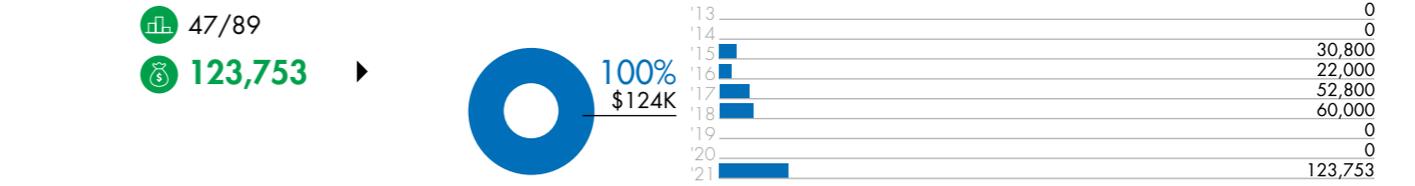
UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES



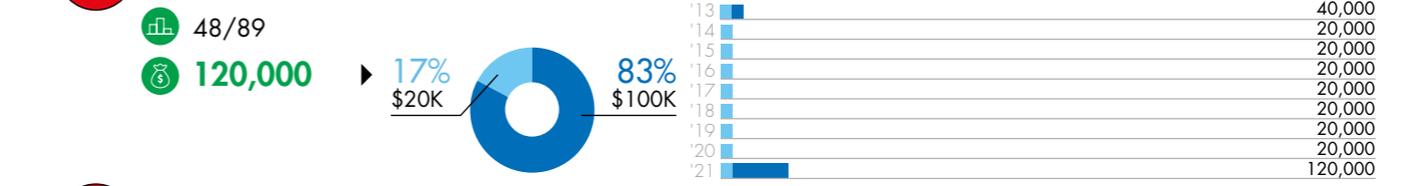
UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND FOR HUMAN SECURITY



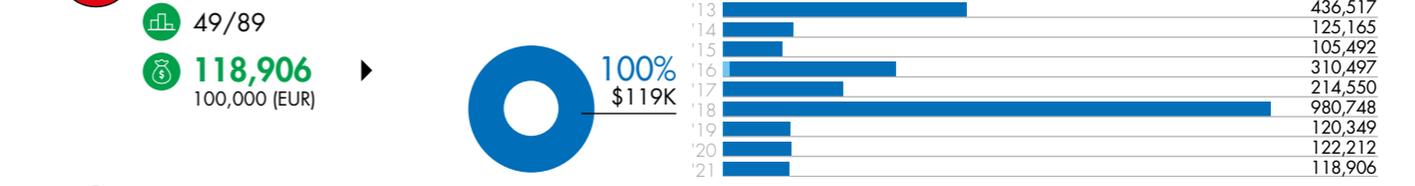
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION



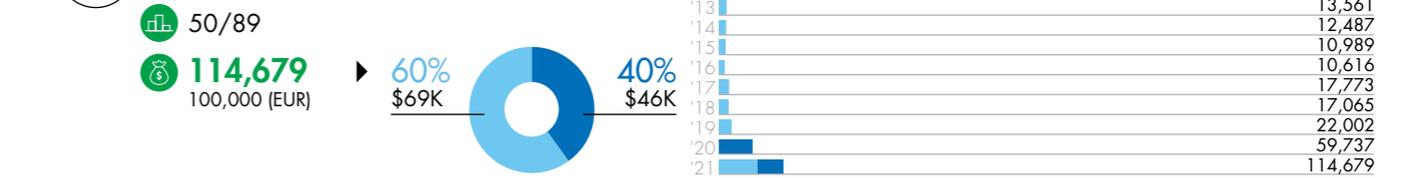
THAILAND



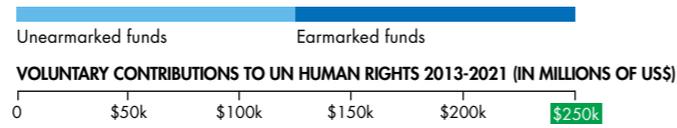
AUSTRIA



CYPRUS

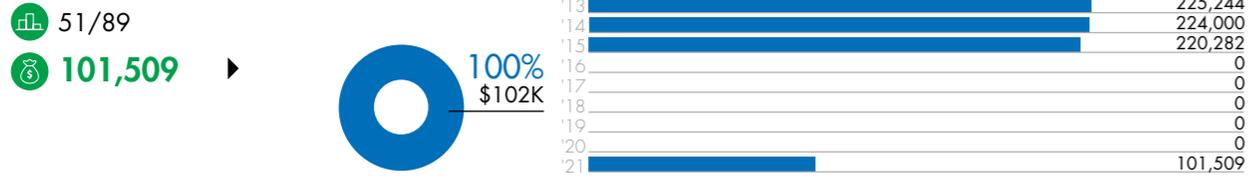


Donor ranking Total voluntary contribution in 2021 in USD Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor

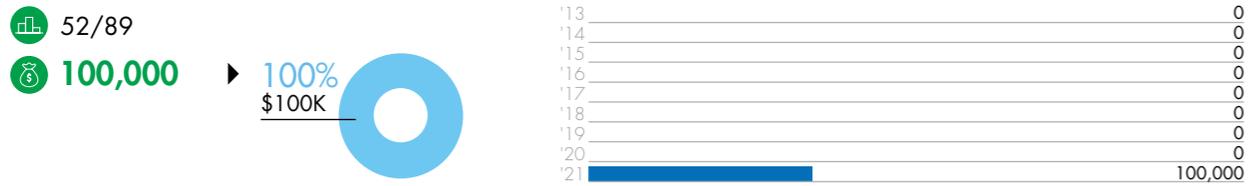


التعليم | education
فوق | above
الجميع | all

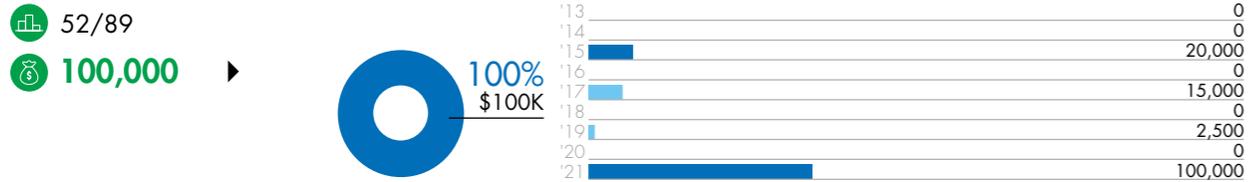
EDUCATION ABOVE ALL



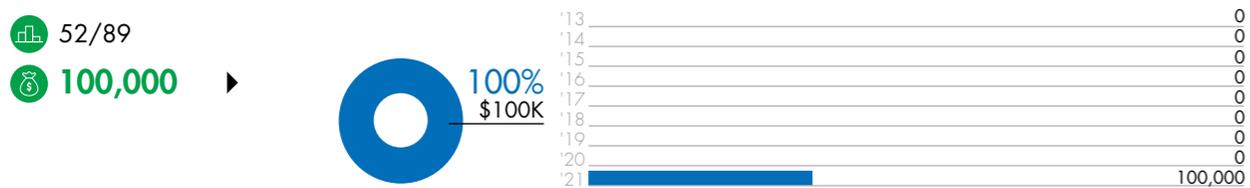
IBM



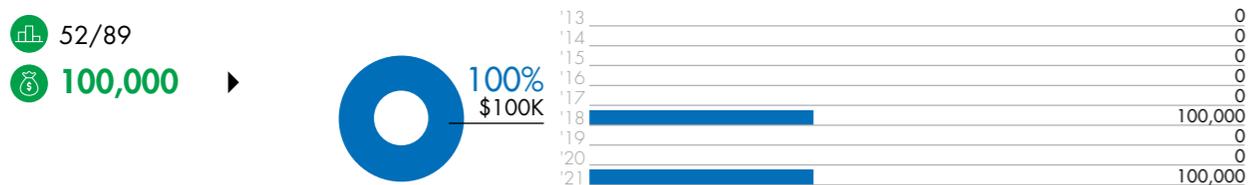
PHILIPPINES



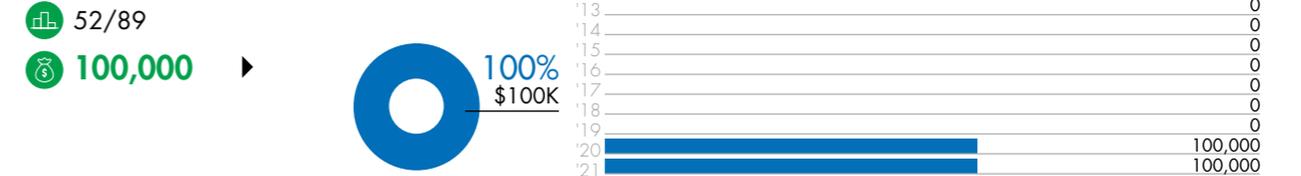
RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW



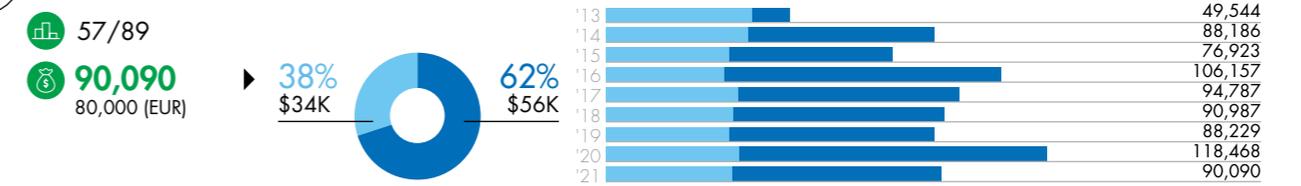
UZBEKISTAN



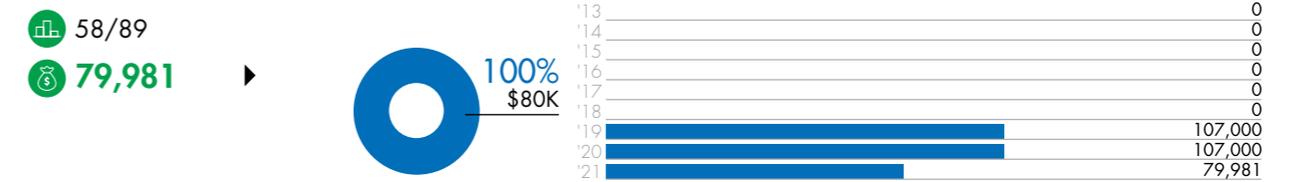
WELLSPRING PHILANTHROPIC FUND



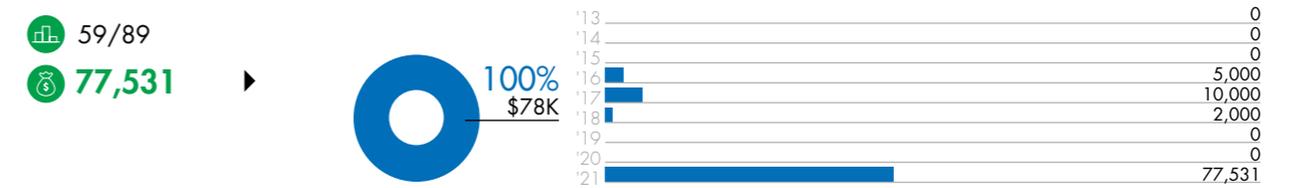
ESTONIA



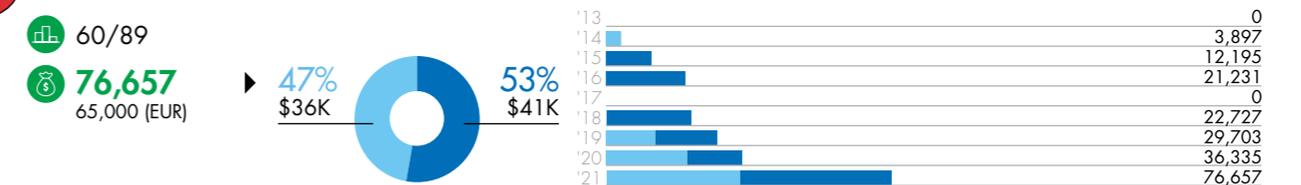
OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS



UNITED NATIONS POPULATIONS FUND



LITHUANIA

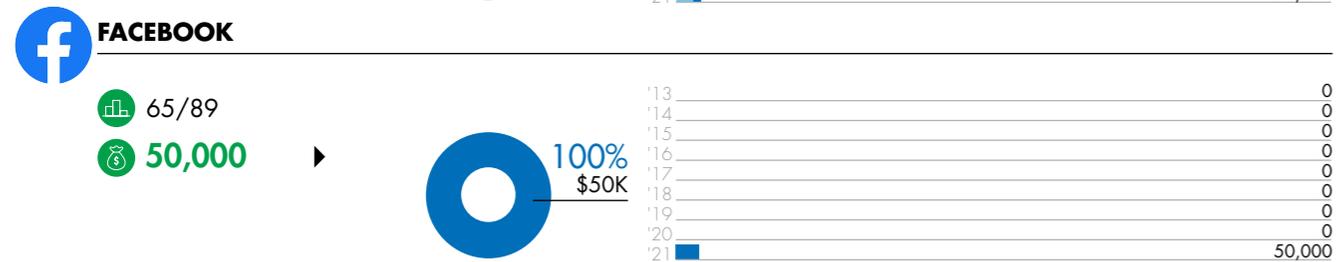
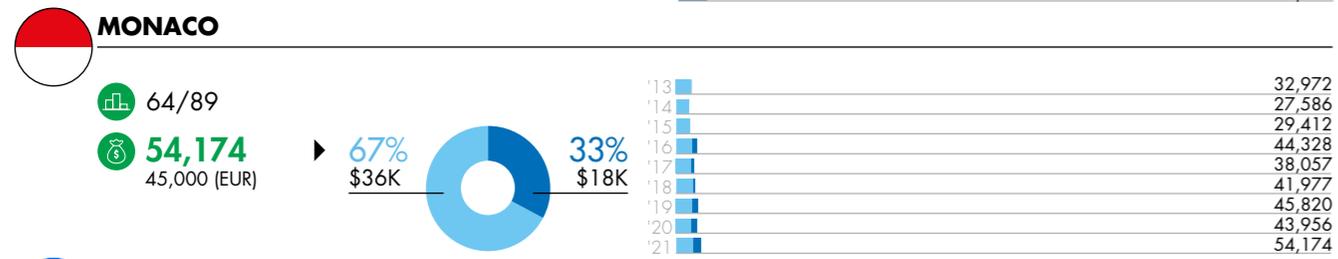
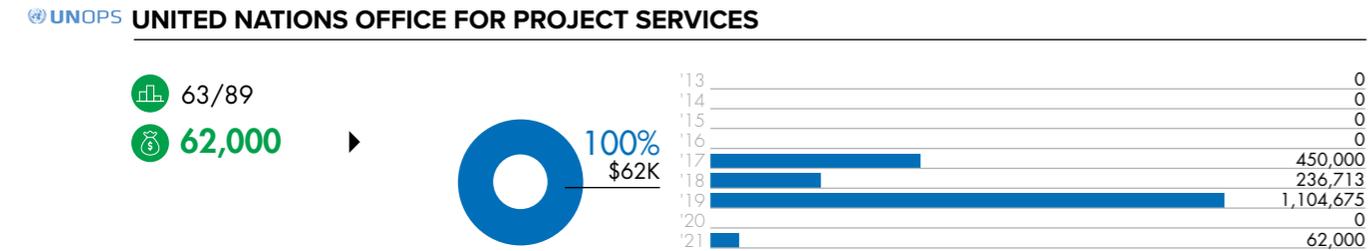
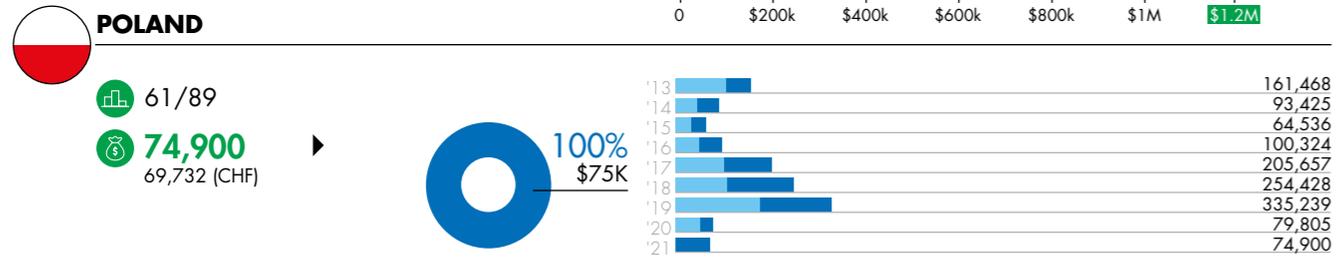


Donor ranking Total voluntary contribution in 2021 in USD Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor

Unearmarked funds Earmarked funds

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2013-2021 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)

0 \$200k \$400k \$600k \$800k \$1M \$1.2M

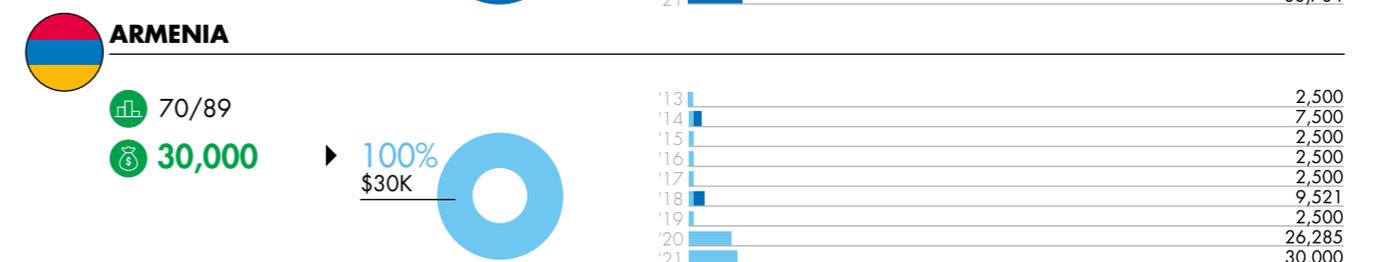
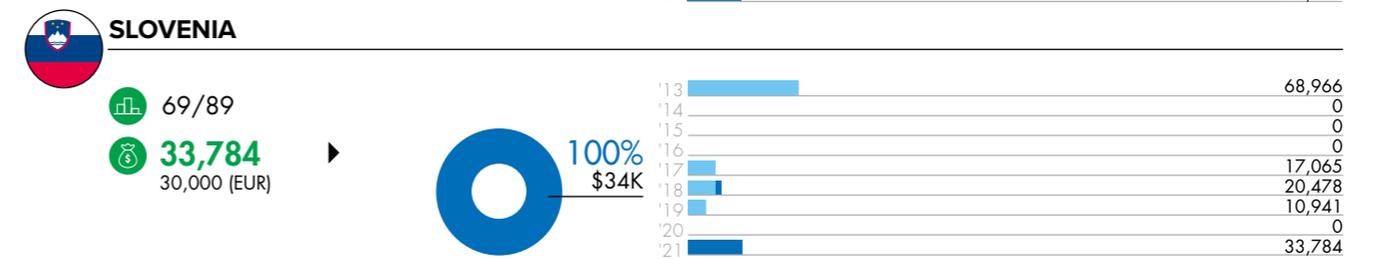
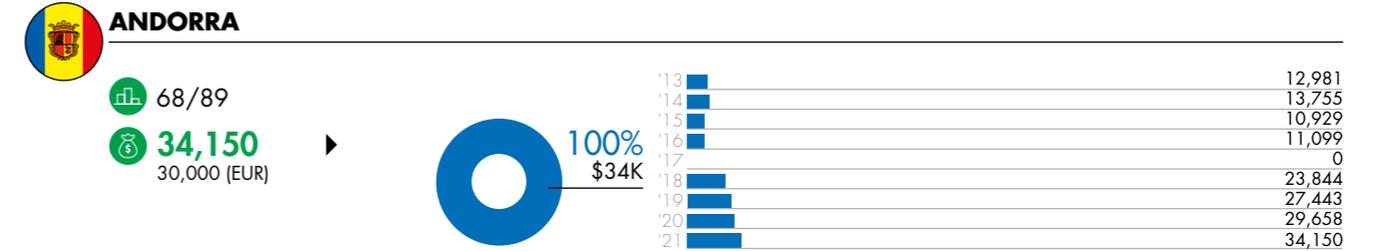
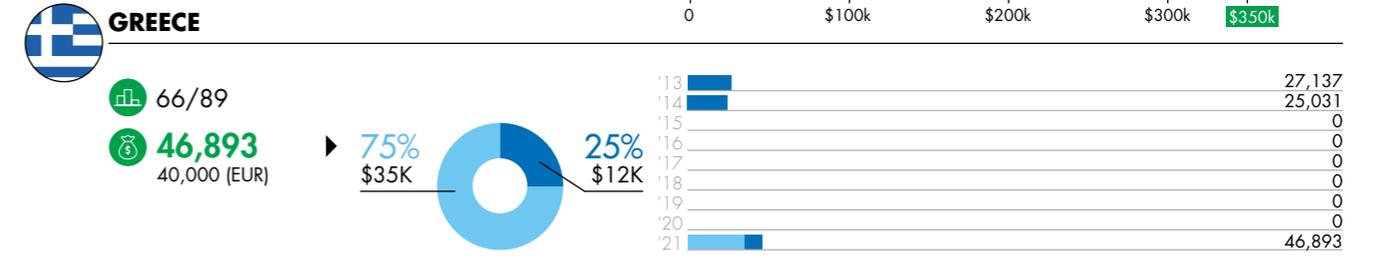


Donor ranking Total voluntary contribution in 2021 in USD Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor

Unearmarked funds Earmarked funds

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2013-2021 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)

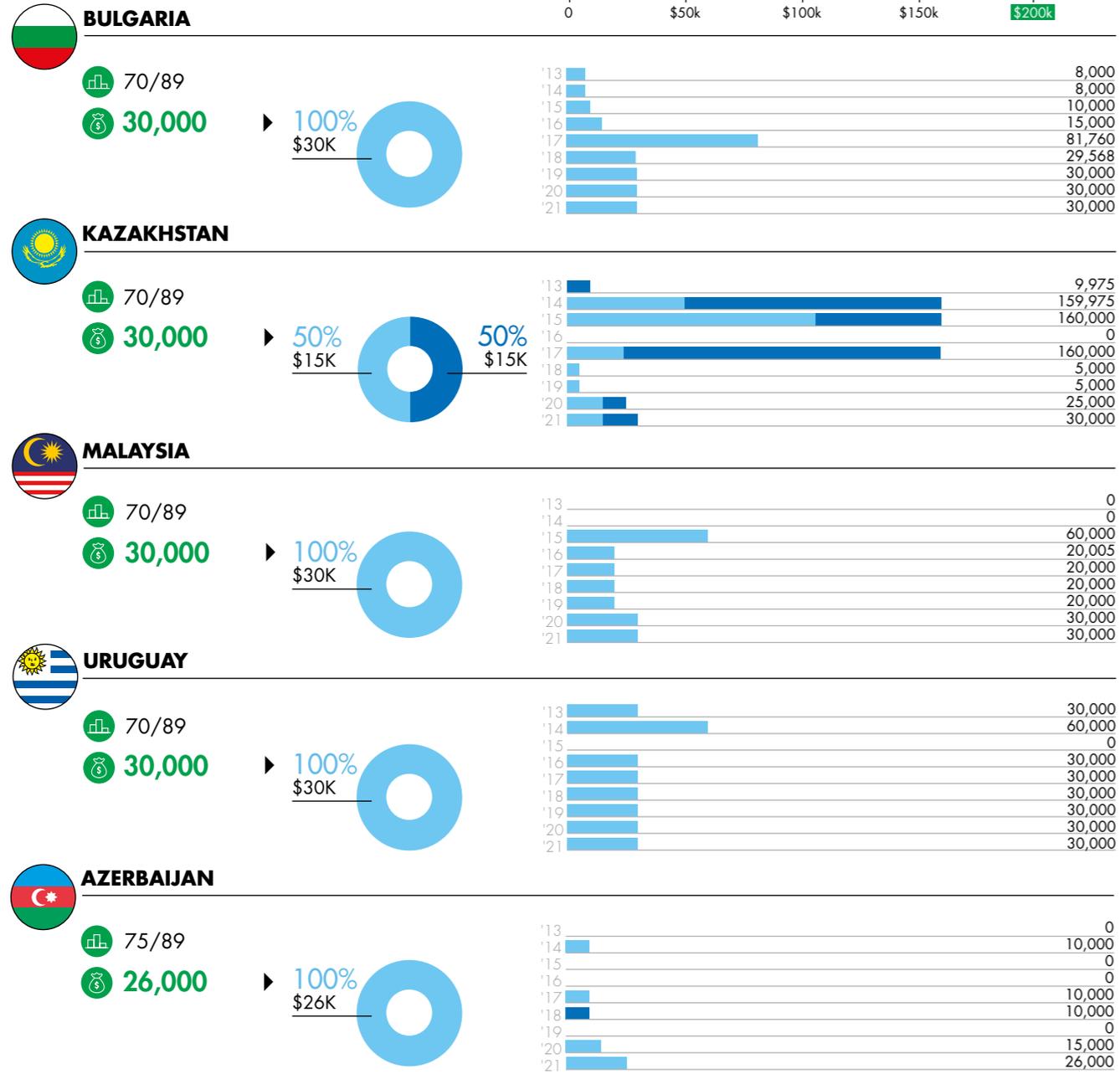
0 \$100k \$200k \$300k \$350k



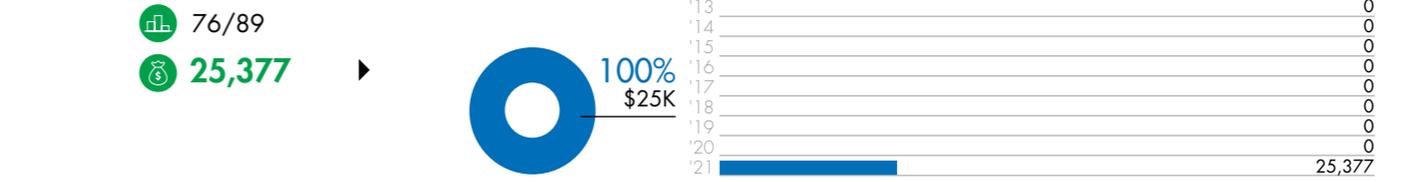
Donor ranking
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Unearmarked funds
 Earmarked funds

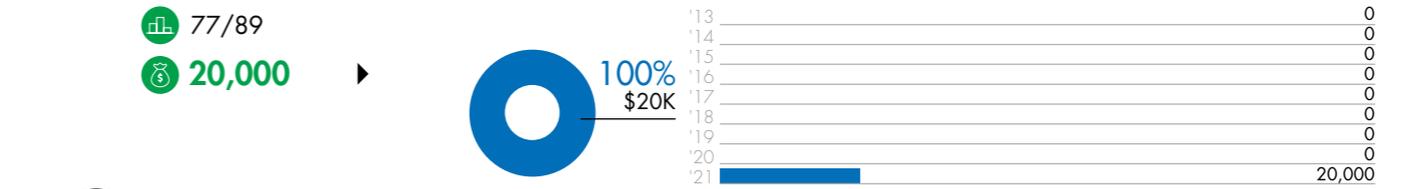
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2013-2021 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)



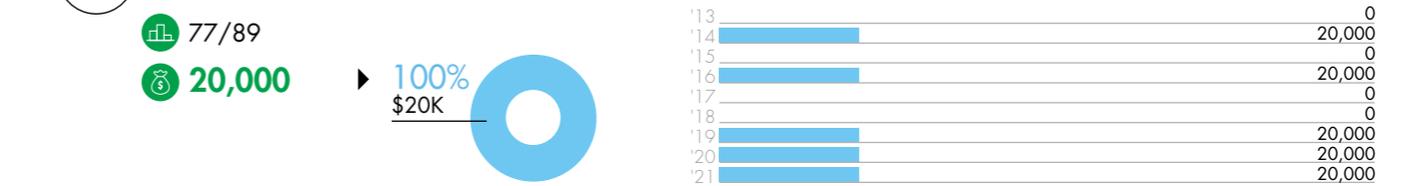
SILATECH



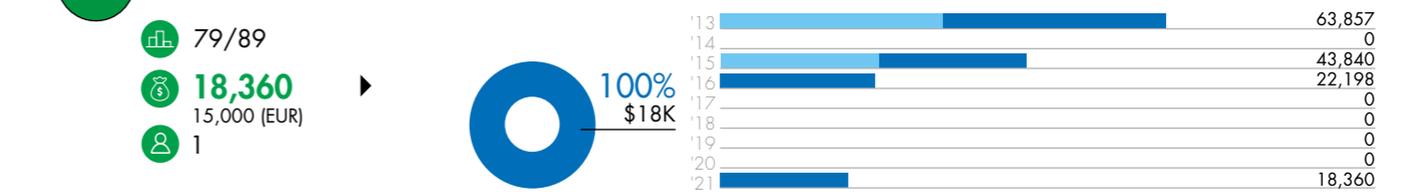
DAVID CLARK CAUSE, INC.



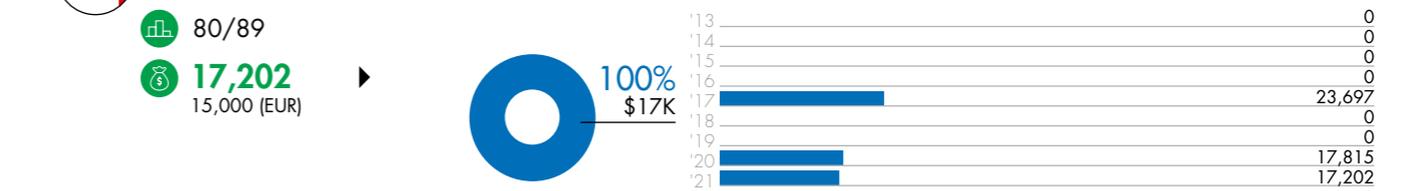
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HUNGARY

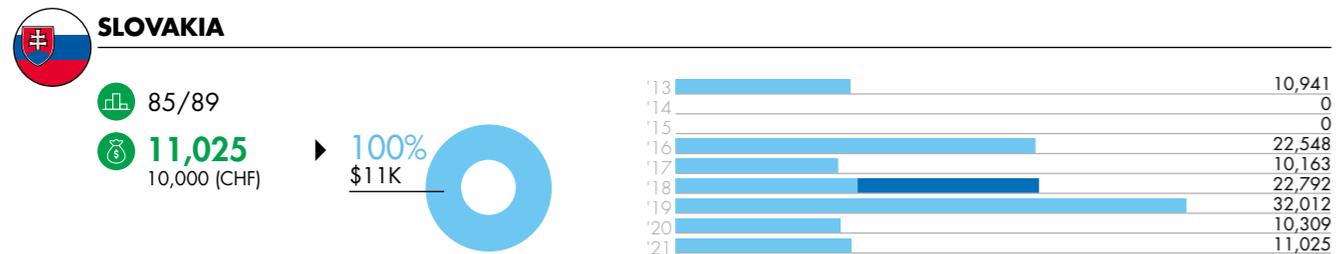
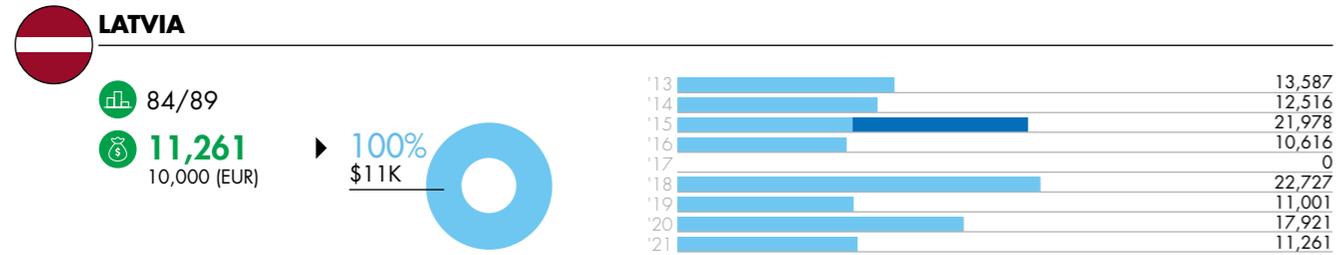
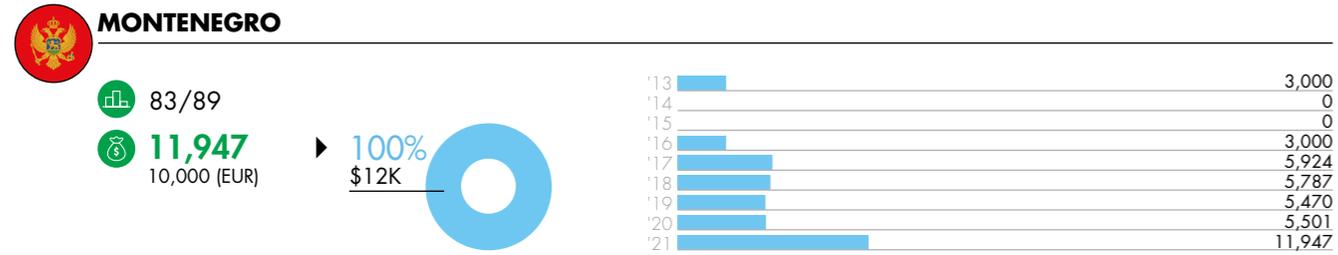
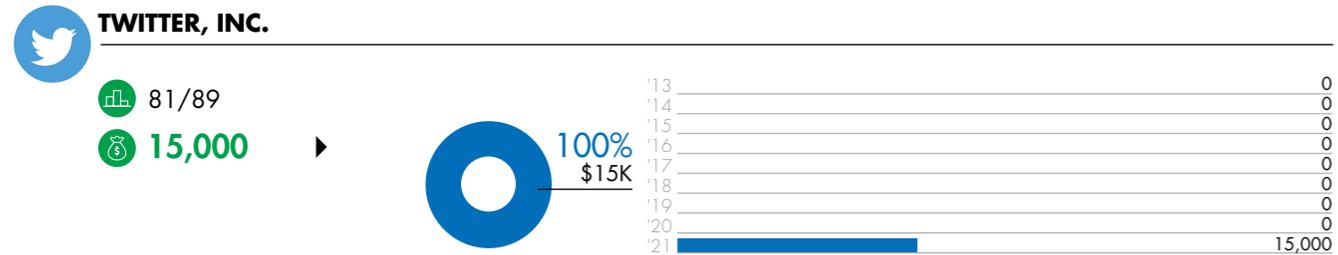
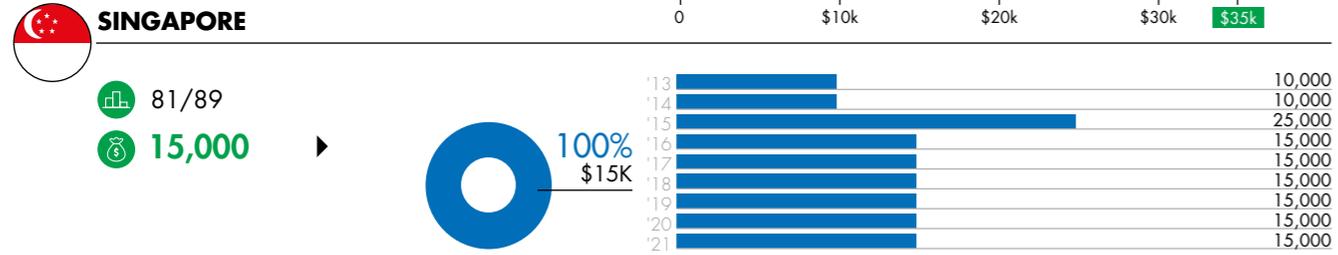


MALTA



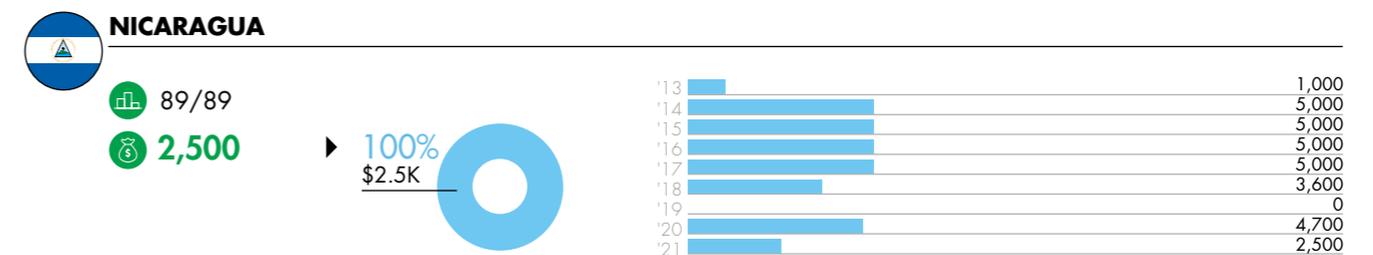
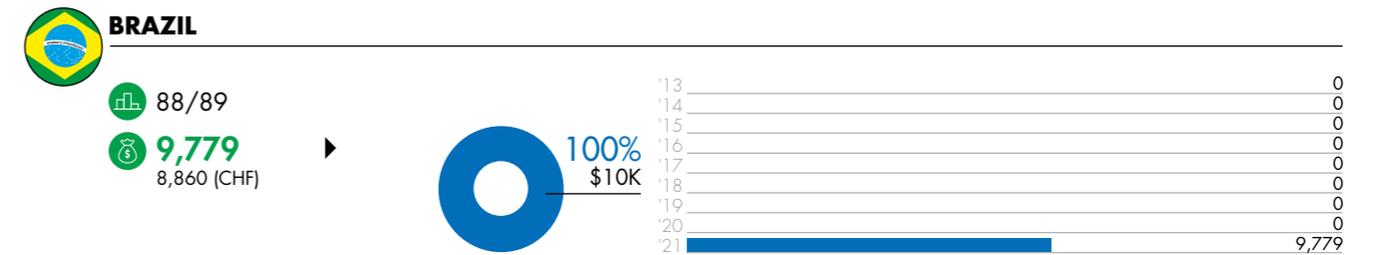
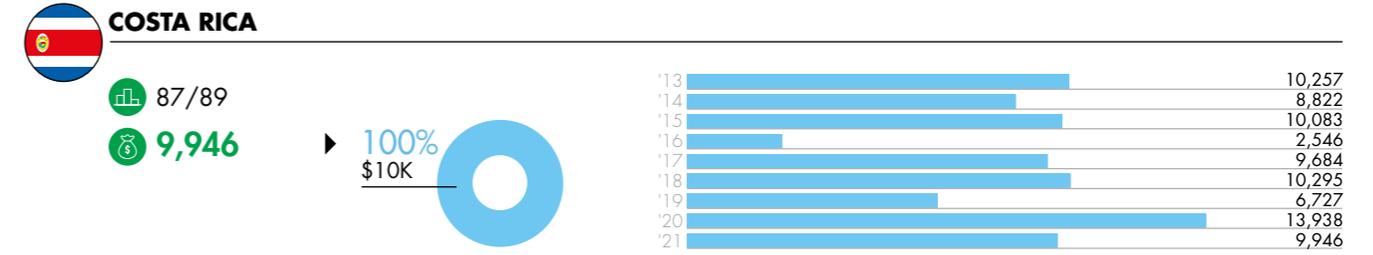
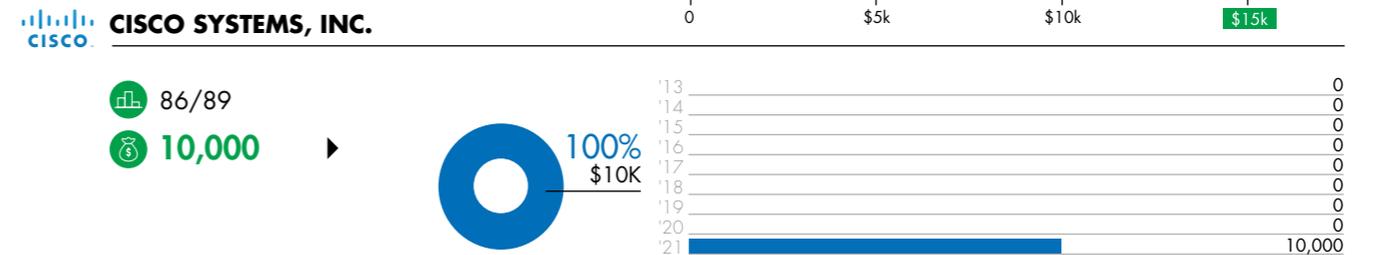
Donor ranking
 Total voluntary contribution in 2021 in USD
 Junior Professional Officer(s) funded by the donor

Unearmarked funds Earmarked funds
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS 2013-2021 (IN MILLIONS OF US\$)



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Extrabudgetary income and expenditure in 2021

Overall summary (in thousands of US\$)

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
HEADQUARTERS			
Executive Direction and Management (EDM)			
EO - Executive Office of the High Commissioner	1,359,905.00	1,349,433.33	1,219,701.77
EOS - Communications Section	4,867,404.00	3,876,059.40	4,279,169.16
EOS - Donor and External Relations Section	3,910,173.00	3,230,500.00	3,197,678.67
EOS - External Outreach Service	576,463.00	434,100.00	498,811.21
EOS - Media and Public Positioning Section	2,241,844.00	2,430,300.00	2,293,183.62
EOS - Meetings, Documents and Publication Unit	1,836,774.00	1,663,000.00	1,727,911.60
NYO - New York Office	3,633,425.00	3,179,200.00	3,109,338.10
NYO - HR Conflict Risk Tool Project	554,818.00	90,400.00	0.00
NYO - (MPTF) Conflict-Related Sexual Violence	337,948.00	443,755.75	340,516.93
NYO - National HR-based Counter-Terrorism Responses (new project)	0.00	750,746.00	0.00
NYO - UN's Response on Reprisals	724,862.00	908,767.43	709,980.30
NYO - (UNOCT) HR Aspects of the use of AI in Counter-Terrorism	160,297.00	159,479.22	102,126.15
PPMES - Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Service	2,262,242.00	2,219,100.00	2,092,361.49
PPMES - (EOSG) Disability Inclusion Strategy - UNDIS Indicator	18,784.86	18,725.00	18,781.18
SSS - Safety and Security Section	1,316,656.00	1,356,300.00	1,322,876.29
Sub-total EDM	23,801,595.86	22,109,866.13	20,912,436.47
PROGRAMME OF WORK (SUBPROGAMME 1 TO 4)			
Subprogramme 1 - Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis (RRDD)			
Director's Office - Coordination and Management	1,595,219.54	1,543,307.14	1,631,828.62
Human Rights and Technology Issues (Digital Space)	250,001.00	400,000.00	248,638.35
Human Rights online, innovation and technology outreach	947,453.00	654,900.00	916,887.32
ARDS - Anti-Discrimination	1,288,802.00	809,934.70	969,111.94
BHRU - Business and Human Rights	477,736.00	578,726.96	446,648.41

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
CSU - Civic Space Unit	1,026,781.00	1,079,752.93	970,714.30
HRESIS - Addressing Human Rights, Migration and Climate Change	939,843.00	0.00	448,802.86
HRESIS - Child and Youth Rights	866,432.00	533,773.60	774,964.28
HRESIS - Human Rights of Youth (in vulnerable situations, insecurity)	103,253.00	126,886.00	0.00
HRESIS - Disabilities	515,149.00	484,368.00	509,057.70
HRESIS - Economic and Social Issues	332,658.00	129,094.00	147,138.52
HRESIS - Human Rights of Migrants at International Borders	955,195.00	60,000.00	865,611.06
HRESIS - Migration	828,610.00	905,716.28	827,462.26
HRESIS - (MPTF) Response and Recovery Planning for Covid-19	52,761.00	0.00	48,690.33
IPMS - Indigenous Peoples and Minorities	1,547,491.00	1,239,337.54	1,413,451.22
IPMS - Protection of Religions Minorities	628,652.00	423,162.33	416,665.93
METS - Human Rights Indicators	606,634.00	212,715.48	295,251.96
METS - (EU) Human Rights Indicators	238,343.00	230,000.00	239,262.40
METS - Methodology, Education and Training	2,034,715.00	1,295,800.00	1,616,807.88
METS - (MPTF) HRM Enhance RC&UNCT Strategy Engagement	251,450.00	251,450.00	116,556.75
ROLDs - Rule of Law and Democracy	1,616,520.00	1,544,957.14	1,565,027.27
ROLDs - (EU) Torture-free Trade (PI/2019/410-826)	342,732.00	0.00	69,458.86
ROLDs - EOSG Renewing the UN Approach to Transitional Justice	206,061.00	27,958.29	56,596.90
ROLDs - Global Drive for Media Freedom, Access to Information and the Safety of Journalists	1,116,856.00	2,071,000.00	142,761.39
ROLDs - Support to OHCHR's Work on Accountability	521,937.00	800,736.32	394,844.11
RTDS - Corruption and Human Rights	52,150.00	0.00	17,139.00
RTDS - Environment and Climate Change	464,046.00	592,997.67	389,261.46
RTDS - Right to Development	413,488.00	200,000.00	302,232.22
RTDS - SFP Participation of Civil Society at the Social Forum, Forum on Minority Issues and Forum on Business and Human Rights	36,725.00	0.00	9,775.79
SDGs - MDGs and Human Rights-Based Approach	506,516.00	508,632.09	451,024.03
SDGs - (MPTF) HRM Common Country Analysis / SDS Surge Team	1,001,761.00	599,053.00	779,695.33
SDGs - Washington Liaison Office	548,067.79	508,700.00	579,402.57

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
WHRG - Women's Human Rights and Gender	1,581,338.00	1,948,376.08	1,400,920.44
WHRG - Conflict Related Sexual and Gender-Based Violence	311,309.00	16,000.00	285,738.89
WHRG - Criminal Laws Project	119,475.00	100,000.00	50,262.48
WHRG - Project for Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (LGBTI Rights)	1,801,558.00	1,474,793.20	1,254,821.33
WHRG - Regional Gender Advisers*	243,456.00	-181,800.00	89,651.58
Subtotal subprogramme 1	26,371,174.33	21,170,328.74	20,742,165.74
Subprogramme 2 - Supporting the Human Rights Treaties Bodies (HRTB)			
Support to Treaty Bodies and Organs	3,016,938.00	1,972,388.33	2,473,051.80
Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture	579,238.00	427,492.15	325,301.62
Support to Treaty Bodies - Capacity building work on ICPPED *	199,889.00	69,500.00	73,482.26
Support to Treaty Bodies - Group in Focus (CEDAW)	45,815.00	86,647.27	62,596.37
Support to Treaty Bodies - (MPTF) National Implementation of the CRPD	33,900.00	0.00	25,848.36
Subtotal subprogramme 2	3,875,780.00	2,556,027.75	2,960,280.41
Subprogramme 3 - Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation (FOTCD)			
Director's Office - Coordination and Management	1,232,096.20	714,600.00	829,551.18
Africa Branch	2,313,432.05	2,294,300.00	2,160,474.19
Americas Branch	762,251.67	694,200.00	741,004.27
Europe and Central-Asia	1,792,573.24	1,383,374.44	1,367,159.42
Europe and Central-Asia - (UNOCT) Uzbekistan - Expert Adviser and Rehabilitation and Reintegration (new project)	0.00	59,261.95	0.00
Asia-Pacific Branch	2,226,558.78	1,724,091.10	1,817,527.52
Middle East and North Africa	1,293,017.19	1,173,200.00	1,284,120.39
ERS - Emergency Response Section	1,257,612.03	1,237,566.35	1,032,389.44
ERS - Investigative Capacity	3,054,535.77	100,000.00	1,885,077.67
ERS - Prevention and Early Warning Capacity - Emergency Response Teams	3,708,847.58	3,083,395.88	2,344,014.21
ERS - Strengthen the Capacity of Investigative Bodies to Undertake HRC Mandated Investigations	395,500.00	0.00	255,462.68

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
MENA - Database Production and Work Support	451,746.88	76,200.00	17,046.71
MENA - Protection of Human Rights in Arab Region	1,095,985.87	499,978.00	556,734.26
MENA - Strengthening Human Rights in Egypt	246,916.30	321,646.31	255,918.01
MENA - Strengthening Human Rights in Iran	442,024.36	296,261.93	326,690.14
National Institutions and Regional Mechanisms	825,634.50	535,212.64	616,986.06
PMSS - Peace Missions Support Section	323,097.51	348,000.00	301,734.02
PMSS - Human Rights Protection and Peace Operations	1,257,859.50	0.00	752,620.86
Subtotal subprogramme 3	22,679,689.43	14,541,288.60	16,544,511.03
Subprogramme 4 - Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures			
HRCB - Director Office - Coordination and Management	1,715,184.00	1,733,400.00	1,672,323.26
HRCB - Human Rights Council Activities	2,716,679.00	2,445,629.08	2,175,788.68
HRCB - HRC and UPR Webcasting	348,275.00	304,900.00	299,412.80
UPRB - Universal Periodic Review Branch	350,553.00	344,900.00	353,974.87
SPB - Support to Special Procedures	6,463,043.00	4,810,700.00	5,619,193.24
SPB - Coordination, Information and Communication Unit	218,419.00	151,397.29	153,440.09
SPB - Support to Special Procedures Mandates	5,371,329.16	2,959,649.45	3,500,041.00
Subtotal subprogramme 4	17,183,482.16	12,750,575.82	13,774,173.94
Total programme of work (subprogramme 1 to 4)	70,110,125.92	51,018,220.91	54,021,131.12
Programme Support and Management Services			
PSMS - Information Technologies Section	2,979,014.37	2,518,500.00	2,581,768.03
PSMS - Programme Support and Management Services	8,293,527.00	6,988,200.00	7,115,453.62
PSMS - OIOS /Auditor (UNOG)	287,395.29	254,000.00	279,359.45
Subtotal PSMS	11,559,936.66	9,760,700.00	9,976,581.10
Total headquarters	105,471,658.44	82,888,787.05	84,910,148.69

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
FIELD PRESENCES			
Africa			
Burkina Faso - Country Office (new project)	0.00	159,871.62	0.00
Burkina Faso - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	542,678.32	292,500.00	386,597.01
Burkina Faso - (PBF) Appui au Processus de Réconciliation Nationale (new project)	0.00	100,000.00	0.00
Burundi - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	194,026.31	0.00	139,321.48
Burundi - Human Rights Adviser	861,353.80	753,800.00	575,106.85
Central Africa (Yaoundé) - Sub-Regional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy	534,143.09	557,700.00	359,509.80
Central Africa (Yaoundé) - Integrating Human Rights into the Covid-19 Response and Recovery	835,533.30	0.00	453,146.87
Central African Republic - Peace Mission Support	79,100.00	0.00	39,812.85
Chad - Country Office	1,620,614.72	1,528,971.96	1,320,652.02
Chad - (PBF) Appui à un transition institutionell et politique inclusiveet apaisée (new project)	0.00	400,000.00	0.00
Chad - (PBF) Appui à la mise en place d'un Observatoire de la Promotion de l'Égalité et de l'Équité de genre (new project)	0.00	350,000.00	0.00
Chad - (PBF) Peace Consolidation	112,036.49	0.00	31,925.44
Congo-Brazzaville - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser (new project)	0.00	17,900.00	0.00
DRC - (PBF) Appui aux ex-Combattants et Communautés au Kasai	993,029.55	354,491.22	300,340.46
DRC - HR Promotion and Protection in the Electoral Context (Election II)	3,467,775.88	2,573,867.72	2,902,952.61
DRC - Human Rights Due Dilligence and Profiling (HRDDP)	778,171.39	0.00	774,694.72
DRC - (MPTF) Inception Phase 4th Funding Round	100,000.06	100,000.00	9,458.80
DRC - (MPTF) Lutte contre les VBG-Justice	179,132.98	50,855.82	163,631.06
DRC - (PBF) Le Droit des Femmes - Sud Kivu	324,432.56	175,305.60	233,136.72
DRC - (PBF) Reconciliation in Kasai	350,019.47	0.00	327,930.75
DRC - (PBF) Renforcer la Justice et la Réinsertion Socio-Economique pour et par les Jeunes	280,389.22	280,389.65	37,263.74
DRC - (PBF) Renforcer le Rôle des Femmes et des Jeunes dans la Gouvernance Locale au Kasai	390,057.74	158,229.00	90,521.18
DRC - Transitional Justice, Fight against Impunity, Protection	567,584.00	914,634.15	510,041.67

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
DRC - Women Protection Adviser	499,110.83	475,847.07	360,168.69
East Africa (Addis Ababa) - Regional Office	3,997,203.24	3,011,503.10	3,139,177.08
Equatorial Guinea - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	283,627.04	169,900.00	176,298.30
Eswatini - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	253,384.56	46,800.00	8,822.79
Ethiopia - Human Rights Priorities	1,814,283.93	450,355.12	1,101,586.86
Ethiopia - Joint Investigation on Human Rights Violations in the Tigray region	2,181,918.13	2,105,375.68	1,662,308.91
Ethiopia - (OCHA) Protection and Monitoring in Areas of Return and Newly Affected with Conflicts	160,929.09	0.00	144,201.79
Ethiopia - (OCHA) Protection and Monitoring in the Areas of IDPs/Returnees and Host Communities	287,295.00	449,999.20	314,340.89
Ethiopia - (OCHA) Protection and Monitoring in the Areas of IDPs/Returnees and Host Communities (new project)	0.00	315,286.20	0.00
Gambia - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser (new project)	0.00	48,600.00	0.00
Gambia - (PBF) Support to the Implementation and Monitoring of the Truth (new project)	0.00	112,500.07	0.00
Gambia - (PBF) Transitional Justice	120,274.42	0.00	120,320.45
Guinea - Country Office	2,920,808.18	2,861,181.66	2,586,417.67
Guinea - (PBF) Action Concertée des Jeunes Leaders Communautaires	256,960.50	262,899.00	78,750.57
Guinea - (PBF) Prévention des Conflicts Intercommunautaires	452,910.67	138,030.00	112,937.05
Guinea Bissau - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	232,562.36	0.00	184,382.25
Guinea Bissau - (PBF) Enhancing the Human Rights Protection System (new project)	0.00	273,697.76	0.00
Kenya - Human Rights Adviser	851,723.94	755,300.00	741,274.21
Kenya - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	279,317.08	293,800.00	273,854.53
Kenya - (UN WOMEN) Amplifying Women's Voices in the Prevention of Violence against Women (new project)	0.00	93,632.00	0.00
Kenya - (UN WOMEN) GVB-Survivors Access to Justice	167,644.39	167,644.00	167,635.18
Lesotho - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	376,058.52	333,900.00	377,258.03
Lesotho - (PBF) Effective Implementation of NSS Reforms for Peacebuilding	288,275.12	102,046.00	244,273.26
Liberia - Country Office	1,794,798.21	1,624,011.99	1,702,657.02
Liberia - (MPTF/EU) Spotlight initiative for SGBV Programme	733,098.73	291,163.73	710,456.87

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Liberia - (PBF) Women Peace and Security	144,625.48	0.00	147,505.00
Liptako-Gourma Region - (MPTF) Programme Régional Conjoint d'Appui à la Mise en Oeuvre des Activités de Coopération	531,541.76	537,251.28	17,836.17
Madagascar - (PBF) Appui à une Gouvernance Démocratique*	44,365.33	120,757.06	-133,970.94
Madagascar - Human Rights Adviser	248,074.55	255,500.00	28,642.45
Madagascar - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	320,268.12	321,900.00	318,802.88
Madagascar - (PBF) Soutien à la Protection des Jeunes Défenseurs des Droits de l'Homme	440,116.68	630,000.00	122,139.79
Malawi - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	270,410.40	245,700.00	222,769.79
Mali - (PBF) Approche Intégrée pour Lutter contre l'Impunité	687,779.95	307,847.35	333,537.21
Mali - (EU) Force Conjointe G5-Sahel	8,393,097.12	3,632,315.20	7,995,406.49
Mali - Force Conjointe G5-Sahel	1,398,516.23	1,231,828.66	1,424,306.91
Mali - (EU) Force Conjointe G5-Sahel - Support to the Internal Security Forces	5,103,355.22	0.00	2,404,768.80
Mali - Peace Mission Support	189,862.60	146,100.00	159,436.77
Mauritania - Country Office	1,706,503.40	1,473,187.93	1,554,955.81
Mozambique - Advancing the Human Rights Agenda	632,022.56	296,900.00	430,655.78
Mozambique - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	5,457.00	55,200.00	4,272.54
Mozambique - (UNHCR) Human Rights Mainstreaming and Support to the Protection Cluster in Cabo Delgado (new project)	0.00	140,000.00	0.00
Niger - Human Rights Adviser	679,762.80	644,668.20	709,284.93
Nigeria - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	345,391.72	274,100.00	301,623.49
Nigeria - (PBF) Farmer Herder Crisis*	17,734.18	0.00	-13,778.59
Rwanda - Human Rights Adviser	244,557.99	175,700.00	211,865.50
Rwanda - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	316,150.76	303,600.00	272,297.93
Senegal - Response to Human Rights Violations against LGBT+ People	64,304.91	76,083.91	26,581.11
Sierra Leone - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	294,023.16	62,000.00	11,518.30
Somalia - Peace Mission Support	470,674.38	284,469.76	308,082.16
Southern Africa (Pretoria) - Regional Office	1,170,127.43	862,780.06	922,816.62
South Africa - (MPTF) SDGs Joint Programme	7,490.00	66,498.00	23,592.00
South Africa - (MPTF) Strengthening Disability Inclusive Machinery	32,100.00	0.00	15,491.50

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
South Africa - (MPTF) Strengthening Migrant Integration and Social Cohesion	212,634.68	135,000.00	158,571.15
South Sudan - Peace Mission Support	126,899.00	84,700.00	72,204.79
Sudan (Darfur) - Peace Mission Support*	56,579.10	0.00	-30,479.99
Sudan - Country Office	5,720,032.00	4,350,155.82	4,452,653.32
Tanzania - (MPTF) Human Rights and Gender Equality Activities	111,033.90	0.00	67,841.69
Uganda - Country Office	4,133,708.37	4,021,574.33	3,399,252.28
Uganda - (PBF) Harnessing the Youth's Potential	183,039.55	0.00	161,459.77
Uganda - (UNDP) Strengthening Electoral Processes (SEPU)	209,768.15	299,834.00	207,143.07
West Africa (Dakar) - Regional Office	794,200.16	458,575.38	223,516.99
West Africa (Dakar) - Appui à la Protection des Enfants	1,603,759.28	39,156.09	761,278.38
West Africa (Dakar) - (UNODC) Human Rights-Based Response to Smuggling of Migrants	842,892.50	0.00	903,301.71
West Africa (Dakar) - (UNODC) PROMIS Project Phase III (new project)	0.00	2,117,898.74	0.00
Zambia - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	260,185.48	246,100.00	189,923.71
Zimbabwe - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	240,433.28	244,900.00	235,257.73
Subtotal Africa	68,415,742.00	47,294,271.11	51,485,531.43

Americas

Argentina - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	102,578.76	91,200.00	101,473.73
Barbados - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	166,885.76	25,400.00	0.00
Belize - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	103,692.63	101,700.00	100,591.19
Bolivia - (MPTF) Apoyando el Diálogo y los DDHH para la Construcción de Paz	163,912.23	180,000.00	80,133.85
Bolivia - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	153,532.16	136,500.00	123,589.19
Bolivia - Strengthen Respect for Human Rights	1,293,967.52	1,791,704.45	1,032,494.66
Brazil - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	161,208.34	136,300.00	132,852.41
Chile - Regional Office for South America	1,218,132.09	860,300.00	1,073,532.24
Colombia - Country Office	9,137,648.95	8,172,239.32	7,956,401.54
Colombia - (EU) Fortaleciendo la Garantía de los Derechos de Personas Defensoras de Derechos Humanos	947,946.17	1,048,313.02	283,228.04

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Costa Rica - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	245,795.05	252,900.00	235,449.29
Dominican Republic - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	268,612.80	12,300.00	241,915.81
Ecuador - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	129,178.96	138,400.00	125,140.60
Guatemala - Country Office	4,230,979.80	3,871,263.12	3,386,373.58
Guatemala - (EU) Country Office	115,026.07	35,392.78	90,895.77
Guatemala - (MPTF) Establishing Preconditions to Institutionalize the Rights of Guatemalans with Disability (new project)	0.00	155,000.00	0.00
Guatemala - (MPTF) Implementation of the Gender Responsive Integrated National Household Social Registry	89,131.00	0.00	48,687.26
Guatemala - (MPTF) Maya Programme for Indigenous People's Rights - Phase III	616,807.77	577,219.00	510,156.82
Guatemala - (PBF) Independence of Justice (new project)	0.00	327,538.19	0.00
Guatemala - (PBF) Juventudes Mayas y Mestizas Organizadas (new project)	0.00	319,501.80	0.00
Guyana - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	83,374.40	81,500.00	77,611.52
Haiti - Peace Mission Support	854,044.96	652,504.59	703,904.51
Haiti - (IOM) Strengthened Protection of Haitian Migrants and IDPs (new project)	0.00	113,160.53	0.00
Honduras - Country Office	4,390,115.54	3,156,524.21	3,363,416.82
Honduras - (PBF) Prevenir y Gestionar la Conflictividad Social Vinculada a la Tierra y Territorio (new project)	0.00	901,806.05	0.00
Honduras - (PBF) Promoviendo Transparencia para la Prevención de Conflictos	681,123.48	288,467.46	397,325.13
Jamaica - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	349,705.96	351,500.00	327,888.99
Mexico - Country Office	2,332,775.39	2,238,897.75	2,160,389.41
Mexico - National Law on Disappearances	82,041.39	0.00	64,711.47
Mexico - (MPTF/EU) Spotlight Initiative for SGBV Programme	204,639.64	0.00	162,276.66
Mexico - (UNFPA) Extraordinary Forensic Identification Mechanism (new project)	0.00	51,531.00	0.00
Nicaragua - Monitoring, Documenting and Reporting on the Human Rights Situation	476,065.61	548,753.07	411,528.03
Panama - Regional Office for Central America	602,291.13	481,290.00	416,477.51
Panama - El Salvador - (PBF) Fortalecimiento de la Paz y los Derechos Humanos	459,715.87	700,000.00	17,185.12
Panama - El Salvador - Human Rights Engagement	779,229.92	992,432.76	552,598.67
Panama - El Salvador - Transitional Justice	291,055.23	290,000.00	118,450.90

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Paraguay - Human Rights Adviser	146,289.80	8,800.00	139,529.26
Paraguay - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	107,112.35	108,700.00	104,564.50
Peru - Promoting and Protecting Human Rights (new project)	0.00	112,612.61	0.00
Peru - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	132,296.94	132,100.00	121,767.63
Suriname - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	13,702.42	22,800.00	12,927.33
Trinidad y Tobago - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	164,858.11	143,300.00	130,211.87
Uruguay - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	221,828.12	230,700.00	220,799.07
Venezuela - Monitoring, Documentation and Reporting on the Human Rights Situation	1,303,064.02	779,445.39	1,219,957.07
Venezuela - Promotion and Protection of Human Rights of Migrants and Refugees	262,970.21	112,612.61	124,039.39
Venezuela - (EU) Support to OHCHR's Work	868,758.68	1,162,790.70	642,723.58
Subtotal Americas	33,952,095.23	31,895,400.42	27,013,200.42

Asia and the Pacific

Afghanistan - Peace Mission Support	294,438.45	324,214.76	117,642.91
Bangladesh - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	414,285.81	334,000.00	325,795.34
Cambodia - Country Office	1,827,024.68	1,904,682.68	1,572,611.05
Cambodia - (EU) Human Rights-Based Prevention to Sustain Development	620,946.68	607,027.30	315,943.28
Cambodia - (UNESCO) Building Back Better through Participation (new project)	0.00	289,766.00	0.00
Cambodia - (UNESCO) Monitoring, Reporting and Analysis of the Safety of Journalists and Freedom of Expression	39,824.33	176,651.30	32,406.85
Cambodia - (UNTFHS) Sihanoukville for All: Promoting a Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive City	139,384.62	0.00	54,873.67
DPRK - Country Office (based in Seoul)	241,453.88	74,476.91	27,089.02
Malaysia - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	280,959.72	114,100.00	279,431.93
Maldives - Human Rights Adviser	79,158.76	86,500.00	43,579.64
Maldives - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	322,256.18	188,500.00	96,441.52
Mongolia - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	71,523.08	73,400.00	66,346.29
Myanmar - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	222,838.20	91,400.00	148,285.31
Myanmar - Promotion and Protection of Human Rights	2,284,320.99	1,130,263.89	1,555,986.12

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Nepal - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	91,900.16	96,100.00	67,437.55
Pacific Region (Suva) - Regional Office	1,283,231.39	772,831.91	813,117.20
Pacific Region (Suva) - (UNTFHS) Migrants and Communities Affected by Climate Change	205,106.50	133,807.48	101,156.12
Papua New Guinea - Human Rights Adviser	413,781.14	278,780.05	248,384.57
Papua New Guinea - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	214,097.37	144,400.00	145,149.78
Philippines - Human Rights Adviser	86,958.02	243,567.33	78,712.19
Philippines - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	311,345.34	217,100.00	219,640.61
Philippines - UN Joint Programme on Human Rights (new project)	0.00	319,266.21	0.00
South-East Asia (Bangkok) - Regional Office	1,251,599.30	857,031.91	802,921.48
South-East Asia (Bangkok) - (UN WOMEN) Access to Justice for Women in Asia-Pacific	134,601.72	127,480.00	62,482.24
South-East Asia (Bangkok) - (EU) Democratic Space in Thailand	459,140.21	0.00	246,094.66
South-East Asia (Bangkok) - Strengthening Capacity of Regional Actors to Promote Human Rights Accountability	3,269,954.00	2,127,535.35	2,713,498.59
Sri Lanka - Human Rights Adviser	369,867.08	98,616.55	184,606.99
Sri Lanka - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	238,909.60	257,900.00	242,096.95
Timor Leste - Human Rights Adviser	267,865.37	340,080.05	198,126.92
Timor Leste - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	233,670.88	279,600.00	257,015.14
Subtotal Asia and the Pacific	15,670,443.46	11,689,079.68	11,016,873.92

Europe and Central Asia

Azerbaijan - (EU) Protecting Human Rights of Vulnerable Groups	765,780.81	822,577.06	433,588.96
Belarus - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	268,171.96	180,100.00	143,697.72
Belarus - Human Rights Adviser/ Human Rights National Action Plan	382,042.83	0.00	120,956.33
Bosnia and Herzegovina - Human Rights Adviser (new project)	0.00	87,209.30	0.00
Bosnia and Herzegovina - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	295,700.92	0.00	196,876.77
Central Asia (Bishkek) - Regional Office	791,598.90	703,800.00	553,995.48
Central Asia (Bishkek) - (EU) Support to States in Central Asia for their Citizens Returned from Conflict Zones (new project)	0.00	117,721.40	0.00

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Europe (Brussels) - Regional Office	694,488.96	500,800.00	402,034.91
Georgia - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	292,578.14	324,600.00	285,384.69
Georgia - (MPTF/EU) Human Rights for All	416,836.69	416,837.00	412,018.17
Georgia - (MPTF) Leave no one behind, from policy and principles to practice in disability inclusive development (new project)	0.00	100,000.00	0.00
Georgia - (MPTF) SDGs Joint Programme	128,181.72	0.00	121,293.40
Kyrgyzstan - (PBF) Inclusive Governance and Shared Identity for Sustainable Peace and Development (new project)	0.00	595,000.00	0.00
Kyrgyzstan - (PBF) Violent Extremism	64,712.80	0.00	64,712.80
Macedonia - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	95,880.56	70,200.00	78,754.60
Moldova (Republic of) - Human Rights Adviser	311,510.49	261,100.00	284,684.51
Moldova (Republic of) - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	222,084.92	228,900.00	228,315.16
Moldova (Republic of) - (MPTF) Paradigm Shift to Disability Inclusive Services (new project)	0.00	165,152.00	0.00
Moldova (Republic of) - (MPTF) SDGs partnership 2030/ Support and Empowerment of old Women	14,578.75	79,234.00	14,578.75
Moldova (Republic of) - (MPTF) Transnistria	227,700.28	185,511.00	206,051.31
Montenegro - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	204,271.56	209,900.00	205,818.86
Russian Federation - Human Rights Adviser	740,891.28	590,000.00	707,830.54
Russian Federation - Projects on Human Rights Awareness Raising and Training Activities	67,800.00	0.00	59,890.00
Serbia - Human Rights Adviser	275,229.58	132,100.00	243,246.70
Serbia - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	96,210.12	83,600.00	94,090.87
Serbia - (UNOPS) Social Housing and Active Inclusion Programme (new project)	0.00	62,000.00	0.00
Southern Caucasus - Human Rights Advisers	504,382.28	348,322.52	412,336.05
Support in CIS Region - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser (new project)	0.00	43,900.00	0.00
Ukraine - HRMMU/Protection Cluster	6,363,413.07	6,227,924.66	5,319,595.32
Ukraine - (PBF) Building a Constituency for Peace (new project)	0.00	75,000.00	0.00
Subtotal Europe and Central Asia	13,224,046.62	12,611,488.94	10,589,751.90

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Middle East and North Africa			
Iraq - Peace Mission Support	253,549.40	136,600.00	129,321.35
Iraq - Peace Mission Support - Accountability for Abduction and Torture	408,174.94	0.00	334,309.02
Iraq - Peace Mission Support - Rights of Religious Minorities	254,583.35	205,862.75	3,758.49
Jordan - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	294,476.84	256,000.00	264,912.08
Libya - Peace Mission Support	151,985.00	17,201.83	114,587.12
Middle East (Beirut) - Regional Office	2,593,378.25	2,049,586.49	2,016,570.83
Middle East (Beirut) - (PBF) Lebanon, Dealing with the Past	763,260.44	193,000.00	665,164.43
Middle East (Beirut) - Rights of Religious Minorities*	166,442.22	-11,200.00	155,435.07
Saudi Arabia - Financial and Technical Assistance through the Saudi Human Rights Commission (in coordination with ROME)	1,639,277.44	854,244.38	817,675.90
South West and Arab Region (Doha) - Training and Documentation Centre	365,799.08	236,400.00	165,607.68
State of Palestine *** - Stand Alone Office	2,308,949.34	2,158,115.55	1,406,092.74
State of Palestine - (EU) Implementing Palestine's Human Rights Treaty Obligations	858,730.64	0.00	758,671.27
State of Palestine - Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the oPt	562,191.95	0.00	492,594.12
Syria - (EU) Advancing Justice and Human Rights	2,012,123.23	0.00	1,258,875.09
Syria - International Response to the Human Rights Situation in Syria (Refugees/IDPs/TJ)	1,486,927.46	1,430,492.53	1,550,466.02
Support (UNOCT) on Syria/Iraq Third Country National Returnees	55,116.00	55,116.00	36,652.85
Tunisia - Country Office	2,069,344.14	579,267.15	1,145,420.98
Tunisia - (UNESCO) NAP-Empowering the Education System and School Communities through the Promotion of Human Rights (new project)	0.00	25,479.00	0.00
Yemen - Country Office	5,458,300.02	4,384,517.94	3,841,483.45
Subtotal Middle East and North Africa	21,702,609.74	12,570,683.63	15,157,598.49
Contingency Fund			
Contingency Fund - Emergency Response Projects	421,730.66	468,229.43	468,229.43
Subtotal Contingency Fund	421,730.66	468,229.43	285,438.37
Total field presences	153,386,667.71	116,529,153.21	115,548,394.53

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Cross Entities Global Projects			
Human Rights Up Front Action Plan	963,302.00	818,121.46	918,418.96
OHCHR - Sustainable Environmental Management	340,130.00	288,700.00	236,474.51
Task Force ESCRs, SDGs and Prevention	1,117,813.00	1,050,900.00	902,979.79
Right to Freedom of Religion or Belief	320,230.35	532,500.00	363,966.16
Support to Digital Transformation of UN Human Rights (new project)	0.00	1,848,365.81	0.00
Support to Human Rights Advisers (MPTF) - HQ Coordination and Regional Workshops	267,500.00	267,500.00	195,402.99
Subtotal Cross Entities Global Projects	3,008,975.35	4,806,087.27	2,617,242.41
Total headquarters and field presences	261,867,301.50	204,224,027.53	203,075,785.63
OTHER TRUST FUNDS			
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	10,662,450.00	10,526,379.56	8,956,355.85
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples	557,637.00	51,013.11	255,343.57
Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	977,055.00	1,499,668.03	846,619.47
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Technical Assistance	572,975.00	211,627.91	558,780.23
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Participation	317,055.00	103,705.69	230,156.88
Trust Fund for Participation of LDCs and SIDS in the Work of the HRC	630,003.00	466,034.16	448,660.81
Total other trust funds	13,717,175.00	12,858,428.46	11,295,916.81
Other income/expenditure			
Unearmarked reserves for allocations to project requirements (HCA trust fund)	0.00	10,590,815.04	0.00
Reserves for allocations to VFTC project requirements (AHA trust fund)	0.00	64,331.13	0.00
Other income/expenditure not reported above **	20,583.40	-1,105,733.98	-501,830.92
Subtotal other income/expenditure	20,583.40	9,549,412.19	-501,830.92
Grand total	275,605,059.90	226,631,868.18	213,869,871.52

* Includes prior period income and/or expenditure adjustments.

** Includes miscellaneous income and interest for 2021 and prior period expenditure adjustments not reported above.

*** All references to the State of Palestine hereafter should be understood in compliance with General Assembly resolution 67/19.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT (EDM)**Voluntary contributions in 2021**

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
Saudi Arabia	62,433	EDM
(a) Total contributions to EDM	62,433	
Australia	142,755	Response to reprisals
Canada	7,743	Anti-racism live global digital experience (21 March)
Ireland	176,887	Response to reprisals
Italy	30,266	Response to reprisals
Netherlands	750,746	Model national human rights-based counter-terrorism responses
Norway	215,776	Response to reprisals
UN EOSG	18,725	Disability inclusion guidance
United Kingdom	348,675	Response to reprisals
UNDP (Conflict-Related Sexual Violence)	443,756	UN Team of Experts on sexual violence in conflict
UNOCT	159,479	Human rights aspects of the use of artificial intelligence in counter-terrorism
(b) Total contributions to specific sections/projects	2,294,808	
(c) Total contributions earmarked to EDM (a) + (b)	2,357,242	
Unearmarked funds allocated to EDM*	17,757,300	Unearmarked
(d) Total unearmarked funds	17,757,300	
(e) Total XB funds available for EDM (c) + (d)	20,114,542	

*Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2021.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT (EDM)**RB & XB funds made available for EDM in 2021**

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
RB funds		
Regular budget allotment for EDM	8,193,100	100.0%
Subtotal RB funds	8,193,100	27.0%
XB funds		
Earmarked funds to EDM	62,433	0.3%
Earmarked funds for specific sections/projects	2,294,808	10.4%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	-5,775	0.0%
Unearmarked funds from 2021 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to EDM	17,757,300	80.3%
Prior period income adjustments, including prior period unearmarked funds allocated by OHCHR to EDM	2,001,100	9.1%
Subtotal XB funds	22,109,866	73.0%
Total RB + XB funds	30,302,966	100.0%

RESEARCH AND RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT DIVISION (RRDD)

Voluntary contributions in 2021

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
-	0	
(a) Total contributions to RRDD	0	
Australia	35,689	Activities in the Asia-Pacific region (allocated to the Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Section)
Belgium	675,676	Rule of law and democracy Section
Call for Code	56,250	Climate change
	20,000	OHCHR's work on addressing the negative impact of the legacies of colonialism on the enjoyment of human rights
	20,000	OHCHR's work related to addressing social inequalities
China	20,000	OHCHR's work related to combating racial discrimination
	40,000	OHCHR's work related to protection of the rights of indigenous peoples
	20,000	OHCHR's work related to protection of the rights of migrants
	100,000	OHCHR's work related to right to development
Cisco Systems, Inc.	10,000	B-Tech project on new technologies and their impact on human rights
Cyprus	11,468	Environment/climate change activities
	11,468	Gender-related activities (including SGBV)
Czech Republic	14,071	Draft guidelines on the effective implementation of the right to participate in public affairs
David Clark Cause, Inc.	20,000	Climate change
Denmark	160,488	Indigenous Fellowship Programme 2020-2021
Education Above All	101,509	Human rights of youth
Facebook	50,000	B-Tech project on new technologies and their impact on human rights
Finland	73,171	Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Section
	394,144	Women human rights and gender Section
Ford Foundation	200,000	Indigenous Fellowship Programme

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
	477,897	Accountability
	118,501	Business and human rights in technology
	179,211	Catalysing rights-based environmental action for people and planet
	470,970	Frontier issues (environment/climate change and migration)
Germany	288,584	Promoting business and human rights in Africa and informing the BHR agenda of Germany's G7 Presidency
	82,327	Promoting rights-based climate action and economic policies for a sustainable and inclusive recovery from COVID-19
	354,191	Women human rights and gender
Ireland	176,887	Civic space
Japan	240,159	Accountability
Liechtenstein	107,411	Accountability
Microsoft	600,000	To support OHCHR's work relating to human rights online, innovation and technology, business and human rights, and advocacy
	1,000,000	UN Free & Equal
Netherlands	2,071,000	Freedom of expression, press freedom and safety of journalists
	119,875	Accountability and remedy project
	215,776	Expert mechanism on the rights of indigenous peoples
	743,227	OHCHR's work for child and youth rights
Norway	383,601	Protecting and expanding civil society space
	443,539	Support of freedom of religion and belief and the protection of religious minorities
	167,825	Sustainable Development Goals and human rights indicators
	359,626	Counter discrimination against LGBTI people
	479,501	Women's rights, including sexual and reproductive health and rights
Poland	12,483	Accountability
	150,000	New and emerging digital technologies and human rights
Republic of Korea	50,000	Rule of law and democracy Section
Right Here Right Now	100,000	Climate Team

	600,000	Anti-discrimination
	55,000	Meetings of the Global Action Plan of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages
Russian Federation	25,000	Permanent Forum of People with African Descent
	30,000	Regional training for representatives of the indigenous peoples of the Russian Federation
	100,000	Anti-discrimination
	65,000	Disabilities
Saudi Arabia	102,433	Environment/climate change activities
	55,000	Methodology, Education and training
	100,000	Right to development
	50,000	Women human rights and gender Section
Silatech	25,377	Human rights of youth
	22,523	Accountability (including in Afghansitan and Belarus)
Slovenia	11,261	Minority issues (including regional meetings)
Spain	304,054	Gender rights (including in the Americas and Afghanistan)
	60,000	Gender accreditation programme
Switzerland	60,000	Migrants in Libya
The Schmidt Family Foundation/11th Hour Project	250000	Human rights defenders and online civic space
Twitter, Inc.	15,000	B-Tech project on new technologies and their impact on human rights
UN EOSG	27,958	Renewing the UN approach to transitional justice
	599,053	HRM Common Country Analysis
UNDP	251,450	UNPRPD - Disability Fund
United Kingdom	131,689	UN Free & Equal
Wellspring Philanthropic Fund	100,000	Support for review of criminal codes in compliance with international human rights standards
(b) Total contributions to specific sections/projects	14,467,325	
(c) Total contributions earmarked to RRDD (a) + (b)	14,467,325	
Unearmarked funds allocated to RRDD projects*	5,475,500	Unearmarked
(d) Total unearmarked funds	5,475,500	
(e) TOTAL XB FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR RRDD (c) + (d)	19,942,825	

*Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2021.

RESEARCH AND RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT DIVISION (RRDD)

RB & XB funds made available for RRDD in 2021

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
RB funds		
Regular budget allotment for RRDD	16,972,764	100.0%
Subtotal RB funds	16,972,764	44.5%
XB funds		
Earmarked funds to RRDD - all projects	0	0.0%
Earmarked funds for specific sections/projects	14,467,325	68.3%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	-162,208	-0.8%
Unearmarked funds from 2021 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to RRDD	5,475,500	25.9%
Prior period income adjustments, including prior period unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to RRDD	1,389,712	6.6%
Subtotal XB funds	21,170,329	55.5%
Total RB + XB funds	38,143,093	100.0%

HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES BRANCH (HRTB)**Voluntary contributions in 2021**

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
Germany	472,255	HRTB
Netherlands	500,000	HRTB
Qatar	150,000	HRTB
Republic of Korea	200,000	HRTB
(a) Total contributions to HRTB - all bodies	1,322,255	
Czech Republic	9,381	OPCAT Special Fund
Denmark	200,610	OPCAT Special Fund 2020-2021
France	48,780	Convention on Enforced Disappearances (ratification guide)
	60,976	OPCAT Special Fund
	70,838	Petitions Unit (Digital transformation)
Germany	118,064	OPCAT Special Fund
Mexico	68,322	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
Portugal	23,209	OPCAT Special Fund
Spain	22,523	OPCAT Special Fund
(b) Total contributions to specific bodies/projects	622,702	
(c) Total contributions earmarked to HRTB (a) + (b)	1,944,957	
Unearmarked funds allocated to HRTB*	673,500	Unearmarked
(d) Total unearmarked funds	673,500	
(e) Total XB funds available for HRTB (c) + (d)	2,618,457	

*Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2021.

HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES DIVISION (HRTB)**RB & XB funds made available for HRTB in 2021**

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
RB funds		
Regular budget allotment for HRTB	16,827,500	100.0%
Subtotal RB funds	16,827,500	86.8%
XB funds		
Earmarked funds to HRTB - all bodies	1,322,255	51.7%
Earmarked funds for HRTB specific bodies/projects	187,941	7.4%
Earmarked funds to OPCAT Special Fund	434,761	17.0%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	-17,495	-0.7%
Unearmarked funds from 2021 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to HRTB	673,500	26.3%
Prior period income adjustments, including prior period unearmarked funds allocated by OHCHR to HRTB	-44,935	-1.8%
Subtotal XB funds	2,556,028	13.2%
Total RB + XB funds	19,383,528	100.0%

FIELD OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION DIVISION (FOTCD)**Voluntary contributions in 2021**

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
	749,465	Activities in the Asia-Pacific Region
Australia	499,643	Activities in the Asia-Pacific Region*
	271,950	The Philippines (UN Joint Programme)*
	249,822	National Human Rights Institutions
Austria	29,727	Bosnia and Herzegovina (including work o media freedom)
	907,990	Democratic Republic of the Congo (transitional justice, fight against impunity and protection in Kasai and Ituri)
Belgium	563,063	Guinea
	563,063	Uganda
Brazil	9,779	Nicaragua
	158,856	Bolivia
	393,939	Colombia
	490,699	Ethiopia - OHCHR-EHRC joint investigation HR violations in the Tigray region
	432,050	Guatemala (strengthening rights of indigenous and other discriminated women)
Canada	506,483	Honduras (strengthening the promotion, monitoring and respect for women, girl and LGBTI rights)
	181,818	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	38,951	Senegal (response to human rights violations of LGBTI people)
	90,909	Sri Lanka*
	121,212	Sudan
	121,212	Venezuela
Counterpart International	300,000	El Salvador (supporting transitional justice)
Cyprus	11,468	Regional Office for Middle East and North Africa
	14,071	Belarus
Czech Republic	14,071	Venezuela

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
	320,821	Ethiopia - OHCHR-EHRC joint investigation HR violations in the Tigray region
Denmark	4,496,547	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*
Estonia	33,784	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	822,577	Azerbaijan (protecting human rights of vulnerable groups)
	612,241	Cambodia (human rights-based prevention to sustain development)
	117,721	Central Asia (support for citizens returned from conflict zones)
	1,048,313	Colombia
	1,432,315	G5 Sahel (support to the establishment and implementation of human rights and humanitarian law compliance framework for the operations of the G5 Sahel Joint Force)
European Commission	35,393	Guatemala (protection of human rights defenders)
	2,139,840	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	2,466,837	Sudan
	1,162,791	Venezuela (Fortalecimiento de las organizaciones de la sociedad civil en el contexto de las restricciones del espacio cívico y democrático)
Finland	2,439,024	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*
	60,976	Belarus
	60,976	Burkina Faso
	146,341	Chad*
	73,171	Contingency Fund
France	182,927	Guinea
	73,171	Mauritania*
	182,927	Regional Office for Middle East and North Africa
	243,902	Tunisia

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
Germany	149,343	Bolivia
	88,548	Bosnia*
	159,872	Burkina Faso*
	225,225	Cambodia
	112,613	Contingency Fund
	246,942	Egypt
	181,598	Ethiopia - OHCHR-EHRC joint investigation HR violations in the Tigray region
	590,348	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	293,745	Iran
	44,998	Mexico (support office's work on disappearances)*
	236,128	Myanmar
	955,795	OHCHR's Emergency Response Section
	236,128	OHCHR's work in the State of Palestine*
	85,679	Sri Lanka*
	177,096	Syria
	168,235	Tunisia
	238,949	Venezuela
1,590,300	Yemen	
India	200,000	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*
IOM	113,161	Haiti (response to the needs of vulnerable Haitian migrants and displaced persons)*
Ireland	298,329	Colombia
	121,065	Syria
Italy	227,015	Afghanistan*
	56,306	Bolivia*
	168,919	Venezuela

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
Japan	18,181	Cambodia
Lithuania	22,523	Georgia
	18,293	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
Luxembourg	291,375	Myanmar
	563,063	Regional Office in East Africa
Malta	450,450	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*
	17,202	Libya
Netherlands	460,136	Democratic Republic of the Congo (human rights promotion and protection in the electoral context)
	24,477	DPRK (outreach and capacity development in relation to accountability for human rights)
Norway	36,779	Senegal (response to human rights violations of LGBTI people)
	636,100	Yemen
Norway	1,330,616	Colombia
	599,377	Democratic Republic of the Congo
	695,277	Ethiopia
	599,377	G5 Sahel
	359,626	Haiti*
	479,501	Myanmar
	167,825	Nicaragua
	503,476	OHCHR's work in the State of Palestine*
	215,776	Iraq (protection of religious minorities)
	179,813	Regional Office for Southern Africa
1,138,816	Sahel region (Chad, Mauritania and Niger)*	
479,501	Southern Africa / Emergency Response Team	
719,252	Strengthening Early Warning and Response	

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
	119,875	Sudan
Norway	239,751	Uganda
	215,776	Venezuela
	479,501	West Africa / Emergency Response Team
OCHA	765,285	Ethiopia (protection monitoring in areas of IDPs/returnees and post-election human rights monitoring)
OIF	16,685	Benin and Chad* (workshops to strengthen NHRIs capacities to monitor human rights particularly in electoral context)
Philippines	50,000	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*
Poland	12,483	Contingency Fund
	24,967	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
Qatar	175,000	Human rights at the heart of COVID-19 response
	500,000	Middle East and North Africa
	100,000	National Human Rights Institutions
	200,000	Asia Pacific Branch
	50,000	Cambodia
Republic of Korea	50,000	Contingency Fund
	100,000	Emergency Response Section
	50,000	Field-based structure on DPRK
	50,000	National Human Rights Institutions
	50,000	OHCHR's partnership activities with Justice Rapid Response
	50,000	Pacific / Emergency Response Team
	50,000	The Philippines (UN Joint Programme)

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
	100,000	Belarus (to achieve SDGs)
Russian Federation	50,000	Bolivia
	100,000	Regional Office for Central Asia (capacity building and digitalization)
	50,000	Russian Federation (activities of the Federal and Regional Ombudspersons for human rights in the Russian Federation)*
	500,000	Russian Federation (consolidating the Human Rights Master's Programme)*
	40,000	Russian Federation (regional seminars on business and human rights)*
Saudi Arabia	200,000	OHCHR's work in the State of Palestine*
	200,000	Technical assistance for the MENA Region
	854,244	Technical assistance in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Spain	619,369	El Salvador
	157,658	Guatemala
	168,919	Honduras
	112,613	Peru
	112,613	Venezuela (human rights of migrants)
	112,613	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*
	2,217,179	Asia-Pacific (strengthening capacity of regional actors to promote human rights, accountability, democratic space and gender equality in the region)
Sweden	1,099,143	Bolivia
	1,535,010	Cambodia
	1,466,583	Colombia
	176,077	Contingency Fund (surge capacity and seed funding for the integration of human rights in COVID-19 responses to the pandemic)
	1,317,427	Democratic Republic of the Congo (enhancing and protecting the civic space and responding to conflict related sexual violence)
	539,610	El Salvador
	843,475	Ethiopia

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
Sweden	233,809	G5 Sahel
	1,913,876	Guatemala (countering racial discrimination and combating impunity)
	344,432	Honduras (supporting Honduras in advancing the human rights agenda)
	963,972	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	1,103,022	Liberia (support to the Independent National Human Rights Commission)
	264,064	Nicaragua
	1,173,847	Regional emergency response (COVID-19 and human rights)
	1,254,574	Sudan
	1,298,855	Uganda
Switzerland	15,000	Bolivia
	140,634	Colombia
	1,150,000	Honduras
	500,000	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	125,000	Nicaragua
	401,606	OHCHR's work in the State of Palestine*
	200,000	Sudan
	390,000	Syria
	100,000	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*
United Kingdom	1,033,292	Colombia (enhancing institutional capacity and accompanying victims in the search for truth, justice reparation and non-recurrence)
	767,488	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	1,335	OHCHR's work in the State of Palestine* (COVID-19 info available to persons with disabilities)
	540,541	Regional emergency response (COVID-19 and human rights)
	730,412	Syria

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
United States of America	3,100,000	Colombia
	1,000,000	Guatemala
	1,000,000	Honduras
	987,641	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	1,150,000	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*
	100,000	Regional Office for Central Asia
	180,000	Bolivia (PBF)
	100,000	Burkina Faso (PBF)
	25,000	Cambodia (UNDP)
	750,000	Chad (PBF)
UNDP (UN managed pooled and trust funds funding)	50,856	Democratic Republic of the Congo (JP)
	968,414	Democratic Republic of the Congo (PBF)
	100,000	Democratic Republic of the Congo (UNPRPD)
	700,000	El Salvador (PBF)
	112,500	Gambia (PBF)
	416,837	Georgia (national HR Action Plan)
	100,000	Georgia (UNPRPD)
	577,219	Guatemala (JP)
	647,040	Guatemala (PBF)
	155,000	Guatemala (UNPRPD)
400,929	Guinea (PBF)	
273,698	Guinea Bissau (PBF)	
1,190,274	Honduras (PBF)	
595,000	Kyrgyzstan (PBF)	
193,000	Lebanon (PBF)	

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
UNDP (UN managed pooled and trust funds funding)	102,046	Lesotho (PBF)
	291,164	Liberia (Spotlight)
	537,251	Liptako-Gourma Region (JP)
	750,757	Madagascar (PBF)
	307,847	Mali (PBF)
	79,234	Moldova (2030 SDGs Partnership)
	185,511	Moldova (HR in Transnistria)
	165,152	Moldova (UNPRPD)
	135,000	South Africa (Migration)
	66,498	South Africa (SDGs JP)
	299,834	Uganda (UNDP)
	75,000	Ukraine (PBF)
	8,418,566	UNDG-HRM - deployment of human rights advisers*
	466,447	Cambodia (freedom of expression and building back better through participation)
25,479	Tunisia (empowering the education system)	
UNESCO	26,000	Cambodia (Human Rights Day celebrations)
UNFPA	51,531	Mexico*
UNHCR - Mozambique	140,000	Mozambique (HR mainstreaming and support to the Protection Cluster in Cabo Delgado)*
UN Women	127,480	Access to justice for women in the Asia and the Pacific Region
	261,276	Kenya (SGBV)*
UNOCT	55,116	UN support on Syria/Iraq third country national returnees
	59,262	Uzbekistan
UNODC	2,117,899	Strengthening the capacities of West African states to develop a human rights-based response to smuggling of migrants and to effectively respond to human rights violations related to irregular migration

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING
UNOPS	62,000	Serbia (social housing and active inclusion programme)
UNTF for Human Security	133,807	Asia-Pacific (migrants and communities affected by climate change)
World Bank	380,291	Ethiopia (strengthening the AU early warning methodologies through the integration of a human rights-based approach into the AU Continental Early Warning System)
Private donors	500,000	Ethiopia - OHCHR-EHRC joint investigation HR violations in the Tigray region
Total earmarked contributions	103,107,455	
"Unearmarked funds allocated to FOTCD**"	23,799,460	Unearmarked
Total unearmarked funds	23,799,460	
Total XB funds available for FOTCD	126,906,915	

* Project financed/implemented through the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation.

** Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2021.

FIELD OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION DIVISION (FOTCD)**RB & XB funds made available for FOTCD in 2021**

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
RB funds		
Regular budget allotment for FOTCD - Headquarters	38,983,985	66.6%
Regular budget allotment for FOTCD - field presences	17,371,751	29.7%
Regular programme of technical cooperation for FOTCD - field presences	2,187,500	3.7%
Subtotal RB funds	58,543,236	30.9%
XB funds		
Earmarked funds to VFTC	8,998,635	6.9%
Earmarked funds for specific field presences/activities	93,684,477	71.5%
Earmarked funds for the Contingency Fund	424,344	0.3%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	-51,249	0.0%
Unearmarked funds from 2021 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to FOTCD	23,799,460	18.2%
Prior period income adjustments, including prior period unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to FOTCD	4,214,775	3.2%
Subtotal XB funds	131,070,442	69.1%
Total RB + XB funds	189,613,678	100.0%

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL BRANCH AND UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW BRANCH (HRCB/UPRB)**Voluntary contributions in 2021**

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
-	0	
(a) total contributions to HRCB/UPRB	0	
Republic of Korea	50,000	HRCB/Support to the work of the Advisory Committee of the Human Rights Council
Individual donor	23,419	HRCB
(b) Total specifically earmarked contributions	73,419	
(c) Total contributions earmarked to HRCB/UPRB (a) + (b)	73,419	
Unearmarked funds allocated to HRCB*	3,746,000	Unearmarked
Unearmarked funds allocated to UPRB*	303,800	Unearmarked
(d) Total unearmarked funds	4,049,800	
(e) Total XB funds available for HRCB (c) + (d)	4,123,219	

* Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2021.

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL BRANCH AND UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW BRANCH

(HRCB/UPRB) RB & XB funds made available for HRCB and UPRB in 2021

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
RB funds		
Regular budget allotment for HRCB	3,324,008	41.4%
Regular budget allotment for UPRB	4,705,033	58.6%
Subtotal RB funds	8,029,041	62.4%
XB funds		
Earmarked funds to HRCB/UPRB	0	0.0%
Earmarked funds for HRCB-specific activities	73,419	1.5%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	-390	0.0%
Unearmarked funds from 2021 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to HRCB	3,746,000	77.6%
Unearmarked funds from 2021 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to UPRB	303,800	6.3%
Prior period income adjustments, including prior period unearmarked funds allocated by OHCHR to HRCB	664,900	13.8%
Prior period income adjustments, including prior period unearmarked funds allocated by OHCHR to UPRB	41,100	0.9%
Subtotal XB funds	4,828,829	37.6%
Total RB + XB funds	12,857,870	100.0%

SPECIAL PROCEDURES BRANCH (SPB)

Voluntary contributions in 2021

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING/MANDATE
Luxembourg	22,523	SPB
Netherlands	1,000,000	SPB
(a) Total contributions to SPB - all mandates	1,022,523	Mandate / earmarking
Austria	47,562	Forum on minority issues
	23,781	Regional Forum on minority issues in Vienna
China	200,000	Negative impact of unilateral coercive measures
	130,000	Rights of migrants
Cyprus	11,468	Cultural rights
Czech Republic	14,071	Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association
	36,585	Sexual orientation and gender identity
France	121,951	WG on arbitrary detention
	121,951	WG on enforced and involuntary disappearances
	80,526	Adequate housing
	29,070	Environment
	59,032	Right to privacy
Germany	77,897	Trafficking in persons
	80,526	Water and sanitation
	303,398	WG on business and human rights
Hungary	18,360	Regional Forum on minority issues in Vienna
Ireland	33,784	Coordination Committee
	23,596	Coordination Committee
Luxembourg	23,596	Environment
Mexico	19,399	WG discrimination against women
Monaco	17,767	Environment

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING/MANDATE
	119,875	Coordination Committee
Norway	119,875	Support of freedom of religion and belief and the protection of religious minorities
	59,938	WG (incl. Forum) on business and human rights
Open Society Foundations	79,981	Debt, financial obligations and human rights
Qatar	25,000	Negative impact of unilateral coercive measures
	50,000	Environment
	50,000	Promotion of truth, justice, reparation
Republic of Korea	20,000	Rights of persons with disabilities
	50,000	Violence against women
	50,000	WG discrimination against women
	50,000	WG on enforced and involuntary disappearances
	50,000	Minority issues
	150,000	Negative impact of unilateral coercive measures
Russian Federation	50,000	Racism, xenophobia and related intolerance
	150,000	Countering terrorism
	50,000	WG business and human rights
	11,261	Climate change
	33,784	Human rights defenders
Spain	33,784	Rights of persons with disabilities
	33,784	Trafficking in persons
	33,784	Violence against women
	33,784	Water and sanitation

DONOR	PLEDGE US\$	EARMARKING/MANDATE
	50,034	Countering terrorism
	50,000	Freedom of peaceful assembly and association
Switzerland	36,829	Right to food
	140,000	Trafficking in persons
	50,000	Violence against women
(b) Total contributions to specific mandates	3,106,033	
(c) Total contributions earmarked to SPB (a) + (b)	4,128,555	
Unearmarked funds allocated to SPB*	3,810,700	Unearmarked
Unearmarked funds allocated to specific mandates*	99,000	Unearmarked
(d) Total unearmarked funds	3,909,700	
(e) Total XB funds available for SPB (c) + (d)	8,038,255	

*Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2021.

SPECIAL PROCEDURES BRANCH (SPB)**RB & XB funds made available for SPB in 2021**

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
RB funds		
Regular budget allotment for SPB	16,154,759	100.0%
Subtotal RB funds	16,154,759	67.1%
XB funds*		
Earmarked funds to SPB - all mandates	1,022,523	12.9%
Earmarked funds for specific mandates	3,106,033	39.2%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	-32,034	-0.4%
Unearmarked funds from 2021 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to SPB	3,810,700	48.1%
Unearmarked funds from 2021 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to SPB specific mandates	99,000	1.2%
Prior period income adjustments, including prior period unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to SPB	0	0.0%
Prior period income adjustments, including prior period unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to SPB specific mandates	-84,475	-1.1%
Subtotal XB funds	7,921,747	32.9%
Total RB + XB funds	24,076,506	100%

CROSS-ENTITY PROJECTS**Voluntary contributions in 2021**

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
	0	EDM
(a) Total contributions to EDM	0	
Belgium	337,838	Human Rights Mechanisms Digital Transformation
China	250,000	OHCHR's work related to Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
France	500,000	Human Rights Mechanisms Digital Transformation
Norway	239,751	Human Rights up Front Action Plan
Spain	33,784	Human Rights Mechanisms Digital Transformation
Switzerland	1,000,000	Human Rights Mechanisms Digital Transformation
UNDP (UN managed pooled and trust funds funding)	267,500	UNDG-HRM - Support to RCs, HRAs*
(b) total contributions to specific Cross-Entity projects	2,628,872	
(c) total contributions earmarked to Cross-Entity projects (a) + (b)	2,628,872	
Unearmarked funds allocated to Cross-Entity projects**	1,610,400	Unearmarked
(d) Total unearmarked funds	1,610,400	
(e) total xb funds available for cross-entity projects (c) + (d)	4,239,272	

* Project financed/implemented through the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation.

**Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2021.

CROSS-ENTITY PROJECTS**RB & XB funds made available for Cross-Entity projects in 2021**

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
RB funds		
Regular budget allotment	0	0.0%
Subtotal RB funds	0	0.0%
XB funds		
Earmarked funds to cross-entity projects	0	0.0%
Earmarked funds for specific cross-entity projects	2,628,872	54.7%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	-34,270	-0.7%
Unearmarked funds from 2021 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to cross-entity projects	1,610,400	33.5%
Prior period income adjustments, including prior period unearmarked funds allocated by OHCHR to cross-entity projects	601,085	12.5%
Subtotal XB funds	4,806,087	100.0%
Total RB + XB funds	4,806,087	100.0%

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