

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	4
MESSAGES FROM LEADERSHIP	6
IMPACT. Results by regions, countries and territories	9
AFRICA	9
Regional overview	9
Burkina Faso	11
Burundi	13
Central African Republic – Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP) profile	14
The Democratic Republic of the Congo – GFP profile	16
Ethiopia	18
The Gambia	19
Guinea (Conakry)	21
Guinea-Bissau	22
Liberia	23
Mali – GFP profile	25
Nigeria	26
Sierra Leone	28
South Sudan	30
ARAB STATES	32
Regional overview	32
Djibouti	33
Egypt	34
Iraq	35
Jordan	36
Lebanon	37
Libya	39
Somalia – GFP profile	40
State of Palestine	42
Sudan	43
Tunisia	44
Yemen	45
ASIA-PACIFIC	47
Regional overview	47
Afghanistan	49
Myanmar	50
Nepal	51
Pakistan	53
Sri Lanka	55
EUROPE and CENTRAL ASIA	57
Regional overview	57
Azerbaijan	58
Bosnia and Herzegovina	60
Kazakhstan	61

Kyrgyz Republic	62
Moldova	64
Ukraine	65
Kosovo*	67
LATIN AMERICA and the CARIBBEAN	68
Regional overview	68
Argentina	69
Colombia	71
Ecuador	72
Guatemala	73
Haiti – GFP profile	74
Mexico	75
Venezuela	77
THEMATIC SECTIONS	78
1. JUSTICE FUTURES COLAB	78
Access to justice	78
Civil justice	79
Constitutional support	80
Digital justice	81
Environmental justice	82
Gender justice	84
Humanitarian – Development – Peace nexus	86
Transitional justice	87
2. HUMAN RIGHTS SYSTEMS	88
Support to National Human Rights Systems	88
UNDP’s Human Rights for Sustainable Development Strategy	89
Human Rights and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Systems Integration	90
3. ANTI-RACISM	91
4. BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS	92
Business and Human Rights: global coverage	93
Supporting responsible supply chains with support from the Government of Japan	94
5. COMMUNITY SECURITY	95
Policy development: promoting people-centred security	96
Support to the policing services and the security sector reform/governance (SSR/G)	97
Supporting citizen security in Latin America and the Caribbean	98
SALIENT: Saving Lives Entity	99
SEESAC: small arms control for a safer South-East and East Europe	100
Addressing gender-based violence in partnership with UNDP Seoul Policy Centre (USPC) ..	101
6. GLOBAL FOCAL POINT FOR THE RULE OF LAW	102
GFP: country and policy highlights	103
The New Vision for the Rule of Law	104
RESULTS FRAMEWORK	105
FINANCIAL INFORMATION	114

* All references to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

INTRODUCTION

This 2022 annual report of UNDP's Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme) takes stock of the Global Programme's achievements as a **strategic influencer** and **enabler of transformative change** in the advancement of peace and sustainable development through the promotion of rule of law, human rights, people-centred justice and security. The report also provides an overview of UNDP's broader contribution to fostering the rule of law, justice, security and human rights, especially in contexts affected by crisis, conflicts and fragility.

In 2022, the Global Programme commenced the implementation of Phase IV (2022-2025) and reinforced efforts to anticipate and prevent instability and conflict, address the drivers of fragility, build resilience and strengthen the protection and promotion of human rights.

Phase IV of the Global Programme is guided by UNDP's three directions of change, namely structural transformation, leaving no-one behind, and building resilience. It directly contributes to the implementation of [UNDP's Strategic Plan \(2022-2025\)](#), in particular to the signature solutions of governance and resilience, and UNDP's [Crisis Offer](#) to help countries anticipate, prevent, respond to and recover from crisis in every development context, as well as support organization-wide efforts related to the environment and [UNDP's gender equality strategy](#).

Monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) to measure and report on impact is a recognized UNDP corporate priority. The Global Programme's new phase has a dedicated MEL unit to ensure a more systematized and targeted approach to data collection, analysis and reporting in order to better inform programming, advance thought leadership, and strengthen policy influence within the regional and global policy space.

About the report

The Global Programme promotes integrated rule of law, justice, security and human rights solutions and has increasingly invested in interlinked areas such as gender justice, environmental justice, digital justice, among others. The **thematic sections** in this report detail UNDP's signature initiatives, country and regional highlights, as well as innovative approaches developed in synergy with Global Programme partners.

Eight justice workstreams are featured under the umbrella of [UNDP's Justice Futures CoLab](#). The CoLab is a framework and a space for practitioners from UNDP, the wider UN family and other external

Within UNDP and across the wider United Nations (UN) system, the Global Programme is the primary mechanism for the implementation of comprehensive and integrated rule of law and human rights programmes. Operating via headquarters and at regional and country levels, the Global Programme uniquely combines rule of law, human rights, justice and security expertise, knowledge and ambitions within an overarching umbrella framework for enabling peaceful, just and inclusive societies to ensure that no one is left behind.

The Global Programme contributes to establishing a culture of respect for the rule of law and embedding human rights principles in UNDP's work to build integrated and sustainable solutions for people and the planet.

The Global Programme is implemented by the Rule of Law, Justice, Security and Human Rights team within UNDP's Crisis Bureau and is part of UNDP's Global Policy Network (GPN).



A woman reports a crime at the UNDP-supported police station in Qardho, Puntland, Somalia | UNDP Somalia

partners to discuss, design and implement more impactful action in countries and to inform advocacy and policy at all levels, informed by learning and data. The CoLab provides technical support to Country Offices, expands strategic partnerships, and facilitates learning exchange.

A section on **anti-racism** reflects UNDP's renewed commitment to review how its programmatic offer in such areas as governance, the rule of law and human rights contributes to equality and respect for diversity within and beyond the organization.

The 2022 annual report highlights key achievements of UNDP in the areas of rule of law, human rights, justice and security in five regions: Africa, Arab States, Asia-Pacific, Europe and Central Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean. **The report features over 40 country or context profiles.** These include the results achieved by the 24 UNDP Country Offices that received direct financial support from the Global Programme between December 2021 and June 2022; and 20 country or context profiles that present overall UNDP achievements, often in partnerships with UN and non-UN partners. In these 20 contexts, the previous and in many cases long-term support received from the Global Programme has enabled the sustainability of rule of law, human rights, justice and security programming and/or had catalytic effect for mobilizing additional resources or increased programming.

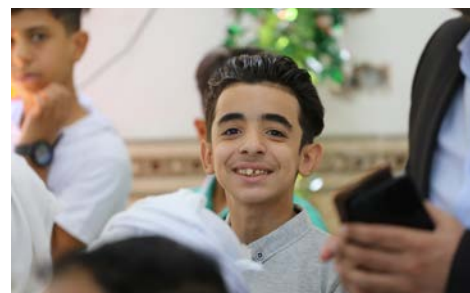
In line with the new MEL approach, this report provides **an overview of the varied and context driven support** (financial, technical, policy, experts advisory, etc.) provided to UNDP Country Offices and Regional Hubs, governments, civil society and business entities to make the rule of law and respect for human rights a global reference point and enabler for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

A special focus of the report is on the Global Programme's role as platform for **partnerships across the UN system and beyond**, in line with UNDP's designated 'integrator' role and in support of the One-UN approach. A comprehensive overview of the achievements of the Global Programme's partnerships is available in the thematic sections of the report, as well as on dedicated country and context pages.

For example, the country profiles of the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Mali and Somalia present the accomplishments achieved under the framework of the UN Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP). The profiles of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Jordan, Pakistan, Sierra Leone and Tunisia were selected to demonstrate UNDP and the UN support for closer integration between human rights and SDG systems, enabled through the Human Rights Mainstreaming Multi-Donor Trust Fund (HRM Fund).

UNDP's work with governments, businesses, civil society, human rights defenders, academia and others to promote responsible and human rights-based business practices is reflected in country-level examples in Kyrgyz Republic, Nepal, Pakistan, Tunisia and Ukraine, as well as under the thematic section on business and human rights (B+HR).

The results framework of the report presents a comprehensive summary of the Global Programme's achievements in over 100 contexts, globally.



Youth participating in an open day at the Model Police Station, Ramadi, Iraq | UNDP Iraq



A joint UNDP and police monitoring visit to Gambisara community where the community policing initiative was introduced | UNDP in The Gambia

MESSAGES FROM LEADERSHIP

Foreword

In 2022, peace was again shattered in many parts of the world as violent conflicts, now at their highest levels since the Second World War, devastated lives and livelihoods.¹ Some of the worst human rights violations occur during these conflicts, which includes the scourge of gender-based violence against women and girls. The rule of law also continued to decline globally.² Indeed, over five billion people globally still have unmet justice needs.³ There is also a notable contraction in civic space being fueled by a range of factors including polarization and increasing hostility towards civil society. In 2022, over 400 human rights defenders were murdered, the highest number ever recorded.⁴ At the same time, some of the world's most vulnerable communities are at the receiving end of a climate emergency that is leaving a trail of destruction in its wake and impeding access to a wide range of human rights.

In this demanding context, the latest phase of UNDP's Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (2022-2025) commenced. In 2022, it provided 104 countries with the tailored and flexible assistance they need to deliver justice; improve security; and respect, protect, and fulfil human rights.

The UN Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law continued to be a fulcrum for varied support including assisting e-justice systems and improving living conditions in prisons. In the Central African Republic, UNDP partnered with the UN peacekeeping mission, MINUSCA, to support the Special Criminal Court, which issued a first verdict against individuals accused of crimes against humanity and war crimes. UNDP also boosted the ability of 38 National Human Rights Institutions worldwide to ensure freedom of expression; protect human rights defenders; and hold governments to account. That support was often extended through the Tripartite partnership between the UN Human Rights Office, GANHRI and UNDP. Our Global Offer on Business and Human Rights was also scaled up, now providing the private sector in 28 countries with new tools to fully integrate human rights into their business.

UNDP's support is increasingly embracing digital technology to boost access to the rule of law and human rights in countries such as Burkina Faso, Colombia, Lebanon, Liberia, and The Gambia. The Justice Futures CoLab provides a new space to explore new ways of thinking and programming to address complex justice and rule of law challenges. UNDP also presented its first-ever global strategy on environmental justice to help ensure that national legal frameworks put the new recognition of the right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment into practice.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our donors and partners who make these life-changing results possible. This support to key areas like human rights and the rule of law creates a lasting impact from which all 17 Sustainable Development Goals can take root and flourish, influencing what happens next for years to come. Rather than building physical or metaphorical borders, it pivots on the principle of *co-investing* in each other – perhaps the most powerful defence against challenges such as climate change that now threaten our global security.



Achim Steiner
Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

¹ <https://press.un.org/en/2023/sc15184.doc.htm>

² <https://worldjusticeproject.org/rule-of-law-index/insights>

³ The World Justice Project. (2019). Measuring the justice gap: a people-centered assessment of unmet justice needs around the world.

⁴ <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/apr/04/colombia-human-rights-defenders-killings-2022>

Introduction

The past few years have proven how interconnected the world is in times of polycrisis. Triggered by conflicts, climate shocks, the COVID-19 pandemic and escalated by the war in Ukraine, the impact of the food, fuel and cost of living crisis is being felt across the globe. Due to conflict, violence, fear of persecution and human rights violations, or climate change, [over 108 million people are forcibly displaced](#).

Women's rights are infringed in multiple contexts, reversing hard-won gains towards gender equality and women's empowerment. Our latest [Gender Social Norms Index](#) revealed that close to 9 out of 10 men and women hold fundamental biases against women, and nearly half the world's people believe that men make better political leaders than women do.

In this emerging “uncertainty complex”, as defined by [UNDP's Human Development Report 2021-2022](#), human rights, the rule of law and justice are fundamental anchors for upholding the transformative ambition of the 2030 Agenda.

With seven years remaining to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we are at a critical inflection point when we must review, revise and realign our efforts with the realities of today. This motivation is at the heart of our reinvigorated [Crisis Offer](#), which aims to break the cycle of fragility, get ahead of the crisis curve, and invest in hope – from jobs to justice.

The 2022 annual report of UNDP's [Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development](#) demonstrates that if we work together, guided by people-centred and human-rights based approaches, driven by the objective to bring positive change to people's lives, we can overcome the challenges that we collectively face – at country, regional and global levels.

In 2022, UNDP supported approximately 85 million people to gain access justice.

Our support delivered through the Global Programme included ensuring access to justice for refugees and internally displaced people in Moldova, Myanmar, Lebanon and Pakistan. In Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan, over 4,500 detainees were released and over 2,000 obtained justice, including through mobile courts.

Customary, informal and/or community-based justice mechanisms enabled access to justice for women and marginalized groups where formal services were out of reach or required support. In Mali, for example, land commissions settled at least 120 conflicts and contributed to the increase in women's access to land by 12 percent. In Somalia, over 1,600 women benefitted from alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, legal aid and mobile court services. In Yemen, community members were trained as grassroots paralegals to perform the functions of community mediators in six community-based mediation committees in Aden, including two that are chaired by women.

Through the [Gender Justice Platform](#), our evolved partnership with UN Women, almost 43,000 people (84 percent women) received access to justice in 18 contexts with a specific focus on crisis and fragile settings.

UNDP supported community policing initiatives and people-centred security policies and solutions, promoted human rights mainstreaming in the SDGs, and strengthened the capacities of national human rights institutions, and through our Global Business & Human Rights initiative UNDP engaged the private sector in fulfilling human rights obligations.

Seeking to enhance its role as a strategic influencer and thought leader in the policy space for the rule of law, justice, security and human rights, UNDP, through the Global Programme, launched the [Justice Futures CoLab](#), an open space to explore and test solutions to justice challenges. The CoLab has become an umbrella for designing and implementing our justice workstreams: digital, gender, environmental, transitional justice and more.

In order for us to remain effective and impactful in today's evolving reality, reflection on and learning from previous lessons is essential. The [independent evaluation of UNDP's support to access to justice](#), conducted

by the Independent Evaluation Office in 2022, acknowledged our widely recognized role as a key provider of international development assistance in the justice sector. Going forward, UNDP is committed to put the evaluation's recommendations into practice, particularly in scaling up our people-centred approach to justice.

I invite you to read this report which showcases our best practices, lessons learned and impact of the past year, and serves also as a catalyst for further conversation and collaboration for integrated support to the rule of law, justice, security and human rights.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Asako Okai', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Asako Okai
Director, Crisis Bureau, United Nations Development Programme

IMPACT. RESULTS BY REGIONS, COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

AFRICA

Regional overview

Over the past decade, Africa has experienced consistent economic growth, leading to improvements in Gross Domestic Product (GDP), employment opportunities and infrastructure development. There have also been positive social developments particularly in promoting gender equality, with women continuing to break the glass ceiling within the judiciary, marking significant progress towards achieving gender parity and inclusivity in decision-making positions. Other positive opportunities include the launch of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), the world's largest trading area since the establishment of the World Trade Organization.⁵

However, to realize the opportunities promised in the AfCFTA, effective support should be provided for the successful implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs). Within the African Union (AU), there is a growing recognition of the importance to address business and human rights (B+HR) issues. Even though regulations, policy, and their enforcement remain weak, the AU has the potential to play a crucial role in disseminating and fostering understanding among Member States.

Countries in Africa continue to face a range of economic, social, governance, environmental and human rights challenges, ranking among the weakest on rule of law, with a deteriorating human rights situation, rising authoritarian leadership, corruption, terrorism, instability and conflict. In 2022, economic growth slowed down to 3.6 percent.⁶ Combined with the shrinking civic space and infringement of minority rights, the ongoing governance and human rights challenges cannot be ignored.⁷

While Africa is responsible for only four percent of global emissions, it is among the regions most affected by the devastating impacts of climate change. In 2022, Africa experienced severe droughts, famines, floods and cyclones, disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations.⁸ These climate-related challenges compound the region's existing socio-economic vulnerabilities.⁹

Despite these hurdles, progress has been made, and the support from the Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme), combined with the [Renewed Governance and Peacebuilding Framework for Africa](#) addressed some of these issues and mitigated the adverse impacts. Regional and country initiatives were implemented to integrate human rights and a people-centred approach into the judiciary, police and security services, elevate the B+HR agenda, support national human rights institutions (NHRIs), promote gender equality and tackle sexual and gender-based violence. In addition, the Global Programme provided targeted technical expertise and facilitated learning and knowledge sharing among the Country Offices.

⁵ The AfCFTA promises broader and deeper economic integration the implementation of which is expected to lift 30 million Africans out of extreme poverty and boost the incomes of nearly 68 million others who live on less than \$5.50 a day, boost Africa's income by \$450 billion by 2035 (a gain of 7 percent) while adding \$76 billion to the income of the rest of the world, increase foreign direct investment (FDI) by between 111 percent and 159 percent under the AfCFTA. Implementation of the AfCFTA is further expected to reduce the poverty level, create employment opportunities, increase export rate, increase women's income gain, cushion the negative effect of the COVID-19 pandemic, foster cooperation among Member States as well as promote good governance.

The World Bank, "Free Trade Deal Boosts Africa's Economic Development", (20 June 2022). Available at <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/trade/publication/free-trade-deal-boosts-africa-economic-development>

⁶ Down from 4.1 percent in 2021. See <https://www.worldbank.org/en/region/afr/overview>.

⁷ World Justice Project 2022 Rule of Law Index; Human Rights Watch, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/06/22/progress-and-setbacks-lgbt-rights-africa-overview-last-year> and CIVICUS <https://monitor.civicus.org/globalfindings/africa/> Intimidation, detention and attacks against journalists and human rights defenders, banning of protests, detention of protesters and protest disruption are the reported top civic rights violations.

⁸ In countries such as Chad, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger, Uganda and others.

⁹ Rising to \$45-50bn by 2040. See <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/african-economic-conference-opens-strong-call-adaptation-measures-tackle-looming-climate-change-threat-africa-57293> and <https://www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-africas-unreported-extreme-weather-in-2022-and-climate-change/>

Human rights: capacity building

UNDP supported the Fourth and Fifth Annual Forum for National Human Rights Institutions, which focused on B+HR, with emphasis on the implications of the AfCFTA, organized in partnership with the Network of African NHRIs (NANHRI) and the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR). More than 20 African NHRIs, amounting to over 100 participants, took part to exchange experiences supporting the work of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR), focusing on trade and B+HR. The NHRI Forum adopted the Declaration of the NHRIs on cooperation with ACHPR and integration of human rights principles in the AfCFTA.

In the aftermath of the [police violence in 2021 in Eswatini](#), the Global Programme, by invitation of the Royal Eswatini Police Services supported a joint police scoping mission by UNDP, OHCHR, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, Department of Peace Operations and the Standing Police Capacity of the UN Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions. The mission's report had actionable recommendations on a human rights-based response to public order management. This joint UN integrated approach was identified as a good practice to promote the rule of law and strengthening civic space by working closely with the duty bearers.

In the Comoros, UNDP supported the NHRI in drafting the National Human Rights Strategy and Action Plan. In Zimbabwe, UNDP strengthened the capacity of the NGOs working on the rights of persons with disabilities to report to UN human rights mechanisms and raise issues at the UN Human Rights Council.

Furthering B+HR agenda

In 2022, UNDP strengthened cooperation with the AU on B+HR, organizing the first-ever sub-regional dialogues on National Action Plans (NAPs) in Western and Southern Africa, and supporting the capacity building of regional actors, such as the ACHPR, NANHRI and the African Coalition for Corporate Accountability. Support from the Governments of Japan and Switzerland enabled UNDP to advance the B+HR agenda across Africa.

UNDP co-hosted the [first African Business and Human Rights Forum](#) in Accra, Ghana, with over 1,500 participants (over half were women) representing governments, businesses, civil society and other stakeholders. UNDP collaborated with many partners, including the AU, OHCHR, GIZ in Africa and NANHRI. The event highlighted the interest and significant capacity across the continent to introduce responsible business practices and served as an impetus for Ghana and Senegal to publicly commit to developing their NAPs, bringing the total number of NAPs in existence or progress on the continent to ten.¹⁰

UNDP published "[A Baseline Assessment on Business and Human Rights in Africa: From the First Decade to the Next](#)", taking stock of the progress and challenges in implementing the UNGPs in the region. The report will help attract the attention of states, the AU, civil society and the private sector to the BHR agenda and the importance of holding corporations accountable for human rights violations through identified strategic entry points.

Enhanced learning and knowledge sharing

A community of practice (CoP) on rule of law, security and human rights in Africa was established, with four discussions held in 2022: one introductory and three thematic on gender justice, women in the African judiciary and environmental justice. Through this new knowledge sharing platform, UNDP Country Offices in Mali and Liberia exchanged experiences on e-justice, and the Country Offices in The Gambia and the Central African Republic discussed good practices regarding implementing transitional justice initiatives.

Looking forward

UNDP will continue working closely with NHRIs across the region, supporting their establishment and strengthening their capacity in compliance with the Paris Principles. By reinforcing the independence and effectiveness of NHRIs, UNDP aims to advance human rights protection and accountability in Africa.

¹⁰ Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

UNDP will continue with efforts, at country and regional levels, to strengthen justice and security institutions and systems to provide greater access to justice and more people-centred security, including through innovation and digital transformation.

Building on research undertaken in 2022, UNDP will promote women's meaningful participation and leadership in the judiciary, including supporting the first meeting of African Women in Judiciary in May 2023.

UNDP will strengthen its partnership with the AU to bolster its institutional framework on B+HR, including by co-hosting the second Forum on Business and Human Rights in September 2023. In addition, in June 2023, UNDP will support two sub-regional conferences, focusing on Eastern and Central Africa.

Lastly, UNDP will continue to facilitate knowledge exchanges through the CoP platform with sessions on constitution making, B+HR, e-justice and other priority areas identified by Country Offices.

Burkina Faso

In Burkina Faso, UNDP provides support in the areas of justice, human rights, security, social cohesion and reconciliation via its CoSED programme (*Cohésion Sociale, Sécurité, Etat de Droit*). The programme was launched in 2019 with the financial and technical support of the Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme). The support was critical in reinforcing UNDP's cooperation with the national stakeholders and partnerships with other UN agencies, particularly through the UN Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP). The contribution had a catalytic effect enabling the sustainability of the programme and further resource mobilization. The CoSED activities in 2022 were mainly funded by the Governments of Germany and Sweden, and through the UNDP Funding Windows modality.



Second Edition of the National Forum of Human Rights Defenders organized in Ouagadougou with the support of UNDP CoSED programme, Burkina Faso | UNDP Burkina Faso

CoSED is a multi-partner programme that brings together government institutions and civil society organizations coordinated by the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. National stakeholders work closely with UNDP, convening other UN agencies to improve the effectiveness and sustainability of initiatives and to maximize impact across the country as part of its integrator role. For example, UNDP partnered with the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) to strengthen the capacities of 60 instructors from the security and defence forces to improve safety and security in six regions affected by improvised explosive devices (IED). UNDP also collaborated with the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) to support the Ministry of Justice in elaborating the national report for the fourth cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

In 2022, the CoSED programme focused on contributing to the construction of a peaceful and inclusive society, promoting human security, justice, gender equality and human rights. A political crisis that unfolded in Burkina Faso in 2022, leading to a double military coup *d'état*, impeded the programme implementation. Against this backdrop and in consultation with partners, UNDP prioritized community-based activities in line with the overall strategy of the UN Country Team (UNCT). In addition, target localities had to be changed due to the growing insecurity in certain regions.

In line with the people-centred approach to justice and security, UNDP combined the top-down institutional support with the grassroots level support, in an integrated and impactful way. To build trust between the local government and the communities and to prevent community tensions, UNDP organized capacity building sessions for 100 local officials (including 36 women) from the municipal police and the village development councils in five regions of Burkina Faso. The sessions focused on the impact of gold artisanal mining on social cohesion and the role of local authorities in building confidence between the communities and the artisanal miners.

In six other regions, 10 intra- and inter-community conflicts related to land dispute and agriculture damage were prevented and 25 disputes resolved through the UNDP-supported National Observatory for preventing

and managing community conflicts. The Observatory operates through its national, sub-national and local committees composed of state and security service officials, traditional and religious leaders and civil society organizations (CSOs). In addition, UNDP organized a regional workshop to encourage civic engagement and promote national ownership of reconciliation and social cohesion efforts, including strategies to prevent violent extremism. Over 900 representatives of the CSOs and local communities (including 291 women) participated in the workshop. Over 700,000 people were reached indirectly through media publications and awareness-raising activities.

To facilitate access to justice for vulnerable individuals in remote communities, UNDP provided comprehensive support to courts and tribunals, including capacity building and equipment delivery, technical and logistical support. This initiative contributed to a 47 percent decrease in the backlog of judicial cases in 10 regions of the country.

Over 900 victims of crimes, including 202 women and 23 young people, obtained justice as a result of the court hearings held in Ouagadougou and Bobo-Dioulasso. In addition, UNDP provided technical support, equipment and logistics to the 11 criminal sessions organized in the Courts of Appeal of Bobo-Dioulasso and Ouagadougou, adjudicating 296 criminal cases, that involved 620 defendants, including 65 women. Seventy-five people were released.

UNDP supported the organization of mobile courts enabling over 300 people to receive their nationality certificates, criminal records, documents necessary to access state services.

UNDP also supported digitization in the jurisdictions and the courts in Bobo-Dioulasso, Tenkodogo and Dedougou, the Directorate of the Penitentiary Administration in Ouagadougou and the prison of Bobo-Dioulasso. The launch of the digital case management system, the digitization of court files, and the introduction of electronic nationality certificates and criminal records allowed improvements to the quality of services available to all parties to a judicial proceeding.

Security concerns in Burkina Faso create additional risks for human rights defenders (HRDs). UNDP supported the development of an alert and protection mechanism for HRDs. A network was established through which all the HRDs can be informed in a timely manner if one of them was threatened or abused. The mechanism allows the identification of an appropriate and rapid response to assist those attacked. A procedure manual was developed and 100 HRDs (including 30 women) were trained on the use of the manual and their responsibilities in the network; operationalization is to be fully completed in 2023.

Looking forward, UNDP will focus on the digitalization of judicial services with human rights considerations, further develop the network of mobile courts and support access to justice for IDPs promoting the Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus. It will also improve institutional capacity of the National Human Rights Commission and support the Government in fulfilling its international human rights obligations.

Key Results:

UNDP's support to courts and tribunals facilitated access to justice for vulnerable individuals in remote communities, contributing to a decrease in the backlog of judicial cases in ten regions by 47 percent. In Ouagadougou and Bobo-Dioulasso, 339 criminal and correctional cases were tried and over 900 victims of crimes, including 202 women and 23 young people obtained justice. UNDP support to mobile courts enabled 300 people to receive necessary documentation to access state services.

UNDP-supported legal clinics increased legal awareness and legal services available in five localities. The legal clinics assisted 776 people, including 170 women and 161 youth, and facilitated 391 sensitization sessions for 16,742 people, including 5,251 women and 2,286 young individuals.

UNDP support contributed to promoting social cohesion and reconciliation. This was achieved by the delivery of a regional workshop reaching over 900 CSO and local community representatives, in addition to the support provided to the National Observatory for preventing and managing community conflicts, which in turn has prevented ten intra- and inter-community conflicts related to land dispute and agricultural damage and resolved 25 disputes in 2022.

Burundi

In Burundi, UNDP focused on the improvement of people’s access to justice services. UNDP’s Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme) supported monitoring missions to places of detention to protect the rights of the incarcerated individuals. UNDP also funded the establishment of “Radio Justice”, a radio station that will broadcast programmes aimed at enhancing the transparency of the judiciary, empowering people to know their rights and how to exercise them, and also facilitate access to justice.

UNDP completed the preparatory work for the establishment of “Radio Justice”. To ensure inclusivity, a commission was established where media experts and justice practitioners worked together to develop the content for the radio programmes and define the financial and staffing needs. The report prepared by the commission was approved by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ). In addition, the Ministry has officially indicated the Government’s commitment to the establishment of the radio station and its sustainability beyond the project duration, including through budget allocations.

One of the obstacles to the actual launch of the radio station has been the prolonged procurement process, as no local bidders were identified despite the two tenders. The process has now been opened for international bidders. The other challenge is the overlap between the fiscal year of UNDP and the Ministry of Justice. Despite these issues, the Ministry remains committed to operationalize the radio station by the end of 2023.

To effectively implement its initiative to ensure comprehensive monitoring of detention facilities in Burundi, UNDP established new partnerships with two key national stakeholders: the National Independent Commission for Human Rights (NICHR) and the Office of the General Prosecutor. Prior to this, UNDP’s key partner in human rights projects was the Ministry of Justice. This new engagement has not only delivered better results in protecting the rights of detainees but has also enabled effective collaboration between the national stakeholders with intersecting mandates: the Ministry of Justice, the NICHR and the Office of the General Prosecutor. This partnership has already been analysed and replicated to design a new joint UN human rights project under which UNDP will work together with UNICEF, the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR), UNESCO and UN Women. The project is being finalized by the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office (RCO) in Burundi. Several donor partners have expressed their interest in the initiative.

In 2022, UNDP supported the General Inspection of the Ministry of Justice and the Office of the General Prosecutor to conduct joint control and monitoring of prisons and detention centres, including prisons/quarters for women. As a result of their advocacy and legal assistance provided to imprisoned or detained individuals, over 900 people (including 97 women and nine teenagers) were released.

In addition, UNDP strengthened the NICHR capacities to monitor penitentiary institutions and investigate human rights violations in prisons and detention centres, including gender-based violence. In 2022, the NICHR conducted 258 monitoring missions in 11 penitentiary institutions and 119 detention centres. Its advocacy efforts facilitated the release of 538 individuals (including 92 women and 90 teenagers). Furthermore, 177 people (including 21 women) were released due to the legal aid services provided by the NICHR during the pre-trial phase.

For the first time since 2015, the national human rights institution scrutinized human rights violations perpetrated by the police. UNDP’s support to the NICHR has also contributed to raising public awareness on human rights violations and to the public appeals to the Government to improve the situation.

In total, all the monitoring missions conducted by the NICHR, the MoJ and the Office of the General Prosecutor facilitated the release of 18.2 percent of detainees whose cases were monitored. In most of these cases, detention was illegal and/or disproportionate to the offense. Pregnant or breastfeeding women were among those released.

To assess the effectiveness of the monitoring visits and to measure the level of satisfaction of the final beneficiaries, UNDP monitoring and evaluation specialists in Burundi [interviewed the released individuals on their assessment of the judiciary services](#).

UNDP's cooperation with the national authorities and its support to the release of illegally detained individuals incentivized the Ministry of Justice to develop and finalize the national strategy on the sanctions alternative to imprisonment that promotes and enables alternatives to detention. This is an innovative step in Burundi that will allow a reduction in detention and prison population and improve the human rights situation in the country.

Key Results:

UNDP support helped to strengthen human rights monitoring in prisons and detention centres. Monitoring missions conducted by the NICHR, the MoJ and the Office of the General Prosecutor facilitated the release of 18.2 percent of detainees whose cases were monitored.

The Ministry of Justice approved the content plan for the "Radio Justice" station and committed to sustain it beyond the project duration. The radio station will be launched in 2023.

UNDP's extended partnership with national stakeholders has been utilized as a good practice and served as a foundation to develop a new joint UN human rights project in Burundi.

Central African Republic - GFP profile

In the Central African Republic (CAR), the political and security situation remained volatile with new challenges emerging in 2022 such as the fuel shortage crisis and political unrest linked to a planned referendum to extend the mandate of the president. This multidimensional crisis, along with the economic deterioration as the state allocations were repurposed to address security issues, hampered the recent progress made to strengthen the rule of law, end impunity, restore state authority and access to justice.



A session of the Special Criminal Court in the Central African Republic | UNDP CAR

The Joint Rule of Law Programme in CAR is one of the flagship UN joint programme modalities operationalized through the UN Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP). The programme is implemented by UNDP CAR and the UN multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA) in cooperation with the Team of Experts on Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict (ToE) and UN Women. This 'One-UN' approach facilitates resource mobilization, allows the UN to leverage the comparative advantages of different agencies and work towards common objectives.

In 2022, the project on integrated support to people-centred transitional justice processes in CAR received funding through UNDP's Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development. The project has three key components: (1) supporting people-centred transitional justice mechanisms; (2) ensuring uninterrupted and accessible legal aid services; and (3) improving community security.

Supporting people-centred transitional justice mechanisms

The GFP partners continued supporting the transitional justice mechanisms in CAR – the Special Criminal Court (SCC) and the Truth, Justice, Reconciliation and Reparation Commission (the Commission or CVJRR). Since its establishment in 2021, the Commission has been mandated to facilitate access to justice for victims of armed conflict, conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV), gender-based violence and other human rights violations. 2022 was a milestone year for fighting impunity in CAR: the SCC issued its first verdict on war crimes and crimes against humanity, and the CVJRR settled in a fully equipped space and completed its preparatory phase. In particular, the Commission designed an intervention strategy and hearing forms, and conducted seven outreach activities on their mandate.

To mainstream gender in the truth-seeking process and to ensure the human rights-based approach, the Commission produced a gender manual, in close collaboration with the International Center for Transitional

Justice (ICTJ) and UN Women, and organized a workshop for 11 commissioners of the CVJRR and civil society representatives to brainstorm on gender-sensitive approaches in truth-seeking.

In all its activities, CVJRR is committed to ensure the participation of victims and affected communities enabling people have meaningful input in the design and implementation of the transitional justice mechanisms. CVJRR will assure this through creating spaces for participation, such as community consultations, public hearings and other forms of dialogue. To promote the national ownership and increase public engagement, UNDP and MINUSCA supported an open contest to design the Commission's logo. Over 100 logo designs were received with the winning logo selected in April 2022.

The project also focuses on building institutional capacity of CVJRR commissioners and staff on human rights and transitional justice processes to ensure that the institution is well equipped to implement its mandate. Three training sessions were organized in 2022.

Ensuring uninterrupted and accessible legal aid services

To ensure that people in CAR have access to legal aid services, UNDP funded the operations of nine legal clinics across the country. UNDP and MINUSCA have led the selection process to identify local and/or international civil society organizations (CSOs) that will manage the clinics.

Between 2020 and January 2022, the legal clinics in CAR were supported through the UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) and provided access to justice services for almost 3,000 victims (160 men, 40 boys, almost 2,000 women and over 900 girls). Most of the service providers in the clinics were women representing local communities and CSOs. UN engagement with local partners strengthened their capacity to step in where the state services were out of reach, a methodology that can be replicated in other settings.

Gender equality and non-discriminative access to justice for women has been streamlined across all types of the GFP programming in CAR. The specialized police unit on sexual violence (UMIRR) was incepted in 2017. In 2022 alone, the unit in Bangui, the capital, received over 3,000 complaints: 2,377 complaints from women and 650 from men.

Improving community security

As part of the portfolio approach, the security component was integrated in the project for integrated support to people-centred transitional justice in CAR. GFP coordinated activities to renovate infrastructure in the prisons of Bouar, Bambari and Bimbo. Office equipment provided to these institutions allowed the working conditions of prison personnel to be improved. In addition, the airport and the Special Police Station in Bangui received modern control equipment to contribute to the improvement of security at the Bangui M'poko airport and strengthen control measures to counter organized crime, illicit trafficking and financial delinquency.

Key Results:

National capacities to fight impunity were strengthened as the CAR Special Criminal Court (SCC) issued its first verdict on war crimes and crimes against humanity in October 2022.

The Truth, Justice, Reconciliation and Reparation Commission (CVJRR) has become fully operational with its intervention strategy developed for 2023. The operationalization of the CVJRR has paved the way for improved coordination between transitional justice mechanisms and the country's overall justice system.

The border control at the Bangui M'poko airport has been strengthened through the deployment of the Mobile Interpol Network Device.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo - GFP profile

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), UNDP focused on two workstreams to promote the rule of law, improve community security and access to justice. First, the activities implemented by the Joint Justice Programme composed of UNDP, the UN Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO) Justice Support Section, the Corrections Unit, UN Police, the UN Joint Human Rights Office (UNJHRO) and the UN Team of Experts on Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict (ToE) within the framework of the UN Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP). Second, a project developed with the support of UNDP's Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme) to strengthen police reform and combat impunity through enhancing the criminal investigation capacities and oversight mechanisms of selected units of the national police in North Kivu and Tanganyika.



A mobile court session organized by the Tribunal of Grand Instance of Kalemie in Kongolo with support of the UN Joint Justice Project, Democratic Republic of the Congo | UNDP DRC

Interventions of the Joint Justice Programme within the GFP framework

In 2022, the Joint Justice Programme in the DRC worked on strengthening the legal framework of the criminal justice chain and individual accountability, facilitating mobile court hearings and inspections, improving access to justice and accountability for violations of international humanitarian law (IHL) and international human rights law (IHRL). In addition, the construction and rehabilitation of justice and penitentiary infrastructure was finalized, and digitalization efforts continued. Despite the volatile security situation and lack of mobility, the Joint Justice Programme managed to implement most of its activities with some delays and revisions to adapt to the realities on the ground.

The intervention zones of the programme supporting provincial strategies for prosecuting international crimes included Kinshasa, North Kivu, Tanganyika, Central Kasai, as well as Ituri and South Kivu. To ensure the activities reflected the people's needs in the provinces, UNDP and partners facilitated the coordination and collaboration of the Ministry of Justice and the High Judicial Council with their provincial units, reinforcing the independence of the magistrates and their ability to deliver fair and equal justice services.

The support to mobile courts enabled the adjudication of 198 criminal cases, bringing justice to more than 600 individuals, including 92 women and 9 children survivors of sexual violence in Tanganyika and Kasai Central.

In terms of capacity building, the programme organized training for more than 500 civilian and military magistrates, police officers, clerks and registrars, including 60 women, on the fight against organized crime and sexual violence, operational criminal analysis, judgement drafting, and criminal and civilian file management.

Digitization of over 2,200 personal files of judges managed by the High Judicial Council, over 7,500 criminal records and the files of more than 21,000 prisoners in 20 prisons contributed to improved management within the penitentiary system and increased its transparency and efficiency in serving people.

Finally, the joint programme supported the rehabilitation of 15 infrastructure units of police, justice and prison services. It also promoted food self-sufficiency in penitentiary institutions and the socioeconomic and professional reintegration of detainees by setting up agricultural farms, bakeries and training spaces in the prisons of Kananga, Goma and Luzumu.

Joint advocacy for legislative changes to improve the criminal justice chain brought tangible results. The following pieces of legislation were adopted or are in the pipeline: a draft law on protection of victims and witnesses of international crimes; a promulgated law on reparation for victims of conflict related sexual violence and IHL crimes; a draft law on the protection and accountability of human rights defenders; ordonnance on the creation of the inspector general for justice and penitentiary systems.

This holistic approach and complementary interventions enabled justice, police and penitentiary actors to perform and deliver justice service to people, including the most vulnerable groups, in a fair manner with a view to ensure equality and leave no one behind. Despite the advancements, however, the penal chain in the DRC lacks a fully functional structure and has insufficient human, financial and operational resources. Under the GFP umbrella, UNDP, MONUSCO, UNJHRO and the ToE will continue promoting structural transformations within the criminal chain, in synergy with other projects based on the portfolio management mechanism.

Following MONUSCO's complete withdrawal from Tanganyika and Kasai Central, the Joint Justice Programme and other UN entities will amplify efforts to support provincial partners in improving their capacities to take over justice and security tasks to protect their communities, facilitate access to justice, and prevent, prosecute and adjudicate serious human rights violations, including conflict-related sexual violence, in the context of the fight against impunity. To address the deficit of magistrates in the DRC,¹¹ UNDP supported the design of the training curricula for, and the recruitment of, 5,000 new magistrates (more than 30 percent women), in addition to the current 3,500 magistrates already in place (25 percent women).

Promoting the police reform with UNDP's Global Programme support

The Global Programme has been providing financial and technical support for the rule of law programming in the DRC since 2017. In addition, the Global Programme helped reinforce partnerships under the GFP framework. In cooperation with the UN Department of Peace Operations (DPO), two joint programmes were developed, focusing on justice in 2020 and policing in 2021.

In 2022, the Global Programme provided financial and technical support to implement, in collaboration with MONUSCO and the UN Police (UNPOL), the police reform project in the North Kivu and Tanganyika provinces. However, in July 2022, mass protests against the presence of MONUSCO in the country broke out in the province of North Kivu and most of the activities in this region were temporarily suspended.

Most of the activities in the province of Tanganyika were launched as planned. Jointly, UNDP and UNPOL provided support to establish a new department of the General Inspection of the Congolese National Police (IGPNC) in Kalemie, inaugurated by the Vice Prime Minister and the Minister of Interior, Security, Decentralization and Customary Affairs in October 2022. Five inspectors, including two women, were deployed to ensure sustainability of the operations. UNDP promoted gender mainstreaming and sensitized senior Congolese National Police officials in the units it supported. The establishment of this new department and the ongoing coordination and oversight sent a strong message of transparency and demonstrated the commitment of the National Police to fight against impunity for violations and crimes committed by the police.

To respond to the recent and complex challenges in North Kivu and elsewhere, the IGPNC has officially adopted the new training policy for inspectors presented by UNDP and UNPOL. It envisages the organization of a long-term training in Kinshasa for inspectors deployed, or to be deployed, in the provinces aiming to remedy disparate and non-coordinated capacity building interventions. UNDP continues to rely on the expertise of UNPOL to further identify the needs of the Congolese National Police.

In addition, UNDP established strategic partnerships with various technical and funding partners that support the IGPNC, including the European Union, UNPOL, International Organization for Migration and the United States Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL). One of the joint initiatives includes pooling the funds programmed by each entity for the organization of a training session to benefit all the provinces at the same time, which will enable the participation of a larger number of inspectors and will ensure the same level of knowledge and skill sets are planted in all the provinces.

¹¹ International standards require having ten magistrates for 100,000 people. The current ratio in the DRC is 4.375 magistrates for 100,000 people.

Key Results:

Through mobile courts, 600 survivors could access justice and exercise their right to legal representation. Almost 200 cases were processed, benefitting 148 victims. 185 guilty verdicts were issued in Tanganyika and Kasai Central.

Digitalization of over 7,500 criminal records and the files of more than 21,000 prisoners in 20 prisons improved management within the penitentiary system, and its transparency and efficiency in serving people.

A new department of the General Inspection of the Congolese National Police (IGPNC) in Kalemie was inaugurated by high-level national authorities. The opening and the deployment of five inspectors, including two women, sent a message of transparency and demonstrated the commitment of the National Police to fight against impunity for violations and crimes committed by the police.

The construction and rehabilitation of justice and penitentiary infrastructure will improve working conditions and provide better access to justice for the population, particularly for vulnerable groups, and will support the penitentiary system in line with international standards.

Ethiopia

In Ethiopia, at the federal level, UNDP provides policy and technical support to the Federal Supreme Court. In 2022, it extended the support to the Offices of the Attorney General in Oromiya and Somali regions with an overall aim of strengthening justice institutions to increase service delivery to the people through accessible, affordable and efficient justice systems.

One of the impediments to justice delivery in Ethiopia has been the lack of information sharing and non-reporting of crimes to government departments for investigation and prosecution. To address this, UNDP invested in strengthening partnerships between civil society organizations (CSOs) and justice institutions. To encourage strategic dialogue, UNDP organized a workshop bringing together 30 representatives from eight CSOs and from the Office of the Attorney General in Oromiya region on the prevention and reporting of sexual and gender-based violence. This dialogue engaged eleven women from women's associations or CSOs operating in the region.

In both Oromiya and Somali regions, 400 prosecutors and police officers received training on human rights standards in the investigation and prosecution of sexual and gender-based crimes and crimes against children. As the project continues, the collaboration among national stakeholders will be critical to support the survivors who report violations, while allowing justice institutions to take measures for increased accountability. In addition, UNDP is exploring the ways to expand its existing collaboration with UN Women in both regions for sexual and gender-based violence prevention and reporting.

In Oromiya region, to increase access to justice for the vulnerable population, UNDP supported the translation of major laws¹² into Afan Oromo, the official working language of the region, from Amharic, the federal working language. In Somali region, ten international human rights conventions¹³ were translated into Somali language. In addition, UNDP facilitated trainings for 170 senior judges and prosecutors (including 21 women) in Somali region to enhance their knowledge and understanding about the investigation and prosecution of sexual and gender-based crimes.

Capacitation of women, their inclusion and participation in policy development and mainstreaming gender in the work of the Offices of the Attorney General remain among the primary objectives of the project. However, realization of these objectives has been significantly impacted by the fact that, in both regions, women are underrepresented in justice institutions. Despite these challenges, UNDP continues to work closely with both offices to ensure that available female staff are given opportunities to participate in the project activities.

¹² Commercial Code of Ethiopia; Expropriation of Land holdings for Public Purposes; Payments of Compensation and Resettlement, Expropriation and Valuation; Compensation and Resettlement Council of Ministers Regulation; Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Persons; and Firearm Administration and Control.

¹³ Including Universal Declaration of Human Rights; International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; Child Rights Convention; Convention Against Torture; Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women and Ethiopian Hate Speech Proclamation.

Oromiya and Somali regions are among the key beneficiaries of the “Regional Engagement Framework”, a UNDP flagship project in Ethiopia. Considering that some activities under this flagship programme have a component on democratic governance and participation, the team works in an integrated manner through a portfolio approach to streamline and maximize development initiatives on justice and the rule of law. Under UNDP’s leadership, five UN agencies (UNICEF, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, UN Women, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime and the UN Human Rights Office), have been working with Ethiopian justice institutions to undertake a Rapid Justice Assessment exercise covering the entire country (except Tigray). The aim of that process is to determine challenges and opportunities facing the justice sector and provide a comprehensive roadmap for the UN support to the justice sector in Ethiopia. The project, supported by the Global Programme, provides a much-needed platform for future engagements in this area. Working with a diverse range of units and portfolios within UNDP and other partners has ensured that the activities planned for different projects are aligned and maximized, and synergies are exploited to enhance the impact.

Key Results:

UNDP’s support to the Offices of the Attorney General in Oromiya and Somali regions helped strengthen their capacity for service delivery.

UNDP brokered strategic dialogue between civil society organizations and justice institutions to facilitate information sharing and build trust on the prevention and reporting of sexual and gender-based violence.

400 prosecutors and police officers received training on human rights standards in the investigation and prosecution of sexual and gender-based crimes and crimes against children.

The Gambia

The Gambia has chalked notable progress on human rights and the rule of law since its return to democratic rule in 2017. However, more efforts are needed to enhance the capacities of national stakeholders and improve the delivery of justice and security services. In 2022, the Government issued a [White Paper](#) on the recommendations of the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC), [confirming its commitment](#) to implement the recommendations. Most of the recommendations refer to strengthening human rights, justice, security and the rule of law.

Cognizant of the unique transitional justice process in the country, UNDP continues to support the Government’s efforts on legislative reforms, as well as capacity building of the justice system, with an objective to contribute to the establishment of more inclusive and responsive institutions.

According to the 2020-2021 National Perception Survey on Rule of Law,¹⁴ 80 percent of respondents stated they had confidence in the police, and over 80 percent said they were aware of fundamental human rights. These commendable results indicated there was room and momentum to invest more in confidence-building between the police and the population.

Due to limited resources, the Gambia Police Force has struggled to remain present in the communities. Since 2019, UNDP has strategized with the police on effective ways to reintroduce community policing initiatives, using a rights-based, child- and gender-sensitive approach, and increase outreach. Factors such as crime rates, impact on vulnerable groups and distance to the nearest police station were considered when identifying target communities.

UNDP supported the police force in developing a Community Policing Strategy and its implementation plan and facilitated multiple trainings for police officers and community members. In total, 293 police officers



A joint UNDP and police monitoring visit to Gambisara community where the community policing initiative was introduced | UNDP in The Gambia

¹⁴ The survey is not yet publicly available

(including 89 women) and 161 community leaders, members and youth representatives (including 79 women) benefitted from the training. In addition, 200 community policing volunteers were equipped with necessary skills to continue and contribute to the confidence-building measures and 150 bicycles were procured to enable police officers to reach remote areas and remain mobile.

As a result, in two beneficiary communities, Gambisara and Garawol, the community members noted a reduction in crime rates, which had a positive effect on easing intra-communal tensions. Ali Bongo, a leader of the community policing volunteers in Gambisara said: *“Prior to the initiative, not a day went by without an incident of theft, rape or domestic violence within the community. Now, the number of cases of rape, child abuse and petty theft has reduced [...]”* A joint UNDP and police monitoring visit to these communities confirmed the positive outcome.

UNDP support to the police contributed to the election security management during the 2022 National Assembly elections (both the campaign and the voting process) and the entire electoral cycle. For the first time candidates were allocated an equal number of security personnel during the campaign and after the voting. The following measures introduced by the police contributed to increasing people’s trust in the police capability to ensure security prior and during the elections: election security training, development of security handbooks and manuals, enhanced communication with voters, reinforcement of Public Order Management in all seven regions, incident response mechanisms and recruitment of additional 613 police officers.

UNDP supported the Gambia Police Force and the judiciary in integrating digital solutions for enhanced service delivery. In particular, the Geographical Information System was developed for the police. This tool provides real-time data on police personnel and assets available in the area – for evidence-based strategic decisions on deployment and resource allocation. In addition, a mobile data collection application was designed to collect data on crime and necessary response. It will be integrated into an existing database – West African Police Information System (WAPIS).

In five court rooms, an automated transcribe system was installed and, according to the information shared by the judges, had a positive impact on expediting judicial proceedings and reducing the case backlog contributing to the improved access to justice.

UNDP provided extensive support to the penitentiary system in The Gambia. In all the three prisons in the country, legal aid desks were established to deliver services for persons deprived of liberty, including women and children in conflict with the law. This activity was implemented in partnership with the National Agency for Legal Aid, the Gambia Bar Association and the Centre for Legal Support based on the Memorandum of Understanding on the provision of free legal aid services.

In 2022, 212 inmates (including seven women) received legal support. As a result, 71 men and six women were released on bail, two men had their charges dropped, six men received their sentence, and four individuals (three men and one woman) were acquitted due to unlawful detention.

In partnership with the Gambia Prison service, UNDP supported the refurbishment of a dedicated female wing and the establishment of a vocational training centre in the Janjanbureh prison. Nineteen inmates and three prison officers improved their skills in tailoring, electrical works, solar and satellite installations. These skills, which they already apply to maintain penitentiary infrastructure, will help the inmates reintegrate into their communities upon release.

In partnership with the National Agency for Legal Aid, the Gambia Bar Association, the Centre for Legal Support, the Alternative Dispute Resolution Secretariat and the Female Lawyer Association, UNDP facilitated the provision of free legal consultations in the communities. Over 240 people benefitted, including 143 women. Most of the cases related to land disputes and were resolved instantly by clarifying the legal provisions to the parties. Some of the cases brought before the legal aid desks concerned child marriage and sexual and gender-based violence. Those were referred to the national institutions, such as the Department of Social Welfare and/or the police, and to the international partners such UNCIEF and UNFPA.



A joint UNDP and police monitoring visit to Gambisara community where the community policing initiative was introduced | UNDP in The Gambia

UNDP's contribution in The Gambia in 2022 confirmed the need for greater investment in civic education programmes, especially in rural communities, as well as in enhancing the capacity of justice sector actors. Through the analysis of the cases that community members have raised through legal desks or mobile legal clinics, potential conflict drivers within the communities have been identified, which prevents further tensions. Land management, for example, continues to emerge as an important area for further analysis and policy development.

Key Results:

In 2022, crime rates were reduced in two targeted communities as a result of UNDP's strategic approach to community policing and its effective cooperation with the Gambia Police Force.

A digital tool developed and piloted in five court rooms contributed to the evidence-based decision making, expedited judicial proceedings and reduced the backlog of cases.

In partnership with national stakeholders, including civil society, UNDP facilitated the provision of free legal aid services: in prisons and in targeted communities.

The Gambia Police Force contributed to mitigating risks of electoral violence, providing protection to all candidates and supporting law enforcement at the polling stations during the 2022 National Assembly Elections and, overall, for the 2021-2023 electoral cycle.

Guinea (Conakry)

In Guinea, the support from UNDP's Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme) contributed to improving the strategic, legal and regulatory frameworks for justice and human rights, as part of the broader UNDP investments to justice sector reform in the country.

Contributing to the improvement of the legal and regulatory framework, UNDP facilitated the drafting and adoption of the law on legal aid; the law setting the provisions for the protection of victims, witnesses and other persons at risk; the law amending certain provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code and the decree regulating its application.

A significant contribution was made to the trial of [the events of September 28th, 2009](#). The opening of this trial, 13 years after the massacre, is a symbol of the fight against endemic impunity in Guinea. UNDP supported the planning of the trial budget, the development of a regulatory framework for the effective and transparent management of the resources allocated to the trial, the establishment of a compensation fund for victims, the digitization of the entire trial file, and the development of a training/improvement plan for magistrates and legal assistants, as well as journalists and security agents. UNDP provided training to 52 lawyers (including six women) involved in the process on fair trial standards and the defence strategy. Computer equipment provided by UNDP to the criminal court in charge of the trial, in particular for recording of and digitizing the proceedings, enabled transmission of content to all parties in a secure, timely and easy-to-use manner.

To sustain national efforts in the fight against impunity, UNDP supported the development of a penal policy and a penitentiary policy: both with the objective to guarantee a diligent, effective penal response that respects human rights, the rule of law and gender equality. UNDP support strengthened the capacities of the inspection and oversight bodies of the judicial and penitentiary services. Inspection and oversight tools were improved and harmonized to facilitate the collection and processing of data. The Guidelines on Ethics of Judges were updated, and a Code of Conduct for court clerks was drafted to strengthen the ethics and professionalism of justice officials. UNDP interventions also enabled the humanization and modernization of the penitentiary system as well as the socio-professional reintegration of convicted persons.

For women's access to rights and justice, UNDP organized a training for 30 facilitators from civil society organizations (CSOs) on women's rights, transformational leadership, and communication skills. In turn, these facilitators shared their knowledge from the training through information and awareness sessions in chief towns of the administrative regions and the communes of Conakry. In total, 103 sessions were organized, reaching 1,776 people (including 1,244 women).

Within the UN system, UNDP worked with the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict on rights of victims and witnesses. These UN entities brought in technical expertise and experience, contributing to successful legal reforms in the area. UNDP worked closely with the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, a strategic partner in ensuring the legislative reforms in accordance with Guinea's international commitments and human rights standards. UNDP also collaborated with the Guinean Bar Association, the National Transition Council and other judicial entities, as well as four CSOs for the defence of women's rights. The partnership with the civil society helped to ensure the implementation of the legislative amendments, sustainability and further access to justice for the most marginalized segments of the population.

Frequent leadership changes in the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, recurrent within a six-month period, affected the implementation of the planned activities. To ensure the project is sustainable and can continue even when there is a change in leadership in a key government partner, UNDP will secure the support to and the ownership of the initiative by the most senior executives and decision-makers.

Key Results:

UNDP made a significant contribution to the trial of the events of September 28th 2009, supporting the fight against endemic impunity in Guinea.

UNDP support contributed to the improvement of the legal and regulatory framework, in particular the development and adoption of the law on legal aid; the law regulating judicial and non-judicial protection measures to victims, witnesses or other persons at risk; the law revising certain provisions of the Code of Penal Procedure and the decree on the application of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Awareness raising on women's access to rights and justice reached 1,776 people, including 1,244 women, in chief towns of the administrative regions and the communes of Conakry.

Guinea-Bissau

In Guinea-Bissau, an attempted *coup d'état* set back the progress previously made in human rights protection, and the dissolution of the National Assembly (Guinea-Bissau's legislative body) delayed the reforms. In this context, UNDP worked with national partners to improve access to justice for all in the country, especially women and girls.

The lack of qualified legal professionals is one of the impediments to accessing justice in Guinea-Bissau. In 2022, UNDP continued working with [Centres of Access to Justice](#) (CAJ) to address this issue and to improve access to justice for women, children, youth and other groups at risk of marginalization, including in remote areas. In 2022, 8,863 people (47 percent women) across the country received support at the CAJs, 43 percent more than in 2021. Over 90 percent of the cases presented before the CAJs were resolved by mediation, reconciliation, or other administrative processes.¹⁵

UNDP supported four trainings for 105 magistrates, justice officials and criminal investigators (including 31 women) delivered through the Judiciary Training Centre (CENFOJ). In cooperation with the Bar Association, UNDP supported training for 137 lawyers, including 35 women. The next step will be creating a team of women lawyers to provide pro-bono judicial assistance to vulnerable people, particularly at the regional level throughout the country, where the lack of lawyers is critical.

UNDP worked with civil society organizations (CSOs) to facilitate collaboration between the communities and state institutions to combat drug trafficking and transnational organized crime, human trafficking and corruption. The inputs from CSOs were considered in the design process of the National Strategic Plan to prevent and protect victims of human trafficking and the Government elaborated on these inputs with UNDP support.



Dissemination of the National Human Rights Action Plan | UNDP Guinea-Bissau

¹⁵ CAJ Report, 2022. Ministry of Justice and Human Rights.

The National Strategy on Community Policing was approved¹⁶ and the Proximity Police Model was adopted to ensure inclusive community-oriented policing and increase people’s trust in the police. To reinforce the presence of security forces in the country and to enable better service delivery, UNDP supported the rehabilitation of the Bafatá detention facility, the construction of the third model police station in Gabu and the refurbishment of two border control posts in the northern part of the country (Dungal/Oio region and Cambaju/Bafata region).

UNDP strengthened the human rights capacity of the Government by providing technical and financial assistance to elaborate the first National Human Rights Strategy.¹⁷ UNDP-facilitated consultations between civil society and national authorities contributed to the inclusivity and the national ownership of the process. The Council of Ministers approved the Strategy on 6 October 2022, and it is now in the implementation phase, also supported by UNDP in close coordination with civil society and the National Commission on Human Rights.

Going forward, UNDP will focus on improving access to justice for women survivors or those at risk of sexual and gender-based violence, including through women’s empowerment and awareness raising. A gender audit of the judiciary is planned to identify gaps in gender equality and design strategic lines for action. UNDP will also work to establish an early warning system to prevent human rights violations and strengthen the capacity of human rights defenders.

Key Results:

Approximately 2,350 persons (38 percent youth and 27 percent women and girls) benefited from UNDP-supported information and awareness-raising campaigns, training and workshops on human rights, justice and the rule of law.

UNDP support to the Centres of Access to Justice (CAJ) helped improve access to justice for women, children, youth and other groups at risk of marginalization, including in remote areas. In 2022, 8,863 people (47 percent women) across the country received support at the CAJs, 43 percent more than in 2021. Over 90 percent of the cases presented before the CAJs were resolved.

Two border posts and one police station were constructed, and a detention centre was rehabilitated, improving the service delivery of the law enforcement agencies and contributing to a people-centred approach.

The first National Human Rights Action Plan and the National Anti-Corruption Strategy¹⁸ were developed with UNDP’s technical and financial support. The Government approved both documents, which are being implemented with further support from UNDP.

Liberia

In Liberia, to foster access to justice and improve the environment for human rights, UNDP’s Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme) provided funding to the UN Joint Programme on Rule of Law. The programme was developed and is implemented by four UN agencies - UNDP, UN Women, UNICEF and the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR).

The Joint Programme strengthened local capacities to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence and national capacity for the implementation of the national Sexual and Gender-based Violence Road Map. The digital case management system developed for the judiciary and the Liberia National Police improved access to justice for sexual and gender-based violence survivors.

¹⁶ [Estratégias de Segurança Pública e da Implementação Operacional do Modelo de Policiamento de proximidade na Guiné-Bissau](#), 2022.

¹⁷ [Estratégia Nacional para os Direitos Humanos e Cidadania, Guiné-Bissau 2022-2026](#), March 2022.

¹⁸ [Estratégia Nacional de Combate à Corrupção da República da Guiné-Bissau 2021 - 2030 \(ENCàC G-B\)](#), September 2021.

To strengthen local capacities for preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence, UNDP provided technical and financial support to women-led civil society organization (CSO) networks¹⁹ in Bong and Nimba Counties. Civic interventions to support gender-based violence survivors included monitoring the performance of the specialized Criminal Court E dedicated to the adjudication of sexual and gender-based violence cases; creating awareness and educating communities on Court E, gender-based violence and human rights; identifying and supporting survivors to access justice, as well as helping to resolve minor civil disputes in their communities and forwarding criminal cases to the relevant authorities.

As a result, over 70 people (95.8 percent women) have accessed justice and psychosocial support, including 24 rape survivors, 10 survivors of domestic violence, individuals involved in seven property or land dispute cases and six cases on debt. Further, the women-led CSO networks assisted 24 sexual and gender-based violence survivors with filing their cases in courts, out of which four cases have already been adjudicated with perpetrators convicted. The resolution of these cases has contributed to maintaining peace and social cohesion in the communities. Feedback from women indicates that their partners tend to increasingly refrain from violence due to the knowledge that they may be brought before Court E for accountability.

UNDP-supported interventions strengthened the national capacity to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate sexual and gender-based violence and other criminal and civil cases by digitizing case management. The Judicial Case Management Information System (CMIS) and the Liberia National Police Crime Statistics Information System (CSIS) were operationalized. CMIS allows the judiciary to digitally collect and enter cases online to enable their accessibility to lawyers and judges, thereby facilitating effective and efficient adjudication. CSIS enables the police to electronically collect, enter and access crime statistics anywhere in the country, disaggregating cases by gender and providing data on the patterns of gender-based violence.

A briefing note on [“Innovative online case management system ushers Liberia’s Judiciary into the digital age”](#) was prepared and disseminated to share lessons learned for the successful and sustainable rollout of online case management systems. Identified good practices include co-creation with national partners and users, engaging local experts, applying an iterative approach based on a clear set of targets, regular feedback sessions, monitoring, and management oversight, and training of a core group of national personnel.

The availability and application of forensic evidence in the investigation and prosecution of sexual and gender-based violence cases in Liberia is relatively new. As such, collection and storage of forensic evidence is still a challenge. To support national stakeholders in addressing this challenge, the Joint Programme facilitated training for 93 sexual and gender-based violence response chain actors (including 51 women) on the collection, preservation and use of forensic evidence while investigating and prosecuting sexual and gender-based violence cases. The new skills enabled the response chain actors, particularly social and health workers, police and prosecutors, to provide stronger evidence in court to adjudicate and convict perpetrators. This has contributed to increased prosecution and conviction of perpetrators, as is evident from the increased resolution rates of sexual and gender-based violence cases: 43.7 percent in 2022 compared to 32.8 percent in 2021.

Key Results:

In the communities where UNDP and civil society networks provided legal support, including judicial representations, women indicate that their partners tend to increasingly refrain from violence due to the knowledge that they may be brought to account.

Resolution of sexual and gender-based violence cases in courts increased by 10 percent: from 32.8 percent in 2021 to 43.7 percent in 2022.

The Judicial Case Management Information System (CMIS) and the Liberia National Police Crime Statistics Information System (CSIS) were developed and are operational, enabling access to real-time collection, entry and access of information on cases and crime statistics. The information systems strengthened the national capacity to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate sexual and gender-based violence and other criminal and civil cases.

¹⁹ The Joint Programme collaborated with two national CSOs – Efficient Research and Development Institution (ERDI) and Development Education, Learning and Training in Action-Human Rights Foundation (DELTA-HRF) – to facilitate mobilization, training, deployment and other logistical support to the women-led CSO networks to implement project interventions in various communities in support of survivors of gender-based violence.

Mali - GFP profile

The political and security context in Mali was challenging throughout 2022. In January, following the decision of the transitional authorities to extend the duration of the political transition, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) imposed economic sanctions on Mali. The sanctions were lifted in July after the adoption of a new electoral calendar which provides for the holding of presidential elections in February 2024. The security situation in the country remained complex and volatile, especially in the three border areas of the Liptako-Gourma region.

Despite these challenges, UNDP continued the implementation of its rule of law and conflict prevention programme, the “Programme of support for the stabilization of Mali by strengthening the rule of law” (PROSMED). The programme will run until 2025, within the framework of the UN Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP), in partnership with UN Women and the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSMA). PROSMED activities benefit from financial contributions from the European Union, the Netherlands, the Peacebuilding Fund and MINUSMA’s programmatic and Trust funds. The support from UNDP’s Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development was essential for the design of PROSMED and the implementation of its pilot phase in 2020 and 2021.

PROSMED links its support to security and justice sectors with conflict prevention, the fight against corruption and prevention of violent extremism (PVE). In 2022, the programme expanded its interventions to several areas in the South and is now present in 11 out of 20 regions of Mali. A second perception study²⁰ designed to assess the impact of the programme confirmed PROSMED’s positive impact since inception in 2020. People’s trust in the security forces increased by 13 percent, the levels of satisfaction with the services provided by the security and justice actors increased by 40 percent and 5 percent respectively, and the number of people perceiving the same actors as prone to corruption decreased by 30 percent.

In 2022, PROSMED invested more efforts in strengthening the accountability of security and justice actors. The capacity and efficiency of the Ministry of Justice inspectorate were improved through the development of a digital inspection reporting tool and through support to conduct five missions to inspect courts and prisons. To improve accessibility of security and justice actors, PROSMED initiated the securing, rehabilitation and/or construction of 23 security and 13 justice premises. These infrastructures will be finalized in 2023, allowing the deployment of new security and justice personnel. Two new police stations were already inaugurated and 80 police officers deployed in 2022.

In addition, more than 1,000 security and justice actors (30 percent women) deployed in the areas targeted by the programme received training improving the efficiency of the criminal chain. These trainings focused on several themes that were identified during the needs assessments carried out in 2020-2021, such as investigation planning, legal proceedings, respect for human rights and ethics (for security actors), management of jurisdictions, statistics, judicial registry, human rights in detention, and accountability (for justice actors).

In order to restore the population’s trust in security actors, the programme continued supporting the establishment of a community policing approach and the functioning of 22 security advisory committees. These committees, chaired by mayors, serve as a dialogue framework between communities and security forces to ensure that security responses are based on community needs. In 2022, in partnership with the security advisory committees, PROSMED supported 75 awareness-raising and confidence-building activities between communities and security forces and the installation of 475 solar streetlights in six areas of Central Mali²¹ to improve streetlighting and mitigate security risks.

PROSMED supported the development of an anti-corruption national strategy that was finalized in December 2022, and the operationalization of the new national anti-corruption court. A civil society network was established to monitor trials with a focus on corruption cases and human rights violations. A mobile application and a [web-platform](#) were developed to enable reporting of corruption cases and human rights

²⁰ The first perception study was presented in October 2020 to inform the design of the programme and provide the baseline for some of the outcome indicators.

²¹ Bla, Djenné, Douentza, Koro, Macina and Niono.

violations. In 2022, more than 500 such reports were received and transferred to relevant judicial and inspectorate services.

Finally, PROSMED strengthened the effectiveness and inclusiveness of traditional conflict management mechanisms. In Central Mali, where the presence of formal security and justice actors is limited, these mechanisms play a crucial role. With PROSMED's support, 174 additional land commissions were established (in total, 509 land commissions have been established by the programme) to manage land disputes. Over 4,200 formal and informal actors involved in land management were trained and almost 950,000 community members were sensitized on conflict prevention and the functioning of land commissions. Since their establishment in 2021, these commissions settled at least 120 conflicts and contributed to the increase in women's access to land by 12 percent.

In 2023, UNDP, in partnership with MINUSMA and UN Women, will continue implementing the PROSMED programme. Once the new security and justice premises are ready, with new security and justice personnel deployed, the programme will expand its activities to improve people's access to justice.

Key Results:

A perception study confirmed PROSMED's positive impact since its inception in 2020. People's trust in the security forces increased by 13 percent, levels of satisfaction with the services provided by the security and justice actors increased by 40 percent and 5 percent respectively, and the number of people perceiving the same actors as prone to corruption decreased by 30 percent.

Two new police stations were inaugurated and 80 police officers were deployed in 2022. More than 1,000 security and justice actors (30 percent women) were deployed in the areas targeted by the programme and received training to improve the efficiency of the criminal chain.

Women's access to land increased by 12 percent and at least 120 land conflicts were settled through the PROSMED-supported land commissions.

To ensure a community policing approach, 22 security advisory committees were established as a dialogue framework between communities and security forces.

Nigeria

In Nigeria, UNDP supports the long-term efforts of the authorities to build a more effective, efficient and professional police service, in accordance with human rights standards and the rule of law.

UNDP implements the project in partnership with a German non-governmental organization (NGO), [the Global Security Sector Reform Foundation \(GS-F\)](#) and under the leadership of the Office of the Chief of Staff of Nigeria and the Nigeria Police Force (NPF). The financial support of UNDP's Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme) complements the funding received from the German Federal Foreign Ministry that has supported the police reform in Nigeria since December 2021.

As the government's leading partner in the police reform process, UNDP in Nigeria exercises its convening function and brings together UN Women, UN Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) and international NGOs such as the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) and the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation (KAS), as well as donor partners to share information, discuss priorities and coordinate police reform efforts.

To ensure the police reform is effective, people-centred and sustainable, three areas of work have been prioritized:

1. The Presidential Roadmap on Police Reform was approved and the Presidential Working Group (WG) on Police Reform was constituted with members from 15 government and civil society organizations including the police. Notably, [the roadmap](#) puts human rights at the core of the police reform, recognizing them fundamental for "maintaining public safety, protecting life and property and preventing crime."

The Police Reform and Transformation Office (PORTO) was operationalized to spearhead the reform process. Comprised of policing experts from the Office of the Chief of Staff, legislative branch and the NPF, PORTO has successfully advocated for salary increases and welfare benefits across the police, and for the legislative measures to modernize the institution. Draft laws were developed to institutionalize Nigeria's police academies which will allow them to attract funding. Additionally, internal and external communications strategies were developed.

2. Police training standards were modernized and innovative approaches applied to enhance the capacity of 20 trainers (including five women) in the Central Planning and Training Unit (CPTU) and over 500 police trainers across the country – on gender equality and non-discrimination. Two key novelties in the curriculum design are human rights mainstreaming to prevent disproportionate use of force and the integration of a gender component to prevent violence against women and girls. UNDP and UN Women will work further with PORTO to lobby the adoption by the Nigerian police of the new gender guidelines developed by UN Women.

With the support of UNDP and the project partners, the CPTU received new equipment and its premises were refurbished. The project team commenced the assessment of all the police training facilities.

Ahead of the presidential elections in Nigeria,²² UNDP organized trainings for 180 zonal commanders (20 percent were women) from the police across the country and convened UN agencies and other partners to increase collaboration on elections security.

3. Funding from the Global Programme allowed catalytic work to begin to strengthen political, civilian and internal oversight mechanisms to promote the accountability and transparency of the police.

Through a workshop that took place early 2023, UNDP collaborated with OHCHR and UNODC to advocate for addressing the complaints of police misconduct in the run-up to the elections. OHCHR and UNODC are working with the police and the Police Service Commission to enhance internal and external accountability with the support of the Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) and the US Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL).

Further opportunities for collaboration are being discussed, including for the approval of the Police Regulations (linked to the 2020 Police Act) which will have an important bearing on accountability and updating the police code of conduct. Once approved, the regulations will considerably improve the welfare of women police officers, as a number of discriminatory provisions will be abolished. In addition, UNDP will focus on capacity building among senior and mid-rank police officers and implementing pilot community policing initiatives.

Key Results:

The Presidential Roadmap on Police Reform was approved and the Presidential Working Group (WG) on Police Reform was established.

The Police Reform and Transformation Office (PORTO) has successfully advocated for the salary increases and welfare benefits across the police and for the legislative measures to modernize the institution.

Police training standards were modernized and innovative approaches applied to enhance the capacity of over 500 police trainers across the country on human rights mainstreaming, gender equality and non-discrimination.

²² The presidential elections in Nigeria took place in February 2023.

Sierra Leone

In Sierra Leone, UNDP partnered with the Human Rights Commission (HRCSL) and civil society organizations (CSOs) to popularize the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) among national and local stakeholders. The two main objectives of this initiative were (1) to raise awareness and stimulate responsible business operations that respect human rights and (2) to incentivize community action to peacefully advocate for remedies for human rights abuses committed by multinational companies.

UNDP enabled the HRCSL and four CSOs to engage stakeholders at national and community levels through training, outreach and media campaigns. The HRCSL worked primarily with duty-bearers and company authorities to promote respect for UNGPs, the national policy on land and the environment, and to prevent and address sexual and gender-based violence. In parallel, the CSOs targeted rights-holders in rural communities where the businesses operate. In total, 752 people (including 313 women) participated in the trainings conducted by the HRCSL and in four gender-sensitive community forum and trainings on UNGPs delivered by CSOs.

The CSO-led activities targeted mainly women and youth associations, as well as traditional leaders, and resulted in increased awareness which helped change people's perspectives on how to better relate with authorities and business representatives on issues regarding land acquisition and the operations of large-scale companies.²³



Forum on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights organized by Humanist Watch Salone in Geima, Dama chiefdom and Panguma, Lower Bambara chiefdom, Kenema district, Sierra Leone | UNDP Sierra Leone

“The knowledge gained from this training is an eye-opener and guide for me as a local chief in this community. Investors have started engaging us to lease hilly land that is considered to have minerals. I have now acquired the knowledge and understanding on how I can, collectively work with my people, prevent the mistakes communities made before,” the Section Chief in Goffor, Dama Chiefdom.

A key challenge in the implementation of the B+HR initiative in Sierra Leone was confrontation from companies' alliances that viewed the work of the community-based CSOs, particularly that of the Community Action for Human Security (CAHSec), as inciting, especially when questions were raised through the Chiefdom multi-stakeholder platform regarding the contribution of the companies to the chiefdom development funds. This challenge was addressed through dedicated meetings the CSOs held with business representatives to present their work and reiterate their commitment to avoid inciteful messages. In addition, the officials of the companies were invited to attend the sessions to dispel any allegations of incitement.

UNDP worked with the District Human Rights Committees²⁴ to improve their capacities in engaging with companies and promoting peaceful dispute resolutions between businesses and communities. According to the Joint Monitoring Mission Report of UNDP, Irish Aid and the Human Right Commission of Sierra Leone;

“the training of members of District Human Rights Committees on business and human rights has further helped enhance monitoring and reporting on human right violations in mining companies and mediation efforts by Grievance Redress Committees (GRC) or Chiefdom Multi-Stakeholders Platform (CMSP) to resolve disputes between local communities and companies.”²⁵

Public outreach activities have also contributed to the gradual change in perceptions and approaches of local authorities and business representatives. In 2022, ten interactive programmes (B+HR Hour) were aired

²³ Large scale companies are (1) mineral extractive companies that mine Iron-ore, Rutile, gold etc. and employ over 500 people; (2) agricultural companies that have over 200 employees.

²⁴ District Human Rights Committees are the main partners of the HRCSL for regular monitoring and reporting on human rights issues.

²⁵ UNDP, Irish Aid and Human Right Commission of Sierra Leone, *Joint Monitoring Mission Report*, 20-24 June 2022, p. 5.

through five radio stations in four communities reaching over 163,000 people. These programmes allowed direct interaction between community members, local authorities and business representatives.

In addition, two outreach mobile sessions to document complaints (on business operations and beyond) were held in Bumbuna and Rogbere communities with 102 participants, including 39 women. Twenty-one complaints were received. Most of them were addressed and resolved while those that do not fall under the mandate of the Human Rights Commission were referred to other agencies.

The achievements have positioned UNDP as a critical actor in promoting the business and human rights agenda in Sierra Leone. The capacity building for government and traditional authorities raised the momentum among stakeholders for enhanced engagement around the process to develop the National Action Plan (NAP) on Business and Human Rights. The HRCSL strongly relies on UNDP's support to further engage the Ministry of Justice in the development of the NAP and to capacitate the Business and Human Rights Directorate within the HRCL.

In 2023, UNDP will support regional validation of the draft National Policy on B+HR, prioritizing the NAP development for 2024. Grassroots projects for livelihood opportunities may be considered as a follow-up support to enhance the sustainability of local women's groups and associations and to complement legal empowerment with economic incentives.

Human Rights and SDG Integration

With the support of the UNSDG Human Rights Mainstreaming Fund, UNDP and OHCHR continued to support national partners to strengthen integration of human rights and sustainable development reporting and implementation efforts in Sierra Leone. In April of 2022, the government launched an Integrated Implementation and Reporting Strategy for the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), SDGs, and the Medium-Term National Development Plan. The Strategy was developed through a highly consultative process including representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Ministry of Development SDG Planning Unit, Ministry of Justice, the Judiciary, Ministry of Gender and Children's Affairs, Ministry of Social Welfare, Ministry of Labour, the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone, the Police, and the National Reporting Mechanism.

The Strategy articulates Sierra Leone's accepted UPR recommendations, SDG commitments, as well as national development plans in a coherent framework for integrated monitoring and reporting. The Strategy also contains a dedicated UPR action plan which provides a blueprint for UPR implementation by national institutions with outcomes and indicators aligned with the various SDGs. Importantly, the Strategy positions the National Reporting Mechanism to track progress in the implementation of not only the UPR but also the SDGs and national development plans.

In 2022, progress in the implementation of key recommendations tracked by the National Reporting Mechanism was evident, including through the passing of the [Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Act](#).

Moreover, strong collaboration between the UN system and national partners in support of the implementation of the Integrated Implementation and Reporting Strategy for the UPR, SDGs, and Medium-Term National Development Plan and the functioning of the National Reporting Mechanism has been sustained.

Key Results:

UNDP-supported HRCSL and civil society trainings increased the awareness and knowledge of national stakeholders and community members on UNGPs, land and environmental rights, and sexual and gender-based violence prevention. 752 people (including 313 women) participated in the trainings conducted by the HRCSL and in gender-sensitive community forums and trainings delivered by CSOs. HRCSL trainings reached 149 representatives (including 32 women) of traditional authorities, managers and senior officials of companies, as well as officials of ministries, departments, agencies and local councils. 350 community members (including 158 women) benefitted from the trainings by civil society, and 210 people (including 96 women) took part in the four civil society forums on UNGPs.

To raise awareness on business and human rights, ten interactive programmes (B+HR Hour) were aired through five radio stations in four communities reaching over 163,000 people.

Two outreach mobile sessions to document complaints (on business operations and beyond) were held in Bumbuna and Rogbere communities – where several industrial mining companies are based - with 102 participants, including 39 women. Twenty-one complaints were received, with most of them addressed and resolved by HRCSL.

South Sudan

The political and security situation in South Sudan remained volatile, with cattle raiding and migration related conflicts in the Equatoria State, intercommunal violence in Warrap State, armed militia clashes in Jonglei and Upper Nile States, and the increasing number of returnees and refugee inflow due to the Sudan crisis. In 2022, the parties to the 2018 Revitalized Peace Agreement adopted a roadmap extending the transitional period for two more years and postponing elections until 2024. Overall, although six laws were enacted to pave the way for constitutional, electoral and institutional reforms, the [implementation of the peace agreement was marred by delays](#).

According to a UNDP-commissioned study of the legal needs of the people of South Sudan,²⁶ every year, two million legal problems in the country remain unresolved. Out of those, 60 percent relate to land disputes, domestic violence and crime. With weak and under-resourced justice and security systems which have not yet recovered from the impact of war, people in vulnerable situations have no access or delayed access to justice – a factor that remains a significant trigger for social tension and conflict, including “revenge” killings.

2022 marked the third year of implementing Phase III of UNDP’s rule of law programme that provides tailored access to justice, security and human rights support to six states and one Administrative Area, and supports constitution making, transitional justice, judicial and security sector reforms. In addition, with the support of UNDP’s Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development, the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the Secretary-General’s Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), South Sudan has been implementing initiatives under the SALIENT project, to counter armed violence and proliferation of small arms and light weapons.

To contribute to the establishment of two key transitional justice bodies envisaged by the 2018 Revitalized Peace Agreement, UNDP facilitated countrywide consultations to inform the content of the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing Bill and the Compensation and Reparations Authority Bill. Over 4,500 people in all the ten states and three Administrative Areas participated. UNDP also supported two learning visits to The Gambia and South Africa for high-level government officials and civil society practitioners. Both bills were drafted in 2022, with their review process scheduled for 2023. In addition, UNDP provided psychosocial support to almost 800 armed violence survivors who then organized themselves into 47 victim support groups to willingly participate in the truth, reconciliation and healing processes, and to seek compensation and reparations.

The Judicial Reform Committee was established to accelerate progress towards a transformational justice reform agenda. UNDP contributed to setting up a secretariat for the Committee, provided study reports on

²⁶ UNDP and the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs with support of the Hague Institute for Innovation of Law: “[Justice Needs and Satisfaction in South Sudan: Legal problems in daily life](#).” (2022).

the justice landscape and gender diversity in the judiciary, and helped develop its user-friendly website to enable people living within and outside South Sudan to access the information and participate in the reform process virtually.

In cooperation with the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), UNDP contributed to the drafting and advocated for the adoption of the Constitution Making Process Act. Enacted in 2022, the act launched a process to replace the country's Transitional Constitution of 2011.

To deliver people-centred justice and security, and to empower citizens to exercise their rights, UNDP worked with seven civil society organizations (CSOs), operationalized five mobile courts and six police special protection units. The capacity of 1,705 judges, prosecutors, investigators, traditional leaders and legal aid providers (including 574 women) was improved. The justice services were made available for the most disadvantaged and vulnerable, including individuals in pre-trial detention, survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and people living with HIV and AIDS. As a result, 6,128 people received access to justice and 5,867 individuals were provided with legal aid services. This encompasses over 3,000 people (including 211 women and 15 juveniles) who were released from pre-trial detention.

To support individuals deprived of their liberty to reintegrate into society upon their release, UNDP organized prison-based vocational skills trainings for over 800 inmates: 630 (including 134 women) graduated in 2022.

UNDP contributed to advancing community safety and security by sustaining the operations of two emergency call centres within the police, and provided technical and material support to the National Police Service to establish a Community Policing Directorate. Thirty-eight new police-community relations committees were established bringing the total to 170. Forty-four committees are led by women, youth and/or IDPs. Over 12,000 community members (including 6,685 women) participated in the confidence-building work of the committees.

Massive awareness-raising campaigns launched in cooperation with civil society and local media, reached over seven million people. The messages on human rights, available legal aid services, constitution making and transitional justice processes served to empower people to demand justice and accountability, and contributed to resilience building.

To promote peace, rule of law and sustainable development, UNDP in South Sudan worked closely with UNMISS, UN Women, the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR), the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and UNICEF.

Key Results:

To support transitional justice processes, UNDP facilitated countrywide consultations for the establishment of the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing, provided psychosocial support to armed violence survivors, and contributed to the establishment of the Judicial Reform Committee.

Through civil society organizations, mobile courts and police special protection units, almost 12,000 people received access to justice and legal aid. Over 3,000 individuals (including 211 women) were released from pre-trial detention.

Awareness-raising campaigns launched in cooperation with civil society and local media, reached over seven million people contributing to resilience building and civic participation.

Advancement of community safety and security by sustaining the operations of two emergency call centres within the police, and provided technical and material support to the National Police Service to establish a Community Policing Directorate and 38 new police-community relations committees.

ARAB STATES

Regional overview

Countries in the Arab States region continue to face challenges in achieving equality and ensuring human rights protection, especially considering the need to simultaneously recover from the socioeconomic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and navigate through evolving regional and international conflicts. Political tensions and armed violence persisted in 2022, impacting the possibility to establish an enabling environment for a strong rule of law with functioning, independent, people-centred and accountable institutions. Instability in Iraq, Lebanon, Libya and Sudan, and continuing armed conflict in Syria and Yemen made sustainable peace elusive. This widespread fragility has led to the rise in humanitarian crises within and beyond the region, compromising development efforts, access to rights and services. Women and girls, the forcibly displaced, persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups bore the heaviest burden.

Recognizing the challenging context, UNDP's Regional Bureau for the Arab States (RBAS) focused on strengthening national efforts in delivery of justice and basic services, with a particular emphasis on the *leaving no one behind* approach. In Lebanon, for example, UNDP supported the development of a national policy for legal aid and the establishment of three pilot legal aid centres. Over 6,000 people (over 50 percent were women and 40 percent refugees, mostly from Syria) received legal support in these centres. In Somalia, UNDP supported various avenues for women to access justice. Over 1,600 women benefited from alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, legal aid and mobile court services in 2022. One-stop sexual assault referral centres provided medical, legal and psychosocial support to 296 survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, including 259 women.

In 2022, the support from the Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme) was critical for the implementation of the rule of law, security and human rights portfolio in the region. It has enabled expansion in the areas of e-justice, gender justice and business and human rights, as well as the exploration of new areas and approaches.

Digitalization and e-justice

UNDP's Global Programme supported the exploration of scalability of the Mizan system, an integrated digital court management system developed by the High Judicial Council of the State of Palestine with UNDP support. Having shown to enhance aspects of justice delivery through increased efficiency and transparency, the Mizan system has been recognized as a good practice model in the development process of e-justice solutions.

A methodology brief was developed and utilized to inform the scalability assessment of rule of law and digital components, including an in-person assessment held in January 2023. The assessment results will be finalized in 2023, not only to guide the future application of Mizan but to further advance the regional dialogue on e-justice. UNDP has already facilitated knowledge sharing between the State of Palestine and various Country Offices in the region to support the latter in developing e-justice solutions to advance people-centred justice delivery. The [e-justice toolkit](#) developed by the Global Programme in 2022 contributed to the discussions and gave an additional impetus to the e-justice work in the region.

Further, the e-justice work in the Arab States has resulted in a new partnership with UNDP's Chief Digital Office (CDO) which provided both technical and financial support to identify best solutions for Mizan scalability complementing the Global Programme's funding of the e-justice initiative.

Business and Human Rights

Throughout 2022, UNDP worked towards finalizing its internal paper on business and human rights (B+HR). Along with consultations with UNDP Country Offices and partners, the internal reflections paved the way for possible recommendations for future projects and interventions that include awareness-raising and

knowledge sharing to support governments and businesses in adhering to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs).

In Tunisia, UNDP's work on B+HR has already commenced and contributed towards the promotion of the B+HR agenda and integration of human rights principles within businesses practices. Looking forward, regional National Human Rights Institute Networks will be a crucial partner for UNDP in accelerating the advancement of the B+HR agenda in the region.

Gender justice

To support gender equality and women's empowerment, UNDP launched the behavioral insights (BI) project to explore instances when women in the Arab States do not fully exercise their rights or utilize legal services available. The project uses the findings of [the Gender Justice and Equality before the Law reports](#) (2018) as an information source and seeks to take the work beyond the legal mapping exercise.

Implemented in coordination with UNDP's Innovation Team and Gender Team, the exploratory phase of the BI project was initiated to identify and address barriers in justice delivery for women, and to design interventions to improve the access to and impact of legal aid services. The project provided support for survivors of domestic violence in Kuwait, in addressing inheritance rights issues in Tunisia and in expanding reintegration support for women leaving the prison system in Algeria. To ensure a smooth transition from the exploratory to the implementation phase and to enable the Country Offices to design activities based on behavioral insights, UNDP facilitated a series of workshops with the Country Offices and their national stakeholders. The uniqueness of the project encouraged a collaborative process between the Country Offices and national stakeholders (governments and civil society) to identify targeted interventions for amplified impact.

The efforts undertaken in 2022 have laid the foundation for the work ahead. Taking into account the political sensitivities in the region, with new and ongoing conflicts, promotion and protection of the rule of law, security and human rights remain of critical importance. For this cause, UNDP's Regional Bureau in the Arab States will continue its investment in justice delivery through its work on gender justice and e-justice work while pursuing opportunities for expanding its regional offer on business and human rights.

Djibouti

In Djibouti, the Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development supports the advancement of human rights through their inclusion in Djibouti's economic growth model. This project constitutes a starting point to launch the Business and Human Rights (B+HR) agenda in the country and target human rights advancement through the lens of economic development and SDGs. With this human rights-based intervention, UNDP intends to contribute to boosting economic growth and investments in Djibouti.

UNDP Djibouti started the project implementation by raising awareness of national counterparts on business and human rights. UNDP supported the participation of the Secretary General of the Ministry of Justice and the President of the Chamber of Commerce of Djibouti in the [African Business and Human Rights Forum](#) held in Accra in October 2022. The engagement allowed the representatives of these strategic entities to discuss the B+HR agenda with their counterparts from other countries, increase knowledge of best practices and therefore initiate the B+HR agenda in Djibouti.

At the next stage, UNDP will convene more national counterparts and set the ground for the implementation of the core activities: a baseline assessment and the development of a National Action Plan to further the B+HR agenda in Djibouti. The purpose of the baseline assessment is to measure the accessibility and enjoyment of human rights essential to achieve Djibouti's development goals, and to identify factors empowering men and women to drive change for development and diversified economy. The baseline assessment with inclusive and participatory consultations was scheduled for April 2023.

The National Commission for Human Rights and the Ministry of Justice, in charge of human rights, were selected as UNDP's focal points in this project in strong cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce (for the

private sector). More stakeholders including the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Labor and civil society will be engaged as partners and for participation in roundtables and workshops organized around the baseline assessment and the discussions around the National Action Plan. Since the launch of the project, UNDP has been engaging with the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) to exchange experiences, complement efforts and consider joint activities.

Key Results:

UNDP Global Programme launched the business and human rights project in Djibouti in 2022, constituting a starting point to launch the Business and Human Rights (B+HR) agenda in the country and target human rights advancement through the lens of economic development and SDGs.

The Secretary General of the Ministry of Justice and the President of the Chamber of Commerce of Djibouti participated in the [African Business and Human Rights Forum](#) held in Accra in October 2022 to exchange good practices and discuss the B+HR agenda among the countries.

Partnerships between the Ministry of Justice, the National Commission for Human Rights, the Chamber of Commerce, and UNDP were established for the project; other stakeholders, such as Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Labor and civil society, have been actively engaged.

Egypt

In Egypt, UNDP engaged in extensive consultations with the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to agree on the priority areas for the next phase of the project [“Support to Legal Aid and Dispute Settlement in Family Courts and Legal Aid Offices”](#).

Direct project implementation will start with the needs assessment scheduled for the second quarter of 2023. The previous project phases implemented through the MoJ will be assessed from human rights and gender perspectives to inform the third phase. The assessment aims to identify the lessons learned and generate knowledge.

The project and its preparation phase mainstream the *leave no one behind* approach while supporting the MoJ in providing access to justice for all Egyptians, especially the most marginalized. In addition to continuing earlier achievements benefiting women (development and expansion of legal aid and dispute settlement offices), the project will expand to benefit workers in line with the new draft labour law which was approved by the Senate, and will be referred to the House of Representatives for final discussion.

By engaging MoJ at the early stage of project development, UNDP ensured better alignment with national priorities and needs, and also encouraged national ownership. In 2023, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is expected to be signed between UNDP and the Ministry to expedite future cooperation and develop additional activities including the expansion of the network of legal aid offices in Egypt and enhancing the digital infrastructure for the MoJ.

UNDP and the MoJ will be the primary recipients of the needs assessment for the project, with its findings being equally useful to other ministries and state bodies, development partners and the donor community. The needs assessment is to be completed in 2023.

Key Results:

UNDP and the Ministry of Justice have agreed on the priority areas for the next phase of the project “Support to Legal Aid and Dispute Settlement in Family Courts and Legal Aid Offices” in Egypt, with implementation to start in 2023.

Iraq

In Iraq, the delays in forming a new government following the 2021 elections slowed down the security sector, good governance and rule of law reforms for most of 2022. In this context, UNDP continued to provide technical advisory support and capacity building to advance security sector reform, community policing, gender equality and access to justice. Since 2017, the rule of law projects in Iraq have benefitted from the support provided by UNDP's Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme). Technical expertise and facilitated connections with the other UNDP Country Offices from the region and beyond enabled the development of a solid justice and security offer that has effectively responded to the Iraqi crisis.



Female police officers at the Open Day of Basmaya Police Station, Baghdad, Iraq | UNDP Iraq

To ensure an inclusive security sector reform process with the objective of transferring the internal security management from the military to the police, UNDP works closely with the UN Country Team in Iraq, in particular with the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), UN Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), as well as with the European Union Advisory Mission (EUAM) and the NATO Mission to Iraq (NMI). Key Iraqi rule of law and governance stakeholders remained engaged in policy dialogues for reforms pending the formation of the new government and the resumption of the activities in this area.

To enhance security at the local level and to build trust between security services and the communities, UNDP supported community-police partnerships. The local authorities and the police, together with the tribal leaders, women and youth organizations, held awareness raising sessions for more than 2,400 people (including 710 women) in six localities where the model police stations had been previously rolled out.

Working towards women's equal participation in security services remains an important goal for UNDP. One of the key challenges in this process is the very low number of women in the Iraqi security and law enforcement services. Throughout 2022, UNDP supported capacity development for 250 police trainers and mentors (including 20 women) and invested in strategic policy efforts for the implementation of the local police roadmap. UNDP provides strategic policy advice to the Ministry of Interior, for example, a gender study was commissioned to inform the security sector and policing reforms.



Local community representatives raising security concerns at the Open Day at Ramadi Model Police Station, Iraq | UNDP Iraq

Through its stabilization fund, UNDP rehabilitated 50 police stations and 10 courts enabling the return and access to justice for people in former ISIL (Da'esh) controlled areas. UNDP continued its support to fostering conditions for peaceful co-existence and resilience to violent extremism through the creation of economic opportunities for youth and women in fragile communities. For example, a ten-day business skills development training was organized for 200 participants (including 80 women) who received support in developing their business implementation plans. Over 90 percent of the beneficiaries assessed the improvement of their business skills from beginners to intermediate and advanced levels.

In July 2022, UNAMI and UNDP commenced a trial monitoring programme to inform anti-corruption policies and address money laundering. UNDP's capacity building activities complemented UNAMI's strategic advice and anti-corruption policy recommendations. UNDP provided training for 836 judges, prosecutors and investigators on financial and corruption investigations. Within the anti-corruption project, almost 100 ongoing anti-corruption trials were monitored and 104 old verdicts were analyzed to identify positive and negative trends and address the shortcomings in the system. Four policy dialogues were held with the judiciary, the Bar Association and civil society to overcome challenges in their collaboration that slow down or frustrate financial investigations. To promote judicial integrity, the Federal Supreme Judicial Council adopted the Judicial Code

of Conduct for judges and prosecutors while the Commissions of Integrity (independent units within the government) and the Bar Association started drafting their codes of conduct with UNDP support.

To promote legislative reforms in Iraq and to support the authorities in harmonizing the legislation with international standards, UNDP reviewed the draft laws on access to information, conflict of interest, public procurement regulations and the amendments to the criminal procedure code and the penal code at the federal level, and the draft law on the judicial oversight authority in Kurdistan region. Based on this analysis, the drafts were revised in line with international standards and shared with the Commission of Integrity for the final review. In addition, 567 public officials (150 were women) including members of Parliament received training on legislative drafting to further align these pieces of legislation with the international standards.

Going forward, UNDP will strengthen the engagement with civil society in the security sector reform process and will initiate discussions with the Parliamentary Committee on Security and Defense to enhance the oversight system. Building on the 2022 achievements, UNDP will further advance a people-centred approach to security. An upcoming model police station post-implementation survey will capture lessons learned and guide future implementation of the initiative.

UNDP's Global Programme, the Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP) and the UN Human Rights Office will organize a scoping and programming mission to Iraq in 2023 on climate and environmental justice, a topic of acute importance to the country which is heavily affected by climate change and environmental degradation. The purpose of the mission will be to generate new areas of engagement on legislative review and support, institution building and strengthening of civic space in the adjudication of environmental disputes.

Key Results:

More than 2,400 people (including 710 women) were sensitized about the role of community police as a result of the joint awareness raising campaign led by the local authorities and the police, together with the tribal leaders, women and youth organizations

Over 800 judges, prosecutors and investigators (including 89 women) improved their knowledge on financial investigations and anti-corruption, and 567 public officials (including 150 women) received training in legislative drafting in line with international standards. Four policy dialogues were held to improve collaboration among the judiciary, the Bar Association and civil society in addressing corruption and financial crimes.

Youth and women in fragile communities improved their business skills for better economic opportunities. 80 participants (including 21 women) received support in developing business implementation plans. Over 90 percent of the beneficiaries assessed the improvement of their business skills from beginners to intermediate and advanced levels.

Jordan

In Jordan, UNDP, in partnership with the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) and with the support of the UNSDG Human Rights Mainstreaming Fund, supported national stakeholders to participate in the [Voluntary National Review process](#) (VNR) and develop the [2022 VNR report](#). While reflecting on the challenges and setbacks the country faced during and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, the report presents a comprehensive review of measures Jordan has taken to progress towards the achievement of the SDGs.

Recognizing the potential of reporting processes to influence development outcomes, UNDP and OHCHR supported Jordan to prepare the report through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach with particular attention paid to human rights and gender. The National Center for Human Rights (NCHR), Jordan's national human rights institution, played a key role in the development of the report by chairing the multistakeholder Task Force on [SDG16](#), which was responsible for preparing the SDG16 related inputs for the report, and participating in several other SDG Task Forces to promote the use of human rights data and approaches throughout the VNR process. The NCHR was also a part of the core team supporting the drafting and review of the entire 2022 VNR.

Civil society played an active role in the Task Force on SDG16. Also, 202 representatives (including 85 women) from 27 civil society organizations (CSOs) participated in the two national workshops held to launch and validate the VNR with UNDP and OHCHR support. Cross-linkages between the VNR and the [Voluntary Local Review in Amman](#) were also ensured through continuous close coordination with the UN Human Settlements Programme (UN Habitat) and the UN Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (ESCWA).

Through this consultative process, the knowledge and skills of a wide range of national partners were enhanced on human rights-based data collection. Moreover, additional national sources for SDG indicators were validated, including from human rights mechanisms, increasing data availability to monitor the 2030 Agenda in Jordan. Priority gender-specific SDG indicators for Jordan were developed to assist Jordan in fulfilling its commitments toward gender equality and women's empowerment. These new sources and indicators have been integrated with existing data in a new public dashboard to monitor SDG progress, the [Jordan Development Portal](#). The portal not only improves the sustainability of monitoring and reporting efforts on the 2030 Agenda in Jordan but also helps to strengthen evidence- and rights-based decision making for implementation of the SDGs.

In addition to contributing to a stronger human rights analysis in the 2022 VNR, these efforts significantly strengthened collaboration on SDG monitoring and implementation between the central government, particularly the Ministry of Planning and Cooperation and a variety of stakeholders, like the SDG Unit, Department of Statistics, local governments, the National Centre for Human Rights, civil society actors, the private sector, as well as the UN in Jordan. It is expected that a new SDG roadmap will be developed following the 2022 VNR presentation to prioritize goals and targets to be achieved in the next eight years and that the coordination structures established for the VNR reporting process will be maintained to accompany the roadmap implementation.

Key Results:

UNDP and OHCHR supported multistakeholder Task Force on SDG16 in developing the Voluntary National Review 2022 through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach with particular attention paid to human rights and gender. Over 200 representatives (including 85 women) of 27 civil society organizations participated in the two national workshops held to launch and validate the VNR.

Priority gender-specific SDG indicators for Jordan were developed to assist Jordan in fulfilling its commitments toward gender equality and women's empowerment.

A new public dashboard to monitor SDG progress, the [Jordan Development Portal](#), was launched to strengthen reporting and implementation of the SDGs.

Lebanon

In Lebanon, justice and security sectors faced unprecedented challenges in 2022. A multidimensional crisis has exacerbated people's vulnerabilities, devastated the national economy, pushed thousands into poverty and caused instability throughout the country. The crisis threatened the core functioning of rule of law institutions, with the concern too often shifting from *inefficient* service delivery to *inability* to ensure basic security and justice services.

In previous years, the support from the Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development allowed the UNDP Country Office in Lebanon to strategically position itself as a leader in justice sector support. In 2022, building on this leadership role, UNDP continued its operations and provided a comprehensive response to the crisis, focusing on the three main programming pillars.



In times of crisis, the Municipal Police remains the frontliners in responding to the people's needs. Baalback Municipality, Lebanon | UNDP Lebanon

UNDP mainstreamed community policing approaches across the country at both national and local levels, with a special focus on transforming Lebanon’s municipal police into a human rights and people-centred service. Coordinating the Committee for the municipal police reform (composed of the Head of the ISF (police) academy and representatives from the Ministry of Interior), UNDP developed and launched 13 management and oversight guidance tools for the municipal police, finalized an assessment of the oversight mechanisms and spearheaded flexible training modalities. At the local level, the promotion of the municipal police reform programme was upscaled and piloted in over 40 new municipalities. UNDP worked closely with district and municipal authorities, as well as the municipal police to present the reform and support its implementation. In addition, a communication for development (C4D) approach was integrated into UNDP’s operations to achieve behavioral change and increase the level of trust between the municipal police and community members.

A national policy for legal aid was developed with UNDP support and three pilot legal aid centres were established to ensure access to justice for the marginalized groups. Over 6,000 people (over 50 percent were women and 40 percent refugees, mostly from Syria) received legal support in these centres. Two legal service delivery models were put forward: one through the municipality in Saida and Baalback and the other one was established through the Bar Association. A third legal aid delivery model was developed by the Access to Justice Working Group led by the Ministry of Justice and coordinated by UNDP. Legal aid will be provided through a university clinic in 2023. All the three models go beyond the customary interpretation limiting legal aid to legal representation services and provide a broad range of services, including legal awareness, counselling and mediation. To raise awareness on rights of vulnerable groups and on the services available, the legal aid centres held over 145 in-person sessions. In parallel, two national consultations on gender-based violence prevention and juvenile justice were held to further define the national policy and improve legal aid service delivery.

In addition, UNDP initiated piloting of legal assistance services during criminal preliminary investigation phase, as a response to an amendment introduced to the criminal procedure code that enables individuals interrogated by the police to be accompanied by an attorney. The initiative will be expanded in 2023.

UNDP provided support to strengthen the independence, efficiency and accountability of justice and human rights oversight mechanisms. The Country Office worked with the Supreme Judicial Council to develop an inspection methodology (référentiels d’inspection) and a database with all the information about the judges and courts. This will allow for more efficient management of the judicial system, including fairer allocation of resources and distribution of caseload, and promote its independence. In addition, UNDP led dialogue efforts with and among justice sector stakeholders to promote legislation that will guarantee judicial independence. As a step towards this result, UNDP supported the review of the draft law on the independence of judicial courts by [the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe](#).

UNDP continued to improve the capacity of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), including through technical support to launch the Commission’s website and an online complaint form. The operationalization of these two digital tools is ongoing.

The programme implementation in Lebanon included the development and/or consolidation of synergies and partnerships with the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR), the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the European Union as a co-lead of the Access to Justice Working Group. UNDP’s joint work with UNHCR [is seen as a good practice model of the Humanitarian - Development - Peace or triple nexus approach](#). Joint support to strengthening national institutions streamlines a *leave no one behind* approach to ensure that all individuals in Lebanon, including refugees and migrant workers, have access to justice and can exercise their rights.

Looking ahead, UNDP is putting forward an integrated three-track approach to security and justice programming: preventing the paralysis of the security and justice sectors by safeguarding their effective functioning and service delivery; supporting comprehensive development and implementation of the reform of security and justice institutions; consolidating and expanding UNDP’s people-centred security and justice efforts. In the context of increased tensions and exacerbated vulnerabilities, this paradigm shift in service delivery will serve as an instrument for fostering social cohesion and stability.

Key Results:

6,149 people (including 3,910 women) benefited from legal aid services provided by the three pilot legal aid centres. The centres held 145 awareness sessions targeting 3,688 individuals (including 2,515 women).

Over 225 municipalities are adhering to at least one of the five core elements of the municipal police reform programme spearheaded by UNDP. 13 guidance tools and templates for increased and improved oversight and accountability of the municipal police were finalized and launched by the Committee for the Municipal Police Reform coordinated by UNDP.

The independence, efficiency and accountability of justice and human rights oversight mechanisms were strengthened through the development of inspection methodology, a courts and judges information database, the review of the draft law on the independence of judicial courts, as well as the development of digital tools for the National Human Rights Commission.

Libya

As institutional division and intermittent conflict have continued, diminishing people's trust in state institutions, UNDP maintained its critical investment in Libya's democratization process, good governance, transparency, and building capacities for an inclusive social contract.

In the second half of 2022, UNDP supported the situation analysis of the rule of law and access to justice in the country and the review of the Policing and Security Joint Programme (2017-2022), implemented jointly by the UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) and UNDP. Based on this analysis, a new rule of law and justice programme has been designed for three years (2023-2025). This new initiative focuses on strengthening rule of law for those most in need, and will integrate a community-oriented, people-centred and partnership-based approach. UNDP has collaborated with the UN Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) and the UNSMIL in developing the new rule of law initiative.

UNDP has utilized this preparatory phase to facilitate and improve cooperation between the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and the Ministry of Interior (MoI), the two key state bodies mandated to promote and protect the rule of law in the country.

In January 2023, the MoJ and the MoI signed a joint statement formally accepting the UNDP rule of law project, which summarizes the agreed priorities and envisages support to governmental entities at national, sub-national, and local levels and to the civil society throughout the country.

As part of the project development efforts, a workshop with 30 high-level participants from the MoJ, the MoI and the Attorney General's Office was organized in Tunisia in December 2022. Co-led by the two ministries and through a co-creation process, the workshop set priorities for the next three years. These included in particular support to the e-justice system in the prisons, information and communication (ICT) infrastructure support to courts and police stations and creating job opportunities for young professionals in the judicial system. By including these aspects in the next phase of its rule of law project, UNDP ensured a solid foundation for the project implementation and guaranteed its strong national ownership.

The new project design process has allowed UNDP to expand its cooperation with the national stakeholders despite the continued political stalemate and limited entry points in the formal political landscape.

With the support provided through the UN Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP), UNDP reached out to multiple rule of law and justice stakeholders across the country. The key stakeholders include people living in Libya, civil society, academia and government institutions, including the justice sector.

In previous programmes, UNDP worked with donors on shared goals regarding rule of law and justice, such as decreasing impunity, anti-corruption, training actors in the chain of justice and setting shared priorities. Development partners including the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Government of the Netherlands, the Government of France, the Government of Germany, the Government of Italy and the European Union were consulted during the project development phase. The Government of Italy has approved the reallocation of balance of funds under the Policing and Security Joint Programme (2017-2022) toward the new rule of law project.

Implementing the rule of law, justice, and human rights programming in Libya poses risks and challenges, especially regarding justice for women and migrants. To mitigate these risks, UNDP will continue working with donor partners to advocate for more inclusive and non-discriminative approaches. For instance, the new rule of law and justice project has a particular focus on access to justice for women and youth. In addition, thanks to the GFP support, UNDP will strengthen the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) component in its rule of law activities to adjust programming where needed to enhance the impact and proactively address shortcomings during the project cycle.

Going forward, a local justice study will be conducted with GFP support to assess the rule of law, justice, and security situation in three municipalities. Based on these assessments, three justice plans (one for each locality) will be developed, applying area-based and people-centred methodologies. In addition, to launch the new rule of law and justice project, UNDP will host the Local Justice Forum in Benghazi to promote a whole-of-society approach and engage peacebuilding, political resilience, humanitarian, and human rights partners to ensure the project's sustainability.

Key Results:

Technical assistance to the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior and the Attorney General's Office for the identification of the rule of law, justice, and security priorities for the next three years resulted in the design of the new UNDP Rule of Law and Justice Programme(2023-2025).

Needs assessment of Libya's justice needs was completed and paved the way for a demand-driven and people-centred approach with strong national ownership.

UNDP launched the process to assess the rule of law, justice, and security situation in three municipalities in South, West and East Libya to improve access to justice for vulnerable populations, including migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees, and host communities.

Somalia – GFP profile

In Somalia, UNDP supported the development of a new four-year phase of a Joint Justice and Corrections Programme (JJCP) that will be implemented in 2023. The first phase of the programme was completed in 2022. To ensure the inclusive design process and to maximize the application of lessons learned and best practices of the previous project, UNDP convened national and international stakeholders, including through partnerships established under the framework of the UN Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP). At the national level, the Federal Ministry of Justice has remained UNDP's key partner.

- The main objective of the JJCP rollout is to support the implementation of the rule of law reforms in Somalia through people-centred approaches and by engaging communities to ensure that their justice and security needs shape the reform agenda. The JJCP will focus on reaching the most vulnerable and with least access to justice, supporting the fulfillment of their rights through generative dialogues that involve state and non-state rule of law actors and integrative justice solutions.
- As was highlighted during the design stage, one of the weaknesses of the previous phase was an excessive focus on top-down interventions at the federal level and the lack of political engagement. To address this, a clearer emphasis on the bottom-up approaches and the demands of each federal member state (FMS) has been made foundational for the second phase of the JJCP in Somalia. Also, systemic cooperation with the UN Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) will bring in the political lens and support in the advancement of stabilization, peace, reconciliation and justice programming. Intrinsic to the people-centred approach is an understanding that Somalia has relied, and will for the foreseeable future largely rely, on forms of justice and dispute resolution outside of the formal justice system, and that effective programming needs to engage with this hybridity.



A woman reports a crime at the UNDP-supported police station in Qardho, Puntland, Somalia | UNDP Somalia

National and district stakeholders have been involved at the design stage of the programme to promote national ownership. In addition to the Federal Ministry of Justice and the Supreme Court, UNDP is expected to work closely with the FMS Judiciary, as well as with the local district councils or the peace committees in fragile areas. The JJCP will also seek to establish partnerships with local universities to support capacity development and integration of justice modules in their curriculum.

The GFP framework will allow leveraging partnerships with the UN agencies, including with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on people-centred justice solutions for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and with the other UN agencies to facilitate complementarity with other initiatives on police reforms, justice and corrections. To address the challenges of exclusion in both formal and informal justice sectors, the JJCP will prioritize support for women-specific justice solutions and partner with UN Women to undertake action-oriented research and analysis for gender-responsive initiatives.

A strategic workshop, “Pathways to Enhancing the Rule of Law in Somalia”, hosted by UN Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) and UNDP in Nairobi, was a key platform for the programme’s development. The workshop enabled better international alignment on the strategic direction for the justice sector, including the need for more politically aware programming, improved coordination and advocacy, adoption of new approaches emphasizing people-centred services, and the need to recognize and integrate plural justice pathways in programming.

To assess the situation in the country, UNDP supported the development of a Political Economy Analysis research piece commissioned to provide insights and recommendations on the future of justice programming. The analysis emphasizes the need for a longer-term perspective on change, deprioritizing major investment in justice institutions in favour of fostering dialogue and coordination, both with core decision-makers and beyond, including Islamic leaders and the private sector. The research reiterated the need to focus on local initiatives to build public appreciation of a fair, independent, affordable and accessible set of mechanisms in dispute resolution.

While developing the JJCP new phase, UNDP in Somalia implemented tailored interventions in previously underserved regions. UNDP continued to provide access to alternative justice services through supporting Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Centres in various locations throughout the FMS, managed by respective Ministries of Justice.

UNDP also supported various avenues for women to access justice. Over 1,600 women benefited from alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, legal aid and mobile court services in 2022. One-stop sexual violence referral centres provided medical, legal and psycho-social support to 296 survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, including 259 women.

At national level, UNDP has progressed in promoting tolerance and dialogue by supporting the expansion of networks of influential and moderate religious leaders in 16 locations in Banadir and the FMS. The network promotes a peaceful and tolerant message of Islam and has engaged in the debates on 167 cases with extremist actors to counter and debunk violent religious narratives.

Key Results:

A new four-year phase of the Joint Justice and Corrections Programme (JJCP) was developed through an inclusive design process supported by UNDP; implementation will start in 2023.

To support better alignment of the strategic direction for the justice sector and politically-informed programming in Somalia, a strategic workshop “Pathways to Enhancing the Rule of Law in Somalia” was organized by UNDP and UNSOM, in addition to a Political Economy Analysis developed with support of UNDP.

Over 1,600 women benefitted from alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, legal aid and mobile court services in 2022. Medical, legal and psychosocial support was provided to 296 survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, including 259 women.

State of Palestine

In the State of Palestine, access to justice for women and children was improved through the [Joint UNDP, UN Women and UNICEF *Sawasya II* Programme](#): Promoting the Rule of Law in Palestine (2018-2023).

The support that UNDP's Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme) provided to *Sawasya II* in previous years was one of the key enablers for the consolidation of access to justice pathways and further development of the rule of law initiatives. In particular, the support from the Global Programme has been crucial in leveraging e-justice gains, ensuring their visibility and fostering South-South cooperation on digital justice solutions. Gradual expansion of the Mizan II court management system²⁷ is an emblematic example.

The first court specialized in cases of violence against women was established in Nablus as a result of long-term advocacy aimed at addressing the needs of women survivors of violence, while strengthening guarantees of protection and safeguarding women's right to safety, privacy and dignity. A separate entrance to the court, elevator and a private waiting area were made accessible to all women, including those with disabilities, elderly women and pregnant women. Due to *Sawasya*-supported collaboration among the High Judicial Council, the Attorney General's Office and the Ministry of Social Development, the court accommodated a social counselor and a specialized public prosecutor. This survivor-centred design is critical to enhance women's trust in the formal justice system. Over 100 cases were adjudicated by this specialized court in 2022.

The first legal incubator in the Middle East and North Africa region was launched in Gaza as a community-based legal mechanism to improve access to legal aid for vulnerable individuals. Established in partnership with the University College of Applied Sciences (UCAS), the incubator provided practical training and business support to 15 lawyers (67 percent women) in launching their own practice and providing socially responsible services.

Increased access to mediation and alternatives-to-detention pathways resulted in enhanced access to justice for children in contact with the law. The custodial sentencing of children decreased by 46 percent. In 2022, 79 new mediators were identified, in addition to 34 identified a year before. Mediation services were further institutionalized and a national referral system developed under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Development.

Key Results:

The first court specialized in cases of violence against women was established in Nablus as a result of long-term UN advocacy. The survivor-centred design of the services and premises of the court enabled women's legal empowerment and enhanced their trust in the formal justice system.

Over 21,500 Palestinians accessed in-person legal aid and over 21,700 individuals had access to in-person legal awareness across the occupied Palestinian territory, representing a 39 percent and a 65 percent increase respectively, as compared to 2021.

Though the Mizan II court management system, 600,000 marriage and divorce certificates were archived and linked with the civil records registry, resulting in administrative efficiency gains and allowing people to easily retrieve critical documents within a few minutes instead of two weeks.

²⁷ Mizan II, an integrated digital court management system was developed by the High Judicial Council of the State of Palestine with UNDP support. Mizan enhanced the justice delivery, increased efficiency and transparency of the judicial system.

Sudan

In Sudan, UNDP provided support to critical rule of law actors, including the judiciary, the prosecution, the Bar Association, paralegals and the Sudanese Police Force. The support included capacity building and awareness raising activities carried out jointly with partners forming the UN rule of law working group in Sudan, such as the UN Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS), UNICEF, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR), the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), and UN Women. To ensure a joint systemwide approach towards the rule of law sector in Sudan, UNDP spearheaded the formulation of a UN Joint Programme on Rule of Law of 11 UN entities, resulting in its endorsement in December 2022.

To improve community security and protection of civilians, UNDP contributed to strengthening the capabilities of the Sudanese Police Force, including through specialized training and advisory support. Joint workshops on community-oriented policing, gender equality, preventive measures and effective policing response to sexual and gender-based violence were organized jointly with UNITAMS and other partners benefitting 185 police officers in Darfur. In addition, UNDP organized three human rights capacity building workshops, sensitizing over 60 police officers and prosecutors on international human rights standards and best practices on effective coordination as key criminal justice chain actors.

In October and December 2022, in collaboration with the Attorney General's Office, UNDP, OHCHR, UNHCR and UNITAMS organized a series of capacity building sessions on international human rights law standards on crowd control with 124 prosecutors (including 25 women) in Khartoum, Port Sudan, Wad Madani, Nyala and El Obeid. The UN provided the prosecutors with practical tools to assess the use of force in the context of crowd management based on international standards. The training interventions contributed to the issuance of a joint statement of public prosecutors condemning the use of excessive force against protestors and urging investigation of cases of excessive use of force against peaceful protesters.

To enhance people's access to justice, especially in remote areas, UNDP, in cooperation with the Sudanese Supreme Judicial Authority and selected judges, conducted a one-day roundtable to discuss the view of the judges on the rural courts, their role and potential in ensuring the population's access to justice. It resulted in a set of recommendations to review and clarify the mandate of rural courts, further align their role with formal justice provision, and ensure the human rights compliance and enforceability of rural courts' decisions.

Finally, UNDP supported the Sudan National Human Rights Commission in organizing a peace conference in Kassala on hate speech as a violation to freedom of expression.

Despite extensive efforts to support a transition towards a civilian-led government, tensions continued to mount throughout 2022 around the questions of accountability for state actors' use of force against civilian protest since the 2021 *coup d'état* as well as the mainstreaming of the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces into the Sudanese armed forces. Political agreement on key questions of transitional justice and security sector reforms could not be reached. Armed conflict erupted between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces in April 2023, dashing progress made on rule of law reforms.

Key Results:

To improve community security and protection of civilians, UNDP and UNITAMS organized workshops on community-oriented policing, gender equality and sexual and gender-based violence prevention benefitting 185 police officers in Darfur. In collaboration with the Attorney General's Office, UNDP, OHCHR, UNHCR and UNITAMS organized capacity building sessions on international human rights law standards on crowd control for 124 prosecutors (including 25 women) in Khartoum, Port Sudan, Wad Madani, Nyala and El Obeid.

UNDP worked with the Sudanese Supreme Judicial Authority and formulated a set of recommendations to improve people's access justice in rural areas.

The UN Joint Programme on Rule of Law of 11 UN entities was endorsed in December 2022 to ensure a joint systemwide approach towards the rule of law sector in Sudan. UNDP spearheaded the formulation of the joint programme.

Tunisia

In Tunisia, despite significant challenges associated with the political crisis, national coordination, coherence and data collection in support of human rights and SDG-reporting was strengthened through a series of initiatives supported by UNDP and the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) with support from the UNSDG Human Rights Mainstreaming Fund in 2021 and 2022. In parallel, UNDP's overarching rule of law programme contributed to the development of a resilient and inclusive society where all people can exercise their rights, access justice and enjoy security.

In 2022, UNDP initiated consultations with national stakeholders and other actors to design a new portfolio of projects with justice, security and human rights components. In addition, the inception phase of UNDP's joint programme with the World Bank on social protection and legal aid was completed. Its results constitute the foundation of a long-term joint programme to be launched in 2023. The initiative aims to strengthen the delivery system of integrated social services to poor and vulnerable populations to better assert their rights and access to justice services.

To enable access to legal aid services for vulnerable individuals, UNDP facilitated capacity building for lawyers and social workers who delivered free legal consultations to 179 people (80 percent women).

Furthermore, UNDP provided technical and financial support enabling national stakeholders to reach the most marginalized groups. With UNDP's contributions, the local civil society organization ADES designed and delivered trainings for individuals released from penitentiary institutions. Twenty-four former prisoners (including two women) in the governorate of Medenine and in Tataouine were able to reintegrate into society due to micro-projects which provided them with decent work and a new start. In addition, between January 2021 and June 2022, UNDP worked with five civil society organizations (CSOs) to counter human trafficking and support the survivors. Eighty-seven victims of human trafficking or people vulnerable to trafficking (including 69 women) benefitted from the socioeconomic reintegration initiatives.

Digital solutions developed with UNDP support contributed to the inclusive access to justice. For example, a "reporter judge" mechanism was introduced in the civil chambers in the first instance court of Medenine to reduce the time spent for court considerations. This mechanism, and the system of virtual trials launched during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulted in a 20 percent increase in case clearance rates.

UNDP in Tunisia promotes gender-responsive citizen security and community-based approaches to crime prevention, mainly by strengthening institutions responsible for public safety and security, such as the police and the judiciary. UNDP provided support to the Tunisian Ministry of Interior (Mol) and the Internal Security Forces (ISF) in the adoption of the code of conduct for the ISF, the ministerial policy on inspections and the code of conduct and ethics for the Mol inspectors. Among other achievements, the draft law on local security committees was finalized; a community policing programme was developed and the concept of gender was officially integrated in the internal strategy of the Mol, in line with the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security.

UNDP is also supporting the Tunisian Government and companies through a global project on business and human rights (B+HR) that promotes a just recovery while preserving the competitiveness of companies. The project strengthens responsible business practices through improving the ability and understanding of national authorities and businesses to carry out Human Rights Due Diligence (HRDD).

By raising awareness among government officials and facilitating the multi-stakeholder participation in the B+HR Summer School organized by the Human Rights International Corner and the B+HR Academy (targeting government officials, state-owned companies and unions), UNDP helped equip these stakeholders with the skills and knowledge necessary to implement B+HR principles in their respective organizations and advocacy activities.

This support has enabled the Tunisian Government to state its official commitment to implementing the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs). During the Geneva Forum on Business and Human Rights in November 2022, Tunisia was one of the countries that made commitments to develop the National Action Plan²⁸ in partnership with UNDP.

²⁸ <https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1o/k1oecocm1d> (minute 20:20 to 28:03)

UNDP and OHCHR supported Tunisia to develop its first SDG16 Progress Report expected to be launched in 2023. To inform the report, a survey tool on SDG16 developed by UNDP, OHCHR and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) was piloted in 2021 in collaboration with the National Statistics Institute at the governorate level in Medenine to provide localized data on the perception of human rights, fundamental freedoms, security and local governance that was previously not available. More than 500 people responded to the survey providing key insights into public perception on these topics.

To promote the role of civil society in the monitoring and reporting of human rights in connection with the 2030 Agenda, UNDP and OHCHR also supported CSOs to develop a Spotlight Report on the status of SDG16. The SDG16 Spotlight Report was finalized in September 2022, and some of the survey findings used to inform the report were socialized with local stakeholders through a ‘Theatre of Trust’ [performance](#) in June 2022.

To jointly analyze the findings of the SDG 16 Progress Report and the SDG16 Spotlight Report, UNDP and OHCHR supported the organization of a policy dialogue between public authorities and civil society in March 2022. Through this dialogue, policy briefs on the various themes and targets of SDG16 were developed, providing concrete recommendations to advance implementation of SDG16 in Medenine. In addition, a national policy brief was developed with the participation of key national civil society associations.

Key Results:

UNDP-supported digital justice solutions at Medenine’s court of first instance resulted in a 20 percent increase in case clearance rates.

Human rights and SDG-reporting was strengthened through a series of initiatives supported by UNDP and the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR), including Tunisia’s first SDG 16 Progress Report, expected to be launched in 2023, and the Spotlight Report on the Status of SDG16 launched by Civil society organizations in Medenine in collaboration with public authorities to develop concrete recommendations to promote a peaceful, just and inclusive society.

Tunisian Government has officially stated its commitment to implementing the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and developing a National Action Plan, with support of UNDP.

Yemen

In Yemen, under the framework of a project that promotes inclusive access to justice, UNDP focuses on community safety, legal empowerment, gender justice and detainee protection. With the support of the Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme), the project “Promoting Inclusive Access to Justice” (funded by the Netherlands), follows a people-centred and a bottom-up approach to governance programming in Yemen’s sub-national governance structures within Aden and Sana’a.



Eleven women police officers working at Crater police station joined by women community mediators | UNDP Yemen

Aimed at building the relationship between the community (as rights holders) and authorities (as the duty bearers), Yemen’s rule of law sector needs to be viewed as a ‘spectrum’ consisting of multiple layers of formal and informal institutions. UNDP understands that ‘form follows function’ in the provision of the rule of law as a ‘service’ to resolve disputes and administer justice, the design of bottom-up solutions is a decision and practicable approach. Likewise, UNDP Yemen and its Governance and Rule of Law Portfolio is making efforts to maintain the vertical linkage between local-level peacebuilding and state-level peace-making.

Multiple and ongoing conflicts in Yemen have caused a significant increase in justice needs connected to the economic crisis and worsening living conditions. For over a year, the justice system in the South of Yemen had been paralysed due to a judicial strike amidst political disputes over the appointment of the Attorney General. The backlog of civil and criminal cases on the formal justice system kept growing as the police continued to detain individuals suspected of crimes. Both police detention facilities and prisons became heavily overcrowded, in some places, three times exceeding their capacity ([Promoting Inclusive Access](#)

[to Justice \(PIAJ\) Project, 2022-2023](#)). The situation at police stations was particularly dire with detainees spending up to two years in cells designed for a 48-hour arrest.

Supporting the formal justice sector, UNDP facilitated the organization of six community-based and gender-inclusive mediation committees in Aden that were operationalized in six local facilities (four district administrations, one police station and one police training campus). To form the committees, UNDP worked closely with communities, civil society, the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, Aden's Governor's office, Security Directorate and the Attorney General's office. Standard operating procedures (SOPs) were designed, and a participatory mechanism was set up to select, train and technically equip 60 community members – ten mediators for each committee.

UNDP identified 1,269 pre-trial detention cases at 15 police detention cells in Aden. In many of them, people, mostly from marginalized groups, were suspected of minor crimes, including civil debt issues. As a result of community mediation, 138 detainees (six minors, 17 women and 115 men) were released, 244 individuals (including 31 women) benefitted from legal counselling, and 42 people were referred to protection services provided by Yemen Women Union (YWU). The release of pre-trial detainees restored their rights, reduced the backlog of cases and allowed the police to focus on investigating serious crimes.

Embedded within local-level state bodies, the mediation committees have also helped improve their service delivery and the accountability of institutions. Moreover, as ill-managed incarceration may lead to re-offending and radicalization, the UNDP also contributed to mitigating the drivers of fragility in Yemen.

Women detainees are at a particular risk of marginalization and gender-based violence within detention facilities, and subject to stigmatization and rejection from families even in case of or after the release. In response to the lack of gender justice in Yemen, UNDP has empowered women at mediation committees and partnered with women-led organizations to provide multi-sectoral protection services for women involved in mediation cases as victims, offenders and detainees. Women constitute 47 percent of community mediators (28 out of 60), and two committees out of six are chaired by women. Twenty-three community mediators (including eight women) completed a training on women and child protection led by Yemen Women Union (YWU).

The increased level of women's participation as community mediators and their role as committee chairpersons laid a foundation for improving access to justice for women and girls.

UNDP is determined to include other vulnerable groups to mediation committees and to the other community-based structures in Aden. In particular, to ensure the inclusion of internally displaced persons (IDPs), UNDP and UNHCR are coordinating within the Protection Cluster. The overall objective is to strengthen displacement-responsive governance infrastructure for inclusive access to justice and IDP-sensitive urban planning.

Driven by a people-centred approach to justice, UNDP has engaged partners that are community-based and thus potentially more service-oriented and conflict-sensitive than formal justice actors. The project demonstrates that a stronger investment in community services prevents minor crimes and lifts the burden from the formal justice authorities, enabling them to focus on high-risk offence. This locally driven initiative has proven to be more sustainable and nationally embedded. The Governor of Aden, for example, announced a development plan for the community committees in 2023, and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry has been considering its contribution to mediation committees to ensure their financial sustainability.

Key Results:

UNDP facilitated the organization of six community-based and gender-inclusive mediation committees in Aden. Sixty community members, including 28 women, were selected in a participatory manner and trained to perform the functions of community mediators as grassroots paralegals. Two committees out of six are chaired by women.

Community mediators facilitated the release of pre-trial detainees held in police detention facilities, provided legal consultations and referrals. This support restored the rights of the individuals subject to exclusion, reducing case backlogs, and contributed to mitigating the community drivers of fragility.

Women justice professionals were given high priority for participation to mitigate the risk of gender-discriminative community or customary justice in a situation of diminished state authority amidst the ongoing conflict.

ASIA-PACIFIC

Regional overview

In 2022, the Asia-Pacific region witnessed increased geopolitical unrest and polarization. Several countries experienced democratic and rule of law backsliding, which was exacerbated by vulnerability to climate risks and natural disasters, economic crises fueled by pandemic-related recession, and armed conflicts within and beyond the region, including the spill-over effects of the war in Ukraine. The region is home to about 10.7 million refugees, internally displaced and stateless persons,²⁹ which is more than 60 percent of all refugees globally and up to 80 percent of those internally displaced by conflict or violence.

Levels of corruption remained high,³⁰ with Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Myanmar and Pakistan ranking in the bottom 10 percent of the annual Rule of Law Index of the World Justice Project,³¹ underscoring the rule of law and justice gap in the region. While the situation with freedoms in the region saw slight improvements in 2022,³² the space for civil society remained restrictive. Political and environmental activists, human rights defenders, and journalists faced increased safety threats, with many being harassed, detained and/or killed.³³ Indigenous Peoples, ethnic and religious minorities and LGBTQI+ groups continued to face widespread discrimination.³⁴ Despite legislative changes adopted, for example, in China, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea to combat sexual and gender-based violence, discrimination and violence against women and girls in the region persisted.

In Afghanistan, where [UNDP data](#) suggest that the number of poor increased to 34 million in 2022, the devastating rollback of the rights of women and girls was exacerbated by the Taliban's decree barring women from working in national and international non-governmental organizations.³⁵ In Myanmar, two years after the military *coup d'état*, human rights violations escalated in all parts of the country. Crimes against women remained under-reported and under-investigated. The human rights situation of the Rohingya remained dire. Systemic discrimination persisted with no progress on the restoration of citizenship rights.³⁶

Leaving no one behind

Against this backdrop, which presents a complex range of situations, including emergencies caused by both natural and human-made disasters that require urgent humanitarian response, to settings that call for mid- and long-term sustainable solutions, UNDP led people-centred initiatives aimed at fostering the rule of law, justice, security and human rights protection for affected communities, including in the context of the Humanitarian - Development - Peace nexus.

In Myanmar, UNDP stepped up its support to civil society organizations (CSOs) and continued to develop people-centred and gender-responsive initiatives that improved access to justice and social cohesion. In Pakistan, UNDP's Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme) supported a project that allowed for the extended support of the Afghan refugees, including during and in the aftermath of the devastating floods.

²⁹ UNHCR - <https://www.unhcr.org/about-unhcr/where-we-work/asia-and-pacific>

³⁰ Transparency International, "CPI 2022 For Asia Pacific: Basic Freedoms Restricted as Anti-Corruption Efforts Neglected, (31 January 2023). Available at <https://www.transparency.org/en/news/cpi-2022-asia-pacific-basic-freedoms-restricted-anti-corruption-efforts-neglected>.

³¹ World Justice Project Rule of Law Index. Available at <https://worldjusticeproject.org/rule-of-law-index/global>.

³² Freedom House, "New Report: Freedom in the Asia-Pacific Region Improved Slightly in 2022", (9 March 2023). Available at <https://freedomhouse.org/article/new-report-freedom-asia-pacific-region-improved-slightly-2022>.

³³ <https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/>

³⁴ Amnesty International, "Asia and the Pacific Regional Overview 2022". Available at <https://www.amnesty.org/en/location/asia-and-the-pacific/report-asia-and-the-pacific/>.

³⁵ United Nations, "UN and top aid officials slam Afghan rulers' NGO ban for women", (29 December 2022). Available at <https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/12/1132082>.

³⁶ United Nations A/HRC/52/21: Situation of human rights in Myanmar since 1 February 2022 – Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights" (3 March 2023). Available at <https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/country-reports/ahrc5221-situation-human-rights-myanmar-1-february-2022-report-united>.

Environmental justice and human rights

At the regional level, informed by UNDP's global policy piece that shapes the environmental justice strategy, and in partnership with the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR), the Global Programme supported the establishment of a diverse and inclusive Youth Advisory Group on Environmental and Climate Justice (YAG). The YAG seeks to build a common understanding and approach to environmental justice and to empower [young environmental activists](#) to be active players in claiming, enforcing and defending their environmental rights through increased capacity. Inclusion and meaningful participation of Indigenous youth, LGBTQI+ and stateless youth, and young persons with disabilities is a priority across the entire scope of UNDP's work on environmental and climate justice.

The fulfillment of human rights and protection mechanisms for environmental human rights defenders (EHRDs) is crucial to environmental justice. In 2022, UNDP developed two toolkits to support and empower the EHRDs in the Asia-Pacific region. In collaboration with UNEP and UN Human Rights South-East Asia, the [Environmental Human Rights Defenders toolkit](#) was launched to provide a set of resources for the protection, promotion and realization of [the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment](#). The [Routes to Remedy toolkit](#) provides step-by-step guidance on how to access remedy in seven jurisdictions in Asia: Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam.

Women's rights and gender justice

UNDP continued to strengthen the Judicial Integrity Network in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (JIN ASEAN) by promoting court excellence through peer-to-peer networking, knowledge sharing and country-level capacity-building initiatives. A Gender Working Group was established to develop leadership across national judiciaries in response to identified gender related issues affecting judicial performance with regards to women's rights and gender justice. An [issue brief on Gender and Judicial Excellence](#) was published.

Business and human rights

In the field of business and human rights (B+HR), UNDP extended its support to governments and companies in 14 countries. In partnership and with financial contributions from the governments of Japan, Sweden and from the European Union, UNDP's Business and Human Rights Academies provided training on human rights due diligence (HRDD) to over 1,000 companies across the region. In Myanmar, these trainings also included a component on conflict sensitivity. In addition, UNDP supported the processes of drafting or implementing National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand and Viet Nam. These plans will set the policy framework for companies operating in these countries to do so in accordance with the standards set by the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs). To enhance access to remedies for people whose rights were abused as a consequence of business operations, UNDP B+HR team in Asia built capacities and provided technical support to national human rights institutions in Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Maldives and Mongolia.

Looking forward

In 2023, UNDP will enhance its development portfolios on e-justice, legal aid and empowerment, and civil justice, including for displaced communities. A key focus will be on strengthening gender-responsive judicial practices and addressing discrimination based on behavioral insights that affect women, including survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and women with disabilities. UNDP will expand its engagement on environmental rights and justice. Additionally, under the Tripartite Partnership framework, UNDP will provide technical assistance to NHRIs in partnership with OHCHR and the Global Alliance of NHRIs (GANHRI). In the field of business and human rights, the geographical and thematic scope will be expanded, with more resources allocated to support companies exploring their negative impacts on the environment and to promote an integrated approach to human rights and environmental due diligence.

Afghanistan

In Afghanistan, UNDP focused on providing legal services and improving legal awareness, especially in remote areas and via informal justice mechanisms, and in cooperation with the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), civil society organizations (CSOs) and private defence lawyers. Capacitating women and engaging them as service providers and beneficiaries remained one of UNDP's priorities in the country despite the extremely challenging environment.



Women defence lawyers are providing a legal consultation for Afghan women | UNDP Afghanistan

Since the collapse of the Government and the Taliban takeover in August 2021, access to justice and legal aid services for the Afghan people, especially women, has become significantly more difficult. The problem is compounded by the deepening humanitarian and socioeconomic crises, as well as gaps in policy and regulatory frameworks and the low capacity of justice actors.

The achievements of over 20 past years to strengthen the justice system were negatively impacted. The drafted laws were no longer applicable, the organizational structure and capacity building system changed and, most importantly, female justice practitioners were prohibited from their work. Furthermore, male and female judges and prosecutors were no longer in the system as they have been replaced by new judges and prosecutors appointed by the *de facto* authorities, who were not necessarily qualified enough to hold those positions. In addition, the Afghanistan Independent Bar Association (AIBA) was demolished, and prosecutors' authorities were restricted, thus rendering a huge negative impact on the justice system.

In response to the above challenges, as well as given an increased demand for legal counselling support by the local communities, UNDP has shifted its focus towards implementing activities at the grassroots level in partnership with CSOs. Specifically, together with UNAMA, UNDP launched the Joint Legal Aid Services initiative in Herat and Bamiyan provinces in September 2022. In collaboration with three CSOs and 45 private defence lawyers (including 15 women), UNDP launched activities on the provision of legal aid and legal awareness at the community level.

As a result, legal aid services were provided to 764 vulnerable individuals (including 220 women). With UNDP's support, CSOs and private defence lawyers organized awareness programmes on women's rights and conducted consultation sessions on related legal and Sharia Law issues. A total of 365 community leaders, traditional elders and religious scholars (including 86 women) increased their legal awareness in the southern region and Bamiyan Province. Moreover, consultative sessions were held with over 250 participants including independent religious scholars, academics, female students and Ulama councils in the southern region, and positive traditional justice practices were identified. Separate workshops were held for male and female participants. Hundreds of women participated in the sessions.

This pilot initiative highlighted the importance of the role of defence lawyers, including women defence lawyers, in the justice system. Through CSOs, UNDP supported female defence lawyers, enabling them to provide legal aid services (including counseling, consultation, documentation and representation) in Bamiyan, Herat and the southern region during 2022. Prior to launching the project, UNDP conducted a needs assessment to evaluate the state of legal aid and access to justice services in Bamiyan and Herat provinces.

Building on the lessons learned and the results of the pilot initiative, UNDP has developed a two-year project on women's access to justice which is expected to be launched in 2023.

In 2022, with the support of the UNDP Funding Windows, UNDP contributed to improving human security and fostering peace and development in local communities by shifting the focus towards building a narrative for peace, promoting social cohesion, resolving conflicts, securing the rights of women and reducing gender-based violence in Kabul, Herat and Balkh provinces. Through a series of training of trainers on conflict resolution, reconciliation and the formation of local conflict resolution committees in two districts of Herat province, 390 participants (including 176 women) showed an 83 percent increase in knowledge of the subject.

In Balkh province, a total of 5,162 community members (including 1,310 women) increased awareness on peace and dispute resolution through events organized by local support groups created by UNDP. These

groups included Traditional Dispute Resolution (TDR) Committees, Local Youth Peace Driver Groups, Peace Talker Groups and Moving Enablers for Needers groups that supported men and women who were previously systematically ignored and brought them to justice through women's TDR. The establishment and operation of these local structures played an important role in the absence of strong and transparent judicial and law enforcement institutions. In addition, women and individuals from other vulnerable groups find it easier to approach the informal justice structures for resolving their domestic issues. There is still a lot of stigma around women approaching formal institutions. A number of success stories were reported where women and other minority groups were able to resolve their conflicts through the committees and platforms created by UNDP.

Under the flagship Afghanistan Area-Based Programme (ABADEI), UNDP provided legal counselling for over 1,226 people (including 637 women), with a focus on civil documentation, which is in high demand in Afghanistan, especially in remote rural areas. In particular, ABADEI provided consultations on how to obtain birth certificates, marriage certificates, national IDs and death certificates. It also helped with inquiries about family and property law and provided legal awareness to more than 16,000 people (more than 50 percent were women) on civil and family law issues. Peer-to-peer justice networks were established and referred cases on family law (marriage certificate, child custody, dowry), inheritance and property law to the legal counselors.

Key Results:

Almost 800 vulnerable and marginalized individuals (including 220 women) benefitted from legal aid services provided at provincial and district levels through UNDP's collaboration with three CSOs and 45 defence lawyers (including 15 female lawyers) in the Herat, Bamiyan and southern regions.

UNDP support increased awareness on peace and dispute resolution. The establishment and operation of local informal justice structures played an important role in the absence of strong and transparent judicial and law enforcement institutions. Women and individuals from other vulnerable groups find it easier to approach the informal justice structures for resolving their domestic issues.

UNDP provided legal counselling for 1,226 people (including 637 women), with a focus on civil documentation. 16,042 people (including 8,401 women) improved their legal awareness on civil and family law issues. Over 365 community leaders, traditional elders and religious scholars (including 86 women) increased their legal awareness in the southern region and Bamiyan province.

Myanmar

In Myanmar, UNDP expanded its legal empowerment programme (already operational across all 17 townships in Rakhine) prioritizing housing, land and property (HLP) rights into eight townships. After the military takeover, the urgent need to support civil society and address new and systemic challenges to the promotion and protection of human rights had intensified. UNDP implemented activities through local partner organizations, taking a low-profile approach.

Myanmar has had a long history of land conflicts, and the situation was exacerbated by the military takeover in 2021. Many people were forced to flee their homes and land, having lost access to adequate housing or basic services. In addition, land management committees that used to handle land-related issues suspended their activities.

Lack of freedom of movement, shrinking civic space and safety risks for members of civil society organizations (CSOs) not registered in line with the new laws promulgated by the de facto authorities were among the impediments to the effective implementation of the project. While some of the activities were delayed or postponed, UNDP's Rakhine-based partner and other CSOs managed to overcome most of the challenges, including by organizing small-scale awareness sessions, coordinating with other local CSOs and paralegals, and avoiding visibility.

In Rakhine, UNDP's partner organization provided mobile legal consultations to 571 people (including 227 women), almost half of whom were individuals from the Rohingya and minority Chin ethnic groups living in remote areas. In addition, over 550 individuals (including 203 women) were sensitized about HLP rights, land laws and procedures. Most of them were Rohingyas. This was the first time that UNDP's partner could access

the Rohingyas (Muslim communities) and naturalized citizens increasing their awareness on land entitlements and supporting them in further actions to retrieve their land rights.

UNDP has been experimenting with various methods to provide legal information and services to remote communities in Rakhine, and is one of the few organizations catering to the justice needs of the hill tribes. Building on the experience gained during the COVID-19 pandemic, UNDP and its partners utilized information and communication technologies (ICTs) to increase awareness about land laws and rights and to improve access to legal aid services through social media and messaging mobile applications. A 24-hour hotline was made available for consultation and referral services whenever necessary. Those with mobility challenges were also able to get legal advice via the hotline. Finally, the partner organizations designed land-related quizzes to raise community awareness.

Based on the data analysis and activity reports, a language barrier was identified as one of the obstacles during the awareness-raising sessions for the Rohingya/Kaman Muslim communities. Interpreters will be engaged for the upcoming outreach activities in these areas.

Women face additional challenges in accessing and securing their rights to land and property. Social and cultural constraints, low literacy rates and lack of access to information are among the reasons. A study conducted by UNDP's partner organization found that only 22 percent of land plots in Myanmar were registered under women's names. To address this issue, UNDP's partner organizations prioritized targeting women and youth in their awareness-raising sessions and training programmes conducted in Rakhine camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and in host communities.

As a result of UNDP's persistent efforts to empower women seeking land registration, the partner organization has facilitated the submission of application forms for registering of 12 land cases for Muslim and naturalized communities, with half of these cases registered under women's names.

To expand the network of paralegals delivering awareness-raising sessions and providing legal advice in remote areas, UNDP organized a training course for 65 paralegals (including 41 women). The participants improved their knowledge on types of land, composition of land management committees, complaint mechanisms, application processes for land use certificates, duties and responsibilities of certificate holders. The high number of women participants indicated that prioritizing women in awareness-raising activities had been beneficial.

To promote access to HLP information and rights in the Rakhine region, UNDP works closely with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), under the joint triple nexus project. A community of practice on HLP due diligence was held jointly for all partners working in Rakhine, and an awareness-raising session on HLP was conducted with UNHCR assistance for the community members from Kyauktalone camp. An integrated joint needs assessment will be piloted in Pauktaw township to assess, inter alia, how people seek justice, what types of challenges they face and which remedies are available to compensate for their losses.

In addition, UNDP coordinates with UNICEF which is implementing a juvenile justice programme through the same partners, and works closely with the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) with a view to expanding collaboration around digital tools and their potential use for legal awareness and human rights promotion.

Key Results:

Despite many challenges, UNDP, through its partner organizations, managed to reach individuals in remote areas to raise their awareness on HLP rights and provide legal advice. Over 1,000 benefitted, including over 500 women. Half of the beneficiaries were Rohingyas and minority Chin ethnics.

UNDP's partner organization prioritized targeting women and youth in their outreach activities and legal support. Twelve land cases for Muslim and naturalized communities were submitted for registration, with half of them registered under women's names.

To expand the network of paralegals delivering awareness-raising sessions and providing legal advice in remote areas, UNDP organized a training course for 65 paralegals (including 41 women).

Nepal

In Nepal, the areas of UNDP intervention included supporting national stakeholders in human rights promotion and protection, joint initiatives with UN Women for gender equality and women's empowerment, and working with the government and private sector for responsible business conduct.

UNDP worked with national stakeholders to improve capacities for implementing the recommendations that the government received as a result of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process in 2020. In coordination with the Office of the Prime-Minister, other government agencies, civil society organizations (CSOs) and human rights defenders, UNDP supported the development of a post-UPR implementation strategy to enhance a multi-stakeholder approach for the effective implementation of UPR recommendations. Having adopted the strategy and endorsed a comprehensive plan of action for its realization, the Government of Nepal conducted five policy dialogues with various stakeholders to seek support and contributions. As a result, a common understanding on the multi-stakeholder approach to implement the recommendations was developed.

In addition, UNDP provided technical support to develop a checklist and [an online platform](#) enabling the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to oversee the fulfilment of the Government's human rights obligations, and to collect and analyse data on the realization of the post-UPR implementation strategy.

As a result of UNDP's long-term support, six thematic commissions that protect human rights and the interests of minorities in Nepal (the National Women Commission, the Dalit Commission, the Commission for Indigenous Peoples, the Commission for Muslims, the Madeshi Commission and the NHRC) adopted a coordination strategy. In 2022, the commissions carried out joint monitoring missions led by the NHRC to address 109 cases of human rights violations related to gender, non-discrimination and participation of persons with disability in the election process in Nepal.

In selected provinces, UNDP supported the capacity building of the newly established judicial committees³⁷, reaching out to 2,000 women and persons from marginalized communities. This confidence-building measure made the beneficiaries more aware of the functions and availability of the judicial committees in Nepal. In addition, UNDP engaged 60 law students (including 35 women) to provide technical support to the judicial committees and address the complaints received from women and individuals from marginalized communities. Over 2,000 complaints were received with 40 percent of already settled.

To promote behavioural change for gender equality and women's empowerment, UNDP worked with the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, the Office of the Attorney General and the Bar Association. Information, education and communication materials were developed and disseminated through partners and stakeholders, reaching 50,000 people directly. In addition, a number of television programmes regarding gender and inclusion were broadcast, reaching and benefitting 150,000 people. As a next step, UNDP initiated a pilot assessment of behavioural insights on gender and social inclusion in one of the provinces.

UNDP hosted a two-day training for 55 CSO representatives to promote behavioural aspects of gender equality and social inclusion. Six women leaders representing marginalized groups, including persons with disabilities, enhanced their capacity as facilitators of this event. A joint UNDP and UN Women [discussion guide for reflective dialogues with grassroots women's organizations](#) served as a basis for the training. Additionally, UN Women and UNDP supported the training participants to develop a video explainer on feminist principles and best teaching practices to enable behavioural change. The video will be used as a learning tool for targeted community leaders.

As a leading actor on business and human rights, UNDP has worked closely with government agencies, national human rights institutions, the Federations of Nepal of Chamber of Commerce of Industry (FNCCI) and CSOs to promote the business and human rights agenda in the country.

With UNDP's technical support, the Government of Nepal has finalized a National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights (NAP) for 2023-2028. The support included expert advice, draft reviews and the organization of 20 consultations with around 200 stakeholders from the government, private sectors and civil society. Following internal clearance from the relevant ministries, the NAP will be submitted for approval to the Cabinet of Ministers

³⁷ Hybrid bodies established through a constitutional process to facilitate justice delivery to marginalized communities.

in early 2023. The NAP is aligned with the three pillars of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) and includes six priority thematic areas: labour rights, gender equality, environmental rights, the rights of Indigenous Peoples, non-discrimination, and migrant workers' rights.

UNDP provided training for nearly 70 business representatives, including 16 women, from 56 companies on UNGPs and NAP, bridging the gap in knowledge and implementation. In addition, eight NHRC senior officials increased their knowledge on human rights due diligence (HRDD) to pass on their new expertise and deliver training sessions at the provincial level. UNDP will continue its engagement in the NAP launch and implementation, including through the development of the normative HRDD framework.

Key Results:

The Government of Nepal endorsed a comprehensive plan of action for the UPR implementation strategy and conducted five policy dialogues to strengthen national commitments on human rights protection, monitoring and reporting.

Six thematic commissions that protect human rights and the interests of minorities in Nepal carried out joint monitoring missions to address over 100 cases of human rights violations across the country.

UNDP provided crucial support to the Government of Nepal to finalize the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights through an inclusive process of nearly 20 consultations with over 200 stakeholders.

Pakistan

In Pakistan, UNDP rolled out a project to strengthen human rights and the rule of law in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa – two provinces hosting the highest number of Afghan refugees who fled Afghanistan after collapse of the Government and Taliban takeover in August 2021. According to [UNHCR estimates](#), 1.3 million registered Afghan refugees (approximately 76 percent are women, children and older persons) were residing in Pakistan as of June 2022, with over half in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province. According to UNDP's national civil society partners, while the influx of Afghan refugees to the province of Balochistan has continued, officially vetted and updated statistics are unavailable on new arrivals as the provincial government suspended the registration process.



Community awareness session in Mohmand Agency, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, Pakistan | UNDP Pakistan

To enable transformative change and improve access to justice for vulnerable and marginalized groups, UNDP adopted a two-pronged strategy: (1) boosting institutional and inter-agency coordination; (2) encouraging direct community engagement and leadership.

For institutional coordination, a High-Level Provincial Human Rights Multi-stakeholders' Coordination Network was established in Balochistan and KP provinces in October 2022, the first of its kind in Pakistan. National authorities including the National Commission on Human Rights, judiciary and law enforcement bodies, civil society organizations (CSOs), UNDP, UNHCR and other UN agencies, work together to deliver accessible, effective and people-centred services for Afghan refugees and host communities, as well as guarantee inclusive and non-discriminatory access to both judicial and non-judicial remedial mechanisms in response to adverse human rights impacts. To establish this cooperation framework, UNDP leveraged the trust of communities in the development approach and its consistent engagement with the provincial government, national human rights institution, academia and other stakeholders.

This interdepartmental network serves also as a platform for leveraging Pakistan's international human rights obligations relevant for the rights protection of the most-at-risk Afghan refugee groups. The network has encouraged effective cooperation among state institutions, the National Commission on Human Rights, CSOs and academia to follow up on the recommendations Pakistan received from the UN Treaty bodies and as a result of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). A plan of action was developed for 2023 to collaborate on the strategic priority areas for inclusive people-centred justice and promotion of gender equality.

Joint efforts within the coordination network have enabled the expansion and institutionalization of Gender Desks – people-centred service providers which in 2022 prioritized delivering free legal aid and counselling, as well as psychosocial support for the refugees, members of host communities and the most at-risk groups in Quetta, a district in the north-west of Balochistan, on the border with Kandahar province, Afghanistan. Due to UNDP’s advocacy which encompassed sensitization of 45 officials (including 29 women), facilitating contacts between government bodies, CSOs and the communities, Gender Desks were embedded in the national system as the only service of this kind available for Afghan and host populations in the two provinces. The service providers operated via mobile groups conducting weekly visits to the communities with awareness briefings about their rights and the services available. Around 5,000 people, mostly women, were reached. In addition, Gender Desks were stationed at the provincial Department for Women Development where the beneficiaries could come seeking help. Out of 100 cases formally registered with the Gender Desks in 2022, 96 were resolved. More than 2,000 people (including 1,700 women) received legal aid and/or benefitted from psychosocial support.

To ensure wide participation of displaced and host communities, UNDP engaged community volunteers (refugees residing in the same areas as new arrivals), a network developed through partnerships with civil society and grassroots change-makers. In five localities in Quetta, 200 volunteers (20 men and 20 women in each of the five localities) benefitted from UNDP-supported trainings on access to justice, psycho-social support and women’s leadership. The volunteers facilitated communication and helped build trust between communities and service providers, conducted needs assessment and encouraged refugees to seek assistance.

In August 2022, one of the most devastating floods in the history of Pakistan affected 33 million people across the country. Emergency was declared in 12 out of Balochistan’s 34 districts, including five project locations in Quetta. Heavy rains swept away mud houses, roads and disrupted communication systems. This severely impacted people’s mobility and their efforts to seek and access legal and psychosocial services through the Gender Desks. UNDP swiftly responded by leveraging its community networks to bring services to the community via mobile groups. For example, 16 group psychosocial sessions were carried out over a four-month period for 2,000 members (including 1,600 women and girls) of Afghan and hosting communities in Quetta. Gender Desks facilitated the humanitarian response, including by distributing relief food packages in partnership with the Balochistan Commission for Human Rights and the KP Human Rights Directorate of the Social Welfare Department.

A key lesson learned pertains to the nexus between displacement and climate change. The floods in Pakistan have significantly worsened pre-existing and emerging vulnerabilities of the displaced Afghan and hosting communities. This intersection needs to be further studied, more deeply understood and factored in to all the community-led interventions for an informed and nuanced preemption and response. To respond to this challenge, UNDP has developed a programme on access to environmental justice in Pakistan to be implemented in 2023.

Human Rights and SDG Integration

With the support of the UNSDG Human Rights Mainstreaming Fund, UNDP and the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) continued to support national partners harmonize human rights and SDG monitoring and reporting efforts across the country. Following the launch of the Human Rights Information Management System and the accompanying National Strategic Framework for Coherence and Harmonization of Human Rights Data Collection and Reporting Mechanisms in 2021, UNDP and OHCHR supported the rollout and implementation of the National Strategic Framework in 2022. This was achieved through a series of consultations and capacity building workshops at provincial and federal levels with over 20 government line departments, human rights institutions and civil society organizations represented by over 200 participants.

The Human Rights Information Management System enables human rights departments in all provinces as well as the Federal Ministry of Human Rights to collect, collate and store human rights information in order to meet Pakistan’s national and international human rights reporting commitments, including but not limited to the Universal Periodic Review, Treaty Body reporting and SDG reporting. The system has also developed linkages with the SDGs data platform established at the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives. The National Strategic Framework for Coherence and Harmonization of Human Rights Data Collection and Reporting Mechanisms sets out the overall vision of policy coherence between human rights

and sustainable development across the decentralized governments in Pakistan to accompany the use of the new Human Rights and Information Management System.

These efforts have helped to strengthen collaboration across government entities, national and provincial human rights institutions, civil society organizations and UN partners working on human rights and the SDGs as well as reinforce the key role of national human rights institutions and civil society in the implementation of the National Strategic Framework.

Lastly, UNDP and OHCHR supported the Federal Ministry of Human Rights to develop terms of reference for the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) Secretariat, which serves as a foundational document to establish this important mechanism that will support the implementation of the National Strategic Framework.

Business and Human Rights

UNDP advances human rights outcomes in relation to business activity in Pakistan through its support to the Government on implementing Pakistan's National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, and the National Commission for Human Rights for its independent monitoring. UNDP also raises awareness and builds the capacity of Pakistan's private sector to practice human rights due diligence (HRDD) through [B+HR Academy](#), a global branding of business and human rights training for interested stakeholders.

In 2022, UNDP, with the support of the Government of Japan and in partnership with Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and Pakistan-Japan Business Forum, organized the first B+HR Academy to [train](#) over 40 companies on responsible business practices and HRDD.

Looking ahead, with the support of the European Union and the Governments of Norway and Japan, UNDP will offer country and sector-specific training and guidance on HRDD to the private sector including through partnerships with major companies, such as Adidas; support the government on designing legislation to strengthen business-related human rights and environmental protections; and promote the right to work of marginalized communities. This underpins UNDP's commitment to fostering a business environment in Pakistan that upholds human rights, promotes environmental justice and ensures that marginalized communities are not left behind.

Key Results:

Gender Desks prioritized delivering free legal aid and counselling in 2022, as well as psychosocial support for the refugees, members of host communities and the most at-risk groups in Quetta. Around 5,000 people, mostly women, were reached. As a result of UNDP support and advocacy, Gender Desks were embedded in the national system as the only service of this kind available for Afghan and host populations in the two provinces.

In response to one of the most devastating floods in Pakistan in August 2022, UNDP leveraged its community networks to bring services to the community via mobile groups. Psychosocial sessions were carried out for 2,000 members (including 1,600 women and girls) of Afghan and hosting communities in Quetta.

A High-Level Provincial Human Rights Multi-stakeholders' Coordination Network was established in Balochistan and KP provinces in October 2022, the first of its kind in Pakistan, contributing to improved institutional coordination.

UNDP organized the first B+HR Academy in 2022 which trained over 40 companies in Pakistan on responsible business practices and HRDD. The B+HR Academy was organized with the support of the Government of Japan and in partnership with Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and Pakistan-Japan Business Forum.

Sri Lanka

In Sri Lanka, the project "Upholding rule of law and human rights in the Sri Lankan Crisis Response" commenced during an [unprecedented socioeconomic and sociopolitical crisis](#). Thousands joined mass

protests island-wide followed by [a spate of arrests](#) and detention. The support from the Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme) contributed to UNDP's ability to convene and assist key government and independent institutions, with an objective to reach the most vulnerable, improve human rights protection and ensure access to justice.

The crisis and the crackdown on protests increased the demand for legal aid in Sri Lanka. UNDP facilitated close coordination among the justice sector institutions such as the Legal Aid Commission, Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka and the National Victims and Witness Protection Authority. As a result, joint interventions for legal protection and representation for individuals were identified. The access to justice support was also provided through the Justice Reform (JURE) Programme funded by the European Union and the UN, where UNDP joined forces with UNICEF and the Ministry of Justice.

Given the twin crises in Sri Lanka and reports of alleged arbitrary arrests and human rights violations, individuals who were detained, including young people, required emergency assistance. The support from the Global Programme and the European Union allowed effective coordination with the Human Rights Commission and the National Victim and Witness Protection Authority, and the provision of timely legal services to detained individuals.

The joint support provided through the JURE project strengthened the abilities of the Human Rights Commission to conduct independent field inquiries across the island. The support was timely and critical against the backdrop of the socio-economic constraints where fund allocation for travel was limited due to fuel shortages. As a key step to ensuring accountability, victims and alleged perpetrators were identified, and a sustainable repository of data was established to facilitate effective and swift inquiries into human rights violations.

For protection purposes, UNDP and partners provided technical assistance to the National Authority for the Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses (NVWPA) and facilitated its collaboration with the Bar Association of Sri Lanka and the Legal Aid Commission. As a result, the protection authority extended its powers and allowed the Bar Association and Legal Aid Commission to notify a court when victims and witnesses need to be permitted to testify remotely, from an undisclosed location, with the assistance of NVWPA. Twelve victims and witnesses testified before the Magistrate's Courts and High Courts remotely in 2022. Once this procedure was in place, more victims and witnesses came forward to testify, with over 200 requests for protection being processed by the authority. In addition, this novelty helped pioneer the establishment of a legally recognized protection mechanism that would be applicable beyond the current crisis.

To further contribute to the accountability and transparency of institutions, UNDP provided technical assistance to the Parliamentary Committee on Ethics and Privileges and advocated for the establishment of the Registry of Interests of Members of Parliament, in line with the Code of Conduct for Parliamentarians. A template for the registry was created and presented before the Parliament for approval.

With UNDP's assistance, a Parliamentary Caucus for Youth was also formed to increase youth engagement in decision- and law-making processes.

Key Results:

Immediate response to the increased demand for human rights protection was provided to ensure legal assistance and representation for individuals (mostly youth) arrested in the wake of mass protests in Sri Lanka.

A sustainable protection mechanism was established for victims and witnesses who could testify before the court from an undisclosed location, with the support from the National Authority for the Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses. This procedure increased the number of victims and witnesses willing to testify, and prompted the operationalization of a legally recognized protection mechanism that would be applicable beyond crisis.

To ensure a coordinated national response to the crisis with regards to human rights protection, access to justice and accountability, UNDP facilitated effective cooperation between the Legal Aid Commission, Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka, the Bar Association and the National Victims and Witness Protection Authority (NVWPA).

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

Regional overview

The Europe and Central Asia region experienced multiple crises in 2022, including intensified armed conflicts, the war in Ukraine, the January events in Kazakhstan, the increased cost of living, and the climate emergency. In this context, the support from the Global Programme on Rule of Law and Human Rights helped deliver and expand the scope of UNDP operations in the region and shift the regional rule of law assistance to crisis programming where necessary.

In 2022, UNDP's Istanbul Regional Hub (IRH) began work on emerging issues such as legal support for people displaced as the result of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the rule of law in politically challenging contexts, promoting responsible business conduct in times of crisis and conflict, human rights-based approaches to digital governance and the protection of civic space. UNDP provided policy and programme advice and helped 11 Country Offices³⁸ in mobilizing additional resources for projects in the areas of rule of law, justice, security and human rights.

UNDP solidified its regional partnerships with the Office of the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Council of Europe, and European and Asia-Pacific networks of national human rights institutions. Five joint regional events were organized to promote regional exchanges on SDGs and human rights, capacity building of NHRIs, business and human rights, data protection, and implementation of human rights in cyberspace.

Developing people-centred approaches to justice and security challenges as a result of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, including the displacement crisis

UNDP support contributed to improving access to justice for displaced people in affected countries. The projects were launched in Armenia, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine in close coordination with UNHCR, UN Women, and other partners with financial contributions from Germany and Japan. In Ukraine, women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities were the largest groups fleeing their homes. UNDP has therefore made extensive efforts to ensure that all its initiatives have been developed with gender equality and inclusivity in mind. Furthermore, UNDP is exploring opportunities for cooperation on security sector reform and governance in the region together with the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF).

Human rights promotion in the digital age

In 2022, UNDP kick-started the initiative to help Governments to improve the regulatory frameworks on data and human rights protection in online space. To promote the application of human rights impact assessments in the design of technologies, including artificial intelligence (AI)-driven systems, UNDP launched the scoping study on [“The impact of digital technology on human rights in Europe and Central Asia”](#) and organized two learning activities on the methodology for human rights impact assessments: [a regional workshop for 170](#) human rights and technology experts in collaboration with the experts from the Council of Europe, and also training for UNDP Country Offices. UNDP Country Offices in Azerbaijan and Türkiye launched similar initiatives in partnership with their respective national human rights institutions (NHRIs).

Through the regional consultations organized by UNDP in partnership with the OHCHR Regional Office for Central Asia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan strengthened their implementation practices to integrate human rights recommendations into national SDG monitoring, implementation and oversight processes. The consultations were held within the framework of the project “Strengthening the interaction of the UN System with international and regional human rights mechanisms to achieve the SDGs” implemented by UNDP and OHCHR globally.

³⁸ Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

Business and Human Rights

UNDP hosted the 3rd UN Regional Forum on Business and Human Rights in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, in partnership with the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights. Over 150 representatives of governments, think tanks, civil society, NHRIs, business associations, and development partners discussed a roadmap for responsible business conduct in view of the war in Ukraine. To feed the discussions, UNDP presented its [2022 Regional Scoping Study on the implementation status of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#). In addition, UNDP supported the launch of business and human rights initiatives in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Türkiye and Ukraine, funded by the Japan Supplementary Budget (JSB).

Environmental justice

UNDP launched environmental justice projects in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia and Kyrgyzstan, focusing on capacity development for national actors. The projects are implemented in cooperation with the Aarhus Convention and its Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers Secretariat (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe - UNECE).³⁹ The environmental justice work in the region was designed with a special focus on the situation of women environmentalists, human rights defenders and rural women directly affected by climate change.

Support for National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs)

In 2022, IRH continued its support to NHRIs in the region. A regional workshop for NHRIs from Central Asia, organized by UNDP in cooperation with the OHCHR Regional Office for Central Asia under the Central Asia Support Initiative for National Human Rights Institutions (CASI-NHRI) brought together representatives from all five NHRIs from Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan). It provided a platform for fruitful dialogue to identify the most pressing challenges and determine opportunities for enhanced regional cooperation.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)

IRH supported the Country Offices in designing their MEL systems for the rule of law and human rights projects, guided by existing UN and European Union toolkits, in developing theories of change, indicators, and results frameworks. IRH also supported the development of regional studies in partnerships with think tanks and academia to advance thought leadership in the areas of business and human rights and the impact of digital technologies and AI on human rights. The studies reflect the regional trends, challenges, and opportunities for change and will serve as the baseline for the region. Below are some highlights:

[Accelerating the business and human rights agenda in the war setting in Ukraine](#) - UNDP Ukraine presented the first findings of the Context Assessment Study at the UN Regional Forum

Kazakhstan's [capacity-building events for Japanese companies, their suppliers, and partners on Human Rights Due Diligence](#)

[The Central Asian Regional Consultation on Human Rights and the Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\): Integration of Human Rights Recommendations into SDG Implementation Mechanisms in Central Asia](#)

Azerbaijan

In Azerbaijan, the support from UNDP's Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme) gave a new impetus for the long-term programming on human rights promotion and protection at the national and local levels. The Global Programme's support contributed to human rights and gender mainstreaming, enabled free legal aid provision to the most vulnerable and created space to promote the business and human rights agenda.

In 15 regions, UNDP provided free legal aid services to conflict-affected individuals, internally displaced persons (IDPs), financially disadvantaged communities, survivors of gender-based violence, persons with

³⁹ The text of the Aarhus Convention is available at <https://unece.org/DAM/env/pp/documents/cep43e.pdf>.

disabilities and other vulnerable groups. Over 1,200 people benefitted and became more equipped to claim their rights and demand accountability, while bringing about sustainable change in their communities. Despite many challenges, 44 percent of all the individuals that received legal aid were women. UNDP actively enhanced women's access to human rights and justice via cooperation with national actors, awareness raising initiatives and mobile services provided directly in remote communities. The matter of civil justice was a particular focus of the free legal aid providers, including social protection, housing and family issues.

In line with the [UNDP's Gender Equality Strategy for 2022-2025](#), a gender-sensitive portfolio review was conducted to strengthen gender mainstreaming and to ensure the gender-balanced approach in developing projects across all portfolios.

To increase visibility of the legal aid services and reach more marginalized groups in remote areas, it is essential to use a variety of communication channels to overcome physical and psychological barriers to accessing legal aid services and make people aware that such services are available to them. The visibility of the services can be increased through, for example, marking the premises of existing legal aid advice centres, creating more remote access points for legal aid at places that are frequented by locals (for example, a local post office), and launching information campaigns tailored to the needs of all people in Azerbaijan including marginalized groups.

Additionally, mere consultations may not always be sufficient to resolve the legal issues, legal aid services need to be moved further to support engagement in the court. This will allow people to apply for legal aid in all administrative and civil proceedings, including proceedings at first instance courts, to ensure that every person can exercise their right to a fair trial.

To ensure the sustainability of free legal aid services in the country, UNDP worked with Azerbaijan Bar Association and other national partners to improve their capacities to assist in civil and administrative cases. [New legal aid guidelines](#), developed in line with the UN and Council of Europe standards, were presented with consolidated recommendations from the Ministry of Justice, Bar Association and legal clinics at the universities to improve the quality and effectiveness of the legal aid services and address legislative gaps.

To promote the business and human rights (B+HR) agenda in Azerbaijan, UNDP presented to the government and the private sector the [UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights \(UNGPs\)](#) as the key international guidance for responsible business practices. To improve the capacity of the Ombudsperson's Office, Azerbaijan's national human rights institution (NHRI), to work in the B+HR area, UNDP organized a training of trainers for ten NHRI experts and 15 representatives of civil society, academia, Bar Association and private sector. UNDP facilitated the NHRI study visit to the Danish Institute of Human Rights and hosted an international conference where 40 experts and NHRI representatives from 15 countries discussed their joint action plans to collaborate on B+HR. The Ombudsperson Office of Azerbaijan committed to conduct a baseline assessment of B+HR with support of 22 institutions representing government bodies and the private sector. Once the assessment is completed, advocacy efforts will be accelerated for the adoption of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights.

Furthermore, UNDP focused on mainstreaming a human rights-based approach (HRBA) and human rights due diligence (HRDD) both within the UN Country Team (UNCT) and among national partners.

UNDP, together with the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) and the UN Resident Coordinator, facilitated a training session on HRBA for the UNCT management team to enhance the skills of UN agencies in applying HRBA to development programmes and projects, and to support key partner institutions.

UNDP provided the training of trainers on HRBA for 30 experts (including 13 women) of the Law and Human Rights Institute who, in their turn, built the capacity of 12 state institutions on HRBA. UNDP also supported the launch of [an innovative online library](#). Hosted at the website of the Law and Human Rights Institute, the library presents a comprehensive and unique source of legal and human rights information for practitioners, researchers and students.

Finally, UNDP organized a training of trainers on artificial intelligence (AI), data protection and emerging technologies targeting 30 lawyers, civil society representatives, human rights defenders and IT specialists

(including 16 women). The objective of the training was to raise awareness about the key trends, challenges and opportunities in promoting HRBA in the deployment, regulation and application of digital technologies in Azerbaijan.

Going forward, UNDP will cooperate with the Ministry of Interior, the Prosecutor's Office and the Law and Human Rights Institute to deliver a "Right to Security" training in six regional centres of Azerbaijan for police officers and prosecutors from all the 80 regions of the country. The training will serve as one of the steps to address police violence in detention centres.

Key Results:

1,273 individuals (48.6 percent were women) from marginalized groups and remote areas received free legal aid services provided with UNDP's support.

The Ombudsperson's Office (NHRI) is conducting a baseline assessment on business and human rights with the support of 22 government and private entities, after receiving capacity building support from UNDP.

Twelve state institutions were capacitated on the use of the human rights-based approach.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, UNDP launched an innovative [Eco-Justice project](#) to strengthen the environmental rule of law in the country. The project has four main components: harmonizing the national legislation with the European Union (EU) norms; strengthening procedural framework for law enforcement agencies; capacity building for students and justice practitioners; and public awareness and education on environmental human rights. To facilitate the engagement with environmental civil society organizations (CSOs) and the overall project implementation scheduled for 2023, UNDP ensured the translation of its 2022 [Environmental Justice Guidance Note](#) from English into Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian.

The project team held consultations with judicial and prosecutorial training centres across Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). A preliminary agreement was reached on organizing joint learning events on environmental criminal law in June and September 2023. Although damage to the environment is criminalized in BiH criminal codes, the case law in this area is still underdeveloped, with most cases concerning illegal logging and only few on damages caused by the unlawful release of hazardous substances into the environment. In 2023, UNDP will work with judicial training institutions as well as environmental inspectorates, ministries and police to strengthen their capacity and develop standard operating procedures (SOPs) to enhance collaboration in dealing with criminal prosecution of environmental pollution cases. The project is expected to strengthen institutional capacities to tackle environmental crime in BiH.

Through the [Gender Equality Seal for Public Institutions](#), UNDP, in partnership with the BiH state Agency for Gender Equality, supported the internal transformation of the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council (HJPC), an autonomous judicial regulator mandated to ensure an independent, impartial and professional judiciary in the country. The support includes incentivizing and supporting the HJPC to empower women at work by adhering to the international and national labour norms and by improving institutional policies and practices. As a result, the HJPC will be able to mainstream a gender equality perspective and create fair and gender-sensitive workplaces. UNDP will also advocate for harmonizing the national legislation on gender equality with international standards.

As part of the institutional arrangement, the Gender Equality Seal (GES) committee was established with UNDP assistance to provide advisory and technical support to the HJPC. Eleven members of the GES Committee (eight women and two men) and two representatives of the Agency for Gender Equality (one woman and one man) improved their capacity and knowledge of the GES methodology to transform public institutions. The process will continue throughout 2023 to include at least one more public institution from the security sector in BiH.

To promote and explain the GES, UNDP published [a brochure](#) outlining the objectives of the initiative and the certification process in public institutions.

In October 2022, UNDP, together with UN Women and BiH Agency for Gender Equality, launched the [Feminist Action for Climate Justice](#) in Bosnia and Herzegovina with an essential goal to empower women to become leaders in climate change mitigation. Through an intersectoral working group, UNDP facilitated the preparation of a gap analysis report which considered gender and environment data statistics as well as gender mainstreaming in environmental laws and strategies. The information received will be further used in policy making. The report will be published in 2023.

With the support of the UNSDG Human Rights Mainstreaming Fund, UNDP and the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) continued to assist national partners in BiH to improve reporting on the 2030 Agenda and human rights and to better link human rights obligations with SDGs implementation. Following the completion of a gap analysis of human rights and sustainable development data collection and reporting in 2021, integrated capacity building workshops on human rights and SDG data collection and reporting were organized in December 2021 and January 2022, bringing together 16 representatives of the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees, the SDG Council, the national human rights institution and CSOs as well as UN partners.

As a result of this support, national partners have achieved a common and clear understanding of the country's human rights and sustainable development commitments, including through the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and Voluntary National Review (VNR) reporting processes. In addition, an important partnership has been initiated between the SDG Council, the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees, the national human rights institution and CSOs on exchange and refinement of SDG indicators of progress in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Key Results:

Environmental Rule of Law project was launched as a novel area of intervention to strengthen institutional capacities to tackle environmental crime in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

UNDP facilitated the establishment of Gender Equality Seal for the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council to identify areas for improvement *vis-à-vis* gender mainstreaming in this institution. BiH Feminist Coalition on Climate Justice was launched to support improved monitoring and reporting of gender and environment indicators and their use in policy setting.

The SDG Council, the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees, the national human rights institution and civil society have formed a partnership to improve reporting on the 2030 Agenda and human rights.

Kazakhstan

In Kazakhstan, UNDP enhanced the technical capacities and the expertise of the law enforcement and human rights institutions in response to the needs spawned by [the January 2022 crisis in the country](#). The intervention supported by UNDP's Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development was also launched to support national stakeholders in implementing political reforms announced by the Government in 2022.

Three key laws were adopted in Kazakhstan during the year: 'On the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Kazakhstan'; 'On the Prosecutor's Office'; 'On the Human Rights Commissioner in the Republic of Kazakhstan'. The application of these laws is expected to increase access to justice and grievance mechanisms in the country. UNDP contributed to these legislative changes, including by engaging the experts of the Asia Pacific Forum in the review process to ensure the draft law 'On Human Rights Commissioner' was compliant with the [Paris Principles](#). The law was adopted in November, extending the mandate of the National Centre for Human Rights (Kazakhstan's national human rights institution (NHRI)) and its representation in the regions. The new Human Rights Commissioner was appointed in December 2022.

To strengthen the NHRI capacities in the regions, UNDP, jointly with the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) and UNICEF, developed a programme for the induction training of the NHRI regional offices. Tailored sessions on international human rights standards were delivered for 18 regional representatives of the

Human Rights Commissioner and 12 staff members of NHRI (including ten women, in total). In addition, UNDP started preparations for the NHRI capacity assessment to identify its strengths and needs to effectively implement its extended mandate at central and regional levels as per the new laws and in line with the Paris Principles. The capacity assessment has been planned for 2023.

To support transformative changes in the work of the police and promote people-centred human rights-based services, UNDP organized a training of trainers for four police academies on community policing, and regional trainings for 31 police officers (including 13 women) on better protection for gender-based violence survivors, persons with disabilities and youth, and on police management and crowd control during public protests.

In line with [UNDP's Gender Equality Strategy](#) and in cooperation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and regional administrations, trainings were organized in the regions of Kyzylorda and Aktau to enhance the capacity of over 50 police inspectors (including 14 women) on effectively working with gender-based violence survivors, focusing on the human rights-based and multisectoral approach.

Good practices were demonstrated through the use of digital tools for community policing. In 2023, [UNDP Accelerators Labs](#) will work with the Country Office to offer specific innovative and technological solutions for the law enforcement system in Kazakhstan.

Key Results:

UNDP supported the adoption of the law on the Human Rights Commissioner that extended the mandate of Kazakhstan's national human rights institutions and its regional representation.

Through the training of trainers on community policing, people-centred and human rights-based approaches, UNDP supported transformational changes in the work of the police.

In two regions, 50 police inspectors (including 14 women) improved their knowledge on effectively working with and support to gender-based violence survivors.

Kyrgyz Republic

In Kyrgyzstan, UNDP focused on strengthening the rule of law and human rights through supporting legal reforms and justice sector capacity building, enhancing access to justice, empowering women and persons with disabilities, preventing sexual and gender-based violence, promoting business and human rights agenda.

Safeguarding the human rights and democratic gains in the national legislation achieved in the past years with the support of UNDP's Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme), UNDP continued advocating and providing technical advice for legal reforms. In particular, UNDP promoted [the adoption of the law on free legal aid](#) (adopted in August 2022) and the development of legal mechanisms to address harassment in the work place and to ensure accountability for sex crimes against minors.

UNDP worked with national justice stakeholders to promote judicial independence and integrity. UNDP's support to the Council of Judges of Kyrgyzstan contributed to the adoption of a comprehensive methodology that the institution will apply to evaluate the judicial performance, with the aim of improving the quality of administration of justice, the accountability of judges, as well as establishing transparent and fair promotion procedures.

One of the achievements of UNDP's rule of law work in Kyrgyzstan is the improved access to justice and legal services for women and persons with disabilities. Since 2018, more than 40,000 women, persons with disabilities and individuals from other vulnerable groups benefitted from legal advice (including the 2022 data). According to the final project assessment, the past four years saw a 52 percent increase in the number of women who received legal support.



Representatives of Japanese and Kyrgyz companies participate in human rights due diligence training | UNDP Kyrgyzstan

To ensure that all people have access to free legal aid, both in civil and criminal cases, UNDP developed and piloted an online tool that allows a defence lawyer to be assigned to a person in need in a timely and efficient manner, either based on their application to the Free Legal Aid service or following a request from a law enforcement body to provide a lawyer for a detainee. The platform is hosted by the Ministry of Justice.

To prevent sexual and gender-based violence and ensure gender-responsive and survivor-centred handling of sexual and gender-based violence cases, an inter-agency task force consisting of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the General Prosecutor's Office, the Supreme Court and the Bar Association, with support from UNDP and in partnership with a Public Fund "Kyrgyz Association of Women Judges" (KAWJ), designed mandatory human rights training modules for police officers, judges, lawyers and prosecutors. Three institutions⁴⁰ integrated these modules into their curricula. To roll out the modules, UNDP and KAWJ conducted training of trainers for 48 judges, prosecutors, social workers and others. The Higher School of Justice at the Supreme Court conducted a two-day training for 21 judges, and the Republican Training Center of the Ministry of Internal Affairs delivered sessions for 120 students.

The [Parliamentary Council on Women's Rights, Children's Rights and Gender Equality developed its 2023-2026 Strategy and the Action Plan](#) to strengthen the policy work and oversight to enable women and children to exercise their rights and to prevent violence against women. UNDP, in partnership with a Public Fund "Training Center for Lawyers" supported a network of 59 *pro bono* lawyers (including 45 women) who provided legal assistance to 54 sexual and gender-based violence survivors, including 41 women, one person with disabilities, 11 girls and two boys. Thirty more women received support in a crisis centre "Chance" in 2021-2022.

In 2022, almost 44,000 people were reached through [the awareness-raising social media campaign on free legal aid services available](#) for survivors of domestic, sexual and gender-based violence.

UNDP enhanced the capacities of eight CSOs advocating for human rights improvements and accountability in Kyrgyzstan. In particular, UNDP developed [a comprehensive toolkit](#) on human rights promotion and protection in line with international standards. Based on the toolkit, training and mentorship sessions were organized for 65 civil society activists (including 43 women) from Chui, Osh, Jalal Abad and Issyk Regions.

With support from the Government of Japan and technical guidance from the Global Programme, UNDP in Kyrgyzstan successfully launched [a project to promote business and human rights agenda](#) in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs). Through [the Business and Human Rights \(B+HR\) Academy](#), 53 Japanese and Kyrgyzstani companies [improved their knowledge and skills on human rights due diligence and the UNGPs](#). As a result, some of these companies have initiated the development of human rights policies to enhance their ability to remain competitive in local and global markets while respecting due diligence processes and pursuing the well-being of the society. A national multistakeholder platform was established to develop a Human Rights National Baseline Assessment and [a National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights](#). The Ministry of Economy and Commerce and the Office of the Ombudsperson are leading the process.

Key Results:

Building on the support provided by the Global Programme on safeguarding the human rights and democratic gains in the national legislation achieved in the past years, UNDP's continued efforts in promoting legal reform contributed to the law on free legal aid which was adopted in 2022 and the online tool developed to enable all individuals in need to access free legal aid in civil and criminal cases. UNDP-supported free legal aid centres provided consultation for over 3,000 people, including 1,357 women and 83 persons with disabilities.

UNDP's contribution to preventing and addressing sexual and gender-based violence included support to the training modules for justice and law enforcement actors, developing a network of *pro bono* lawyers and the awareness-raising campaign.

UNDP support on business and human rights improved the knowledge and skills of over 50 Japanese and Kyrgyzstani companies on human rights due diligence and the UNGPs.

⁴⁰ The Higher School of Justice under the Supreme Court of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic, and the Training Centre for Lawyers.

Moldova

In Moldova, UNDP launched a project to enhance national rule of law capacities to respond both to the immediate needs of the Ukrainian refugees and to resolve systemic issues with access to justice services. The project reinforces the Humanitarian - Development - Peace nexus and has a *leaving no one behind* principle at its core. This UNDP initiative was integrated with and supported the realization of the 2022 UN inter-agency Regional Refugee Response Plan for Moldova, coordinated by UNHCR and the Government.

Following the full-scale invasion by the Russian Federation into Ukraine in February 2022, over 718,000 Ukrainians sought refuge in neighboring Moldova, while over 100,000 refugees (out of which nearly 60 percent are women and girls) remained in the country as of April 2023.⁴¹ Moldovan authorities and communities had to ensure that refugees had access to legal aid and justice services, a crucial type of support in any displacement and humanitarian context. Without such support, refugees risk losing their legal identity and cannot exercise their rights to healthcare, housing, education or employment. Women refugees face additional risks, including gender discrimination and gender-based violence.

The project implementation started with [the rapid assessments](#) conducted by UNDP and the Moldovan Institute for Penal Reform (IRP). The assessments proposed measures to improve the capacities of the national legal aid systems and identified the legal needs of refugees and asylum seekers. An underdeveloped network of paralegals across the country and their insufficient engagement with the formal legal system was one of the gaps revealed by the assessments. A set of recommendations to support the paralegals in Moldova include the formation of legal aid mobile teams, revised fees for the paralegal work and awareness raising among beneficiaries about the services available.

To ensure that paralegals in Moldova are well equipped to assist and interact with refugees, asylum seekers and host communities, UNDP, in partnership with the NGO National Paralegal Association of Moldova (NPAM), reviewed their learning needs, developed a new training module, and improved learning aids and evaluation tools. The learning aids were used during the in-person training in January 2023 for 42 paralegals (including 25 women). The updated online training programme and supporting materials were uploaded to the paralegal [e-learning platform hosted by the e-Governance Agency](#). Twenty-seven people (including 20 women) participated in an online session to discuss the importance of communication skills and improve their knowledge on the updated training programme.

Capitalizing on UNDP's experience in supporting gender-based violence survivors in Gagauzia (Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia, Republic of Moldova), the 'mobile team model' was replicated and expanded to prevent gender-based violence in Edinet and Causeni districts. Two mobile teams were operationalized and, as of December 2022, provided legal, psychological and social services for 226 women: 100 refugee women and 126 women from vulnerable groups, including 59 gender-based violence survivors. The operational model of the mobile teams, when they go to a client's place of residence, analyse a case and refer a woman to relevant service providers, reflects a people-centred approach to advancing gender justice and building resilience.

Furthermore, following a learning needs assessment of the staff members within the local public authorities from Edinet and Causeni districts, the training agenda was shaped, and four learning sessions were scheduled for May 2023.

Moldovan civil society organizations with proven experience, agility and innovative approaches have been key implementing partners for UNDP in this project. Primarily, the team worked with the Institute for Penal Reform, the National Paralegals Association from Moldova and the Law Center of Advocates. The National Legal Aid Council is the key national counterpart for UNDP Moldova in improving access to justice and legal services for refugees and asylum seekers.

Since multiple partners have been involved in project activities, the coordination processes took longer than expected. In addition, UNDP saw the lack of qualified offers for the legal needs assessment exercise which led to the readvertisement of calls and delays in the initiation of planned activities. A no-cost extension of the

⁴¹ UNHCR Operational Data Portal. <https://data.unhcr.org/en/dataviz/248?sv=0&geo=680>.

project for three months (to the end of October 2023) was approved. This time will also be used to develop a chatbot solution to expand access to legal aid and remedies.

Key Results:

226 women and girls benefitted from legal, social and psychological services provided by the gender-based violence prevention mobile teams in Edinet and Causeni districts.

To support Ukrainian refugees' access to legal aid and justice services in Moldova, UNDP built capacities of 50 paralegals (including 31 women) and enhanced their skills to assist and interact with refugees, asylum seekers and host communities.

Rapid assessment of the capacities of the legal aid system to respond to the needs of refugees and host communities, as well as of the needs of refugees and asylum seekers in the field of access to legal and other public services, was conducted and used to inform the training programme for justice professionals (judges, prosecutors, police officers and paralegals).

Ukraine

Due to the full-scale war in Ukraine caused by the Russian military invasion as of 24 February 2022, [over 8 million people left the country seeking protection abroad, and more than 7.1 million moved internally](#). Such forced displacement overburdened local and regional service providers, including centres for free secondary legal aid provision. To address these challenges, UNDP focused on improving the efficiency and accessibility of justice services for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and residents of frontline, transit and host communities.

In 2022, the state-guaranteed Free Legal Aid System was barely coping with the workload created by the unprecedented scale of displacement. In partnership with the NGO Charitable Fund “Gorenie”, UNDP established a network of professional lawyers nationwide, availing opportunities for thousands of men and women to protect and exercise their rights when fleeing the war and settling in their new homes: 13,583 legal consultations were provided to 5,502 people affected by the escalated conflict (78 percent of whom are women). The network enhanced cooperation with the Coordinating Centre for Legal Aid Provision⁴² and launched legal education campaigns.

The first months of the war demonstrated that human rights must underpin all emergency and recovery policies and solutions to effectively provide public services in times of emergencies, leaving no one behind. In 2022, UNDP continued working with national partners to promote principles of human rights, accessibility and respect. Specifically, an educational course for public officials on building a barrier-free state was launched on the national educational platform Diia. Digital Education. In 2022, 34,325 people benefited from the educational course for public officials [“State without barriers”](#).

The war increased the burden on the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights (Ukraine's national human rights institution (NHRI)) while its effectiveness and sustainability became ever more important with the significant increase in the number and scale of human rights violations. In 2022, UNDP provided extensive support to the institution, enhancing its expertise for the effective implementation of its mandate and human rights advocacy at the international level. With UNDP support, the NHRI's regional network continued operating in all the oblasts⁴³ despite challenges caused by the war.

Timely access to reliable information is critical in a crisis context. In 2022, the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, in partnership with UNDP, conducted a [monitoring of access to information](#)



Free legal consultation provided by the NGO Charitable Fund “Gorenie” | UNDP Ukraine

⁴² A governmental programme under the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine was founded to provide the free legal aid services

⁴³ An oblast in Ukraine, sometimes translated as region or province, is the main type of first-level administrative division of the country.

during martial law. Based on its findings, UNDP experts on access to information developed and delivered holistic training for public officials and information holders at national, regional and local levels. More than 1,000 public officials (82 percent women) from across Ukraine have enhanced their understanding of how to ensure the right to information in crisis conditions.

To ensure that people affected by the war have access to information and know how to exercise their rights, UNDP supported the [“Important Questions”](#) communications campaign launched by the President Adviser Commissioner on Barrier-free Issues in partnership with civil society. In May-July 2022, this social media campaign reached over 360,000 men and women with the information on social services, medical assistance, new procedures and legislative changes relevant for IDPs and other groups.

Military escalation has posed a wide range of security risks. Police stations and rescue facilities remained among the primary targets for shelling and missile attacks, and their infrastructure in many oblasts suffered severe damage forcing police and rescue units to relocate. In war-affected Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, UNDP’s support to the police and the State Emergency Service ensured their ability to provide essential and often life-saving services. To further strengthen community security, UNDP supported Donetsk and Luhansk Universities of Internal Affairs. These institutions were relocated and could resume the educational process due to the household appliances and IT equipment provided by UNDP.

Following the outbreak of the full-scale war, the business sector was caught off guard and largely unprepared to operate in the new conflict-affected business environment. To provide national partners, including government officials, business communities and others with critical support in implementing the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), UNDP conducted first-hand research that highlighted legislative gaps and other pressing issues in the area of business and human rights. Based on the analysis of the national strategic documents, UNDP Ukraine, in partnership with the Government of Japan, provided specific recommendations to improve the legislative and regulatory framework. These recommendations were presented to the government as data-based suggestions for the development of the national Recovery Plan and were reflected in the latest draft of the updated National Human Rights Strategy to address war-related challenges.

UNDP also partnered with national academic institutions to incentivize young scholars to study the war’s impact on business and human rights and explore innovative solutions that could be applied by authorities and businesses. The [all-Ukrainian competition of research papers on business and human rights in the context of war](#) involved over 13 educational institutions from 17 out of 24 oblasts in Ukraine and 112 young scholars.

Going forward, UNDP will continue working with the Coordination Centre for Legal Aid Provision, civil society organizations, private sector, development and humanitarian actors to enhance access to justice for all in Ukraine. UNDP will further support the activities of the regional NHRI network, improve the capacity of local actors to address business and human rights challenges and expand the capacity development of the Free Legal Aid System, prioritizing the integration of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and digitalization of the legal services for their higher efficiency and outreach.

Key Results:

In 2022, the NGO Charitable Fund “Gorenje” with the support of UNDP Ukraine provided 13,583 legal consultations to 5,502 people affected by the escalated conflict (78 percent women).

The NHRI’s Regional Network conducted 449 field visits and offered more than 1,000 consultations reaching out to 5,229 people (3,248 women and 1,981 men) to provide advice and assistance for rights protection.

430 first responders of the relocated departments and units of State Emergency Service and the police from Donetsk and Luhansk continued delivering life-saving services using the equipment provided by UNDP.

Kosovo*

In Kosovo, UNDP continued the implementation of the Kosovo Safety and Security Programme (KSSP) and the project designed to support the functioning of the rule of law institutions and improve access to justice.

Through the KSSP, UNDP facilitated trainings for the law enforcement officers in the police service of Kosovo and North Macedonia in line with community policing standards: 340 officers (including 32 women) improved their knowledge on types of weapons and explosives, as well as on legal instruments for the control of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and intelligence-led policing. In addition, 90 law enforcement officers (including 19 women) advanced their knowledge on effective ballistic investigations and the importance of information exchange to address illicit arms trafficking.



Photo taken by the Kosovo Police from the police operations in confiscating firearms

To enhance the technological capacities of the Kosovo border police in combatting the trafficking of weapons, UNDP provided advanced equipment that allowed the detection of illegal ammunition and improved SALW control. According to the Kosovo Police official statistics, in 2022 the number of detected and confiscated firearms increased by 13 percent.

To raise awareness on the consequences of unauthorized use of SALW and to decrease the number of firearms incidents, especially during celebrations, UNDP supported the Ministries of Internal Affairs in Kosovo and North Macedonia in holding a social media campaign “Every bullet has a target! Celebrate with your heart, not your gun.” The campaign reached over one million people with a key message that even a stray bullet ends up somewhere endangering someone’s life.

Through its rule of law and justice project, UNDP continued supporting the modernization of the archiving system in courts. In coordination with the Kosovo Judicial Council, UNDP worked on the digitization of nearly 300,000 archived minor offence case files in all seven first instance courts.

To facilitate access to justice, UNDP supported the establishment of a translation office that provided Albanian-Serbian and Serbian-Albanian interpretation during over 280 court hearings and translation services for over 550 court cases. This initiative contributed to the reduction of the backlog of cases accumulated due to the lack of professional translation services.

In coordination with the Kosovo Academy of Justice, the main public judicial training institute, UNDP implemented a five-week basic training programme for professional legal associates from all Kosovo courts. One hundred and sixty professional legal associates (50 percent women) from both K-Albanian and K-Serbian communities increased their knowledge and skills in the area of criminal justice.

To facilitate the exchange of experiences and best practices in adjudication of domestic violence crimes, UNDP organized a regional two-day South-South cooperation event for over 40 women judges and prosecutors from Kosovo, Albania and North Macedonia. The event also served as a platform to discuss avenues for the increased representation of women in the judiciary.

Key Results:

UNDP contributed to the realization of community policing standards in the police services of Kosovo and North Macedonia. Over 400 law enforcement officers improved their knowledge in intelligence-driven investigations and SALW prevention.

UNDP’s support to the border police contributed to the 13 percent increase in the number of detected and confiscated firearms.

A South-South cooperation event gathered over 40 women judges and prosecutors from Kosovo, Albania and North Macedonia who discussed ways to better adjudicate domestic violence cases and increase women’s meaningful representation in the judiciary.

* All references to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Regional overview

The Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region is navigating the challenges of recovery from multiple crises, including the effects of the war in Ukraine, the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, the climate emergency, the migration crisis and broken social contracts. The region was already struggling to cope with structural inequality, poverty, violence and the recovery of the pace of justice service delivery, and increased demand for justice services.

In 2022, while [the region saw a decline in homicide rates, insecurity has been on the rise in many countries where chronic violence remained prevalent](#) with increased levels of organized crime. According to the [World Justice Project's Rule of Law Index](#), the rule of law situation improved in nine countries in the region in 2022, but declined in 21 of the 32 countries, and the overall rule of law climate deteriorated, as did tolerance and respect for human rights.

Against this backdrop, UNDP LAC focused on the provision of tailored support to an increasing number of requests from UNDP Country Offices and the regional programme, while also continuing to increase the number of countries in the region reached by UNDP's Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development. UNDP LAC, with its network of regional projects SIGOB, CARISECURE and INFOSEGURA, supported more than 25 Country Offices in the region through integrated initiatives. Ongoing initiatives were presented at the regional Community of Practice in October 2022.

UNDP Honduras launched the Human Development Report on Rule of Law including 50 public policy proposals delivered to the Presidency of the Republic, and the [Human Development Atlas](#) which contains sub-national level gender sensitive data which is useful for prioritization and focusing public policies and public services. Evidence for action is a central need for public policies as UNDP stressed in the [No. 11 Policy Note: Data Revolution on Citizen Security](#).

UNDP supported citizen security and violence reduction efforts through the SALIENT project in Jamaica and Honduras, through the INFOSEGURA project implemented in Central America and Dominican Republic and through the CariSECURE project implemented in Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Suriname.

In 2022, UNDP continued supporting 24 Country Offices in their efforts to ensure access to justice for all, in the framework of the strategic partnership with COMJIB (Conferencia de Ministros de Justicia de los Países Iberoamericanos) and PATHFINDERS for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies.

UNDP contributed to the development and implementation of national strategies on access to justice in six countries and supported more than ten e-justice initiatives, including in Brazil, Colombia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras and Panama. In the Caribbean, UNDP partnered with the European Union to design a regional project to address backlogs and bottlenecks in the criminal justice systems of Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Guyana, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago.

In Cuba, Dominican Republic and Mexico, UNDP helped implement strategies to enhance access to justice for women and transform social and cultural norms through positive masculinities. Dominican Republic and Paraguay implemented the Gender Equality Seal for the judiciary. In addition, UNDP co-led transitional justice processes in Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico through an inclusion and sustainable development lens.

To address the climate emergency and mitigate the impact of natural disasters in the region, UNDP supported environmental justice and climate security initiatives in Argentina, Bolivia and Honduras, as well as contributing to the implementation of the [Escazu Agreement](#), the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean. Other emblematic initiatives include support to the constitutional reform process in Belize based on the Chilean experience, and the development of innovative partnerships on accountability.

In 2022, UNDP LAC expanded its Business and Human Rights (B+HR) agenda. Through the promotion and implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), UNDP and the Government of Japan supported initiatives in Mexico and Peru. The Andalusian Agency for International Development Cooperation (AACID) and UNDP have joined forces to support the strategic partnerships of the private sector in the promotion and protection of human rights and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. State capacity to promote inclusion was enhanced through business and human rights projects in 14 countries and human mobility initiatives in nine countries. In five countries, public and private institutions received support in conflict management.

In line with the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights, in Latin America and the Caribbean, UNDP scaled up its partnerships with the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR), Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) and the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP). With these partners, UNDP supported national human rights institutions in Argentina, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Peru and Uruguay.

These solutions have been achieved in a context defined by development challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, uncertainty about climate change, increased political polarization, conflict and violence, and growing erosion of respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights. According to the survey "[Citizens' views on the responses to COVID-19 and the future of governance](#)", conducted by the UNDP Regional Hub in Latin America, satisfaction with the functioning of democracy and support for democracy as a form of government in the region continues to deteriorate.

Going forward, UNDP will continue to invest efforts in strengthening the rule of law and promoting peaceful and inclusive dialogue to place human rights, people-centred justice, and security at the centre of its programmatic and policy support to accelerate the implementation of SDG16 on peace, justice and strong institutions.

Argentina

In Argentina, UNDP launched an innovative project to understand the link between poverty and access to justice and contribute to a global discussion on justice for development by introducing the access to justice dimension to a credible national poverty survey: "A Survey of the Argentine Social Debt – Series for Equity 2022" (Encuesta de la Deuda Social Argentina - Serie para la Equidad 2022).

In the first half of 2022, the poverty rate in Argentina reached 36.5 percent. The situation got worse throughout the year and by its end, up to 39.2 percent of people in Argentina lived in poverty.⁴⁴ The socioeconomic situation and pre-existing inequalities were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The labour gap deepened, 78 percent of the officially employed educated personnel were able to work from home and keep their jobs while only 22 percent of individuals engaged in the informal labour market managed to remain employed.⁴⁵

To introduce a holistic approach to gathering data on poverty and justice and to uncover links between poverty and legal capacity, UNDP supported the design of an access to justice module and ensured its integration into the national poverty survey conducted in Argentina in 2022. The overarching goal of this initiative was to test the new SDG global indicator 16.3.3⁴⁶ that focuses on the accessibility of civil justice institutions and mechanisms, both formal and informal.

By testing the new SDG indicator 16.3.3 within a national poverty survey in Argentina, UNDP aims to evaluate the everyday justice experiences of poor people and to analyse how unaddressed legal issues or lack of

⁴⁴ Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas y Censos (INDEC). Public Official Statistics Office in Argentina

⁴⁵ UNDP, "Trabajo y Desarrollo Sostenible: impacto COVID y desafíos post pandemia" (2022). Available at <https://www.undp.org/es/argentina/publicaciones/trabajo-y-desarrollo-sostenible-impacto-covid-y-desafios-post-pandemia>.

⁴⁶ The indicator, developed by OECD, UNDP and UNODC, reads "Proportion of the population who have experienced a dispute in the past two years and who accessed a formal or informal dispute resolution mechanism, by type of mechanism". The indicator was approved by the tenth meeting of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) held from 21 to 24 October 2019 in Addis Ababa. Source: OECD Access to Justice <https://www.oecd.org/governance/global-roundtables-access-to-justice/people-centredmeasurementofaccesstociviljustice/newglobalsdgingindicator1633.htm>

access to justice contribute to rising poverty levels. UNDP prioritized including the gender lens in data collection and interpretation to define the linkages between poverty, justice and gender that are specific to Argentina, but the analysis of which can be extrapolated to other countries and regions. The project streamlines the *leave no one behind* approach to increase the focus on access to justice policies by different groups in vulnerable and marginalized situations through the analysis of disaggregated socio-economic data.

To ensure that the access to justice module was well designed and incorporated in the national poverty survey, UNDP partnered with the Argentine Social Debt Observatory (ODSA) of the School of Economics, Catholic University of Argentina. This well-respected academic centre is known for its sound research, data collection and credible analysis on poverty and inequality in Argentina. The ODSA carries out an annual survey, structurally similar to a permanent household survey, which has been widely accepted as a credible source for poverty data in the country.

Ahead of the national survey, UNDP and ODSA established an interdisciplinary group of experts (social scientists and justice practitioners) that held internal meetings to discuss methodology, approaches and the scope of technical contributions in 2022. The group reviewed the international literature on access to justice, designed the justice module application methodology and developed the access to justice module to enable effective measurement, monitoring and evaluation of justice needs, access to formal and informal dispute resolution systems, quality and efficiency of services.

For the overall design of the project strategy and for the consultations around the access to justice module UNDP engaged and convened a broad spectrum of partners including the World Justice Project, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), UNDP Oslo Governance Centre, Open Society Justice Initiative Foundation and Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies. The partnership between UNDP and the ODSA should be analysed and taken on board as a good practice of working with academia in contexts where the government does not lead on data collection and comprehensive surveys to integrate access to justice and socioeconomic data. It will contribute to the institutional efforts to make SDG16 the actual enabler of the overall Agenda 2030.

UNDP and partners continue to analyse the data obtained from the access to justice module as well as other relevant information obtained from the national poverty survey. The initial findings suggest that people living in poverty tend to be unaware of the legal dimension of their everyday problems and unable to seek access to justice via formal or informal mechanisms for dispute resolution. By June 2023, UNDP will produce a comprehensive report to serve as a tool for advocacy and awareness raising. It will also inform policy development to ensure that people-centred civil justice services are available, accessible, inclusive and effective. The project outputs may be utilized as good practices for other countries in Latin America and beyond to introduce access to justice component to the national surveys and to further test and adjust the SDG indicator on civil justice. In this regard, the project will document the learning process and organize a global event on SDG16.3.3 at the occasion of the launch of the report.

Key Results:

UNDP support introduced a holistic approach to gathering data on poverty and justice and to uncover linkages between poverty and legal capacity. The project enabled the design and integration of an access to justice module into the national poverty survey conducted in Argentina in 2022. By testing the new SDG indicator 16.3.3 within a national poverty survey, UNDP aims to evaluate the everyday justice experiences of poor people and to analyse how unaddressed legal issues or lack of access to justice contribute to rising poverty levels.

UNDP partnered with the academia for this pilot, in addition to convening a wide spectrum of international actors and experts. This partnership model, once the experience and learning have been analysed, has the potential to become a best practice for contexts where the government does not lead on data collection and comprehensive surveys to integrate access to justice and socio-economic data.

Colombia

In Colombia, UNDP contributed to the transformation and digitalization of justice services, focusing on municipalities most affected by the armed conflicts and violence. The need to develop e-justice initiatives became acute during and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic when avoiding overcrowding in courts was vital to prevent massive spread of the virus. Digitalization efforts are also aimed at addressing deep-rooted inequalities in society and supporting the government in developing better internet connection across the country.

To implement its digital justice project in Colombia, UNDP prioritized the support to the Family Services Offices (FSOs or *Comisarías de Familia* in Spanish), the main justice providers in cases of domestic violence. According to the Colombian legislation, the FSOs' mission is to prevent domestic and gender-based violence, guarantee, restore and remedy the rights of survivors. During 2022, SICOFA, the information system for FSOs was designed and its stabilization phase was launched by the Ministry of Law and Justice with UNDP support. Three training sessions for IT experts and the FSO staff were organized to test the system with a view to pilot it in 2023.

Among other services, SICOFA will allow online requests for appointments and psychological services. It will facilitate case assignments and referrals, enable risk assessments and data-driven decision-making. Tracing cases of violence reported and filed by women and members of the LGBTQI+ community was embedded in SICOFA's design to prevent and address gender-based violence. Consolidated records of all cases, including disaggregated data of perpetrators and survivors, will be available to identify and protect individuals at risk, improve protection and remedy policies and, ultimately, reduce justice gaps.

To ensure strong national engagement and ownership of the information management system, UNDP established a strong partnership with the Colombian Ministry of Law and Justice, a governing body of the FSOs. The Ministry played a fundamental role in the design of SICOFA. Colombian family commissioners, lawyers, justice providers and software engineers worked together with the UNDP technical and core team to develop the system. In addition, UNDP supported the Ministry in producing [technical guidelines for the FSOs](#) to optimize their institutional capacities in addressing domestic and gender-based violence.

SICOFA was designed as a key element of the country's broader strategy to transform justice delivery and enable the provision of justice services using digital tools. To support this strategic shift, UNDP explored opportunities for knowledge sharing between Colombia, Brazil and Peru. Such regional exchange will allow the Colombian Government to learn from good practices in similar contexts. Additionally, UNDP facilitated a dialogue between the Ministry of Law and Justice, the National Planning Department⁴⁷ and the Superior Council of the Judiciary to generate national partnerships for digital transformation.

The formation of the new Government in Colombia following the 2022 Presidential elections has caused delays in the strategy implementation. To ensure effective cooperation with and among new state officials and to resume the digitalization of justice, UNDP scheduled inter-institutional workshops and consultations with the National Planning Department and the Superior Council of the Judiciary. The work has continued in 2023, with the objective to introduce digital justice services in other municipalities.

Key Results:

The SICOFA information system was designed for the Family Services Offices, the main justice providers in cases of domestic violence in Colombia. Scheduled to pilot in 2023, the SICOFA system will help consolidate case data, identify and protect individuals at risk, improve protection and remedy policies and, ultimately, reduce justice gaps.

UNDP supported the Ministry in producing technical guidelines for the FSOs to optimize their institutional capacities in addressing domestic and gender-based violence.

To support Colombia in using digital tools to deliver justice services, UNDP explored opportunities for knowledge sharing between Colombia, Brazil and Peru.

⁴⁷ The National Planning Department is the executive administrative agency of Colombia in charge of defining, recommending and promoting public and economic policies for the sustainable and inclusive development of the country.

Ecuador

After the COVID-19 pandemic, Ecuadorian public institutions faced serious challenges in providing effective and accessible services and managing financial resources in a transparent way. Several cases of corruption related to the purchase of medical supplies during the emergency were identified.⁴⁸ The lack of adequate health services during the pandemic and the mismanagement of public funds affected the reputation of Ecuadorian public institutions and contributed to further deterioration of people's trust in the democratic system, a continuous trend of the past years.⁴⁹

Considering that corruption impedes development and does not allow individuals and communities to effectively exercise their rights, it was essential for UNDP to support the Ecuadorian Government in its determination to achieve transparency and public integrity. With support from the Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development, UNDP provided capacity building for civil servants, worked with authorities to improve policies and strengthen institutions, and focused on measures to prevent corruption based on the principles of good governance and transparency. Anti-corruption, open government and public procurement were identified as key intervention areas.

The National Anti-Corruption Strategy was developed in a participatory manner. UNDP supported consultations among national stakeholders, including representatives of the legislative caucus of the National Assembly and journalists. These consultations contributed to a wider process of strategy development led by the Secretariat for the Anti-Corruption Public Policy and UNDP, in coordination with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and other organizations, such as the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) and the US Agency for International Development (USAID). The Anti-Corruption Strategy, implemented by the executive bodies such as the Service of Public Procurement and the Agency of Control of Health Services, identifies priority areas and constitutes the roadmap for the Executive Branch and other public institutions.

UNDP facilitated training for approximately 500 public officials (including more than 150 women) who improved their knowledge and understanding of integrity, rule of law and open government. This capacity building process had two levels. First, in-person sessions focusing on transformational leadership were delivered for senior government officials, including ministers and heads of public institutions. This activity had an unprecedented level of engagement from the highest authorities of the Executive Branch, and the training was inaugurated by the President of the Republic. Second, a virtual course was designed for civil servants across the country focusing on public integrity.

To support the authorities in Ecuador to provide effective and accessible services, UNDP carried out an assessment of indicators used by the Government to ensure that all of its institutions operate in line with the open government doctrine. The indicators under review were access to public information, civic participation, accountability and innovation. Based on this assessment, an improved open government index will be designed, including tools to collect disaggregated data and measure the effectiveness of state services with a gender lens.

To ensure more transparency in public procurement, UNDP supported the analysis of the legal public procurement framework, collected insights from the institutional users of the procurement system and developed a compliance gaps assessment as a first step to build a compliance management system for the National Service of Public Procurement (Sercop).

While working with national stakeholders for the implementation of the First Open Government Action Plan, UNDP supported the Presidency of the Republic, in coordination with civil society organizations, in the operationalization of the first [Citizen Innovation Lab](#) in the country. The Lab is a workspace that fosters the interaction between citizens and the government to debate and co-design public policies or projects. UNDP facilitated the convening of various actors to form a core team that manages this Innovation Lab, led by the Secretariat for Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (SENESCYT).

Due to the frequent leadership changes in the key ministries and certain bureaucratic impediments, the implementation of the initiative will be completed in 2023. UNDP aims to support the implementation of the Second Open State Action Plan, complete the first phase of the Sercop's Compliance Management System, and assist local authorities with designing transparency initiatives.

⁴⁸ ODJEC and PADF, "[Corrupcion en tiempos de Covid-19](#)"; PRIMICIAS, "[51 de 56 casos de corrupción en pandemia siguen en investigación](#)" ([primicias.ec](#)) (29 October 2022); Ecuador: [Los largos tentáculos de la corrupción en la pandemia – MCCL \(contralacorrupcion.mx\)](#) (1 September 2022); El País, "[Coronavirus: Una oleada de casos de corrupción golpea Ecuador en medio de la pandemia](#)" (4 June 2020).

⁴⁹ Corporación Latinobarómetro website. Available at <https://www.latinobarometro.org/lat.jsp>.

Key Results:

UNDP supported the first open government initiative of Ecuador and carried out an assessment of indicators used by the Government on access to public information, civic participation, accountability and innovation. The findings of the assessment will inform the design of an improved open government index.

UNDP supported participatory consultations among national stakeholders for developing the National Anti-Corruption Strategy.

UNDP supported the Presidency of the Republic, in coordination with civil society organizations, in the operationalization of the first Citizen Innovation Lab in the country. The Lab seeks to foster interactions between citizens and the government to debate and co-design public policies or projects.

Guatemala

In Guatemala, the delivery of justice services remained affected by the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. To support judicial institutions in guaranteeing equal access to justice for all, with a focus on individuals and groups facing exclusion, UNDP prioritized strengthening the capacities of the Constitutional Court. The Constitutional Court of Guatemala is a specialized governing institution of constitutional justice with a key role in settling the country's major conflicts. UNDP's support to the court included the design and finalization of a policy to improve services for women, Indigenous Peoples, and persons with disabilities.



Intergenerational meeting with the participation of youth from Alta Verapaz, Guatemala | UNDP Guatemala

UNDP's cooperation with the Constitutional Court commenced in previous years due to the support from the Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme). In 2020-2021, the design of the Policy of Access to Constitutional Justice for Populations in Conditions of Vulnerability was initiated. Despite the changes in the judicial authorities, the initiative proved sustainable, and the elaboration of the policy continued. In 2022, with the support from the Government of Norway, the policy was finalized and validated by key institutional stakeholders.

In the area of transitional justice, through its dedicated Transitional Justice Accompaniment Programme, UNDP continued to promote initiatives to ensure accountability and non-repetition of the internal armed confrontation in Guatemala, as well as to create spaces for education, youth participation and leadership in recovering and preserving historical memory. UNDP's activities targeted the regions of Alta Verapaz and Quiché. According to the Commission for Historical Clarification, these areas were the most affected by the internal armed confrontation and continued struggle with poverty and exclusion, with young people, women and Indigenous communities bearing the brunt.

To enable young people to find jobs, UNDP supported 117 young people (including 75 women) who completed one of the eight technical courses certified by the Technical Institute of Training and Productivity, the Guatemalan Institute of Tourism and other local organizations. Seventy-seven percent of the participants identified themselves as Indigenous People. In a post-graduate survey, most of the beneficiaries assessed their participation in the courses as "highly successful".

In addition, UNDP contributed to the empowerment of 76 young people in Alta Verapaz (including 44 women and 50 percent Indigenous individuals), improving their capacities to influence political and decision-making processes, promote historical memory and sustainable development.

Through the support from the Cataluña Agency for Development, UNDP facilitated face-to-face and remote mechanisms for psychological care for women who survived sexual and gender-based violence during the internal armed confrontation. Forty-seven women received psychosocial support and became vocal about their experience, encouraging others to share their testimonies and get relief. Within the same initiative, over 40 prosecutors, psychologists, mental health promoters, doctors and forensic experts increased their knowledge of [the Istanbul Protocol](#), a manual on the "Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment".

Key Results:

The Policy of Access to Constitutional Justice for Populations in Conditions of Vulnerability was finalized and validated by key institutional actors. It represents an important step towards access to justice for all in Guatemala.

Youth, women and Indigenous Peoples in areas most affected by the internal armed confrontation and exclusion are better equipped to influence political and decision-making processes, and for preserving historical memory.

47 female survivors of sexual and gender-based violence received psychological care.

Haiti - GFP profile

In Haiti, UNDP focused on addressing the systemic issue of prolonged pre-trial detention by promoting and protecting the rights of persons deprived of their liberty. Also, the capacity of national justice stakeholders was strengthened enabling more effective implementation of the new penal code, once it is enforced.

It can be estimated that over [9,000 people or 85 percent of persons deprived of their liberty in Haiti are kept in pre-trial detention](#) which is often unnecessarily and disproportionately prolonged. The root causes of this situation include functional gaps in the judicial and penitentiary systems, insufficient number of magistrates, underdeveloped framework for the provision of legal aid which serves as a demotivating factor for legal aid providers, and the lack of prosecutorial independence.

To address some of these issues, UNDP supported the National Council on Legal Assistance in developing a national strategy for the legal aid provision to the most vulnerable individuals, including women, juveniles and persons deprived of their liberty. The strategy defines the intervention framework for paralegals with an objective to get a release order for a detainee if their case was marked with significant judicial delays. In addition, the strategy creates grounds for the organization of habeas corpus hearings⁵⁰ for individuals who spent excessive amount of time in pre-trial detention: several years and at times over a decade.

While the strategy is being finalized, UNDP, through the legal aid offices, facilitated the provision of legal assistance to individuals deprived of their liberty. The legal aid providers assisted in bringing cases before courts enabling the release of 87 people (including 14 women) in 2022. This remains modest considering the staggering number of prolonged pretrial detention detainees, (approx. 9,000). Legal assistants are facing important challenges caused by the malfunctions of the judicial system. The Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJPS) and the High Judicial Council (CSPJ) are not providing sufficient oversight to judges and prosecutors. These two institutions' inspection units are insufficiently staffed, they do not have the logistics means to conduct regular court visits, and inspectors need additional training and guidelines. In addition, there is no evaluation process for judges and prosecutors. Only 150 out of 959 of them have been vetted since the inception of the CSPJ in 2012. Besides, numerous prosecutors were politically appointed and did not complete the mandatory training at the Magistrate school. Consequently, several courts are ineffective and corrupt which greatly impacts the capacity of legal assistants to move citizens' cases forward.

In cooperation with the School of Magistrates (Ecole de la Magistrature), UNDP facilitated training for 71 judicial actors, including high-level magistrates, on the new legal mechanisms and procedures provided in the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure regarding serious human rights violations and witness protection. Nineteen women participated. In the course of the training, the magistrates improved their knowledge of the novelties the new Haitian Penal Code offers with regards to the criminalization of serious human rights violations, legal implications of the new witness protection system, new procedures to improve criminal investigations and prosecutions with a focus on accountability. A total of 52,019 justice sector operators will need to be trained on the new codes. The Magistrate Schools and law schools will need to be

⁵⁰ The habeas corpus appeal is recognized by the Haitian constitution for detentions without appearance before a natural judge of the case after the 48 hours of police custody. By extension, it applies to detentions without trial exceeding the legal investigation periods. This appeal does not put an end to the proceedings, but it is often shunned by prosecutors who are comfortable as soon as the person is behind bars without any real means of pressure to reach the trial.

supported and strengthened to meet this challenge. Since 1995, the Magistrate School (EMA) has completed the training of only seven promotions of around 50 students for a total of 350.

The new Codes were adopted in 2020 with a view to be enforced in 2022. The enforcement, however, had to be postponed as their publication raised numerous criticisms. A committee has been set up and reviewed the penal code and provided recommendations based on the critics. The review of the penal procedural code has not yet begun.

Under the framework of the UN Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP), UNDP and the UN Integrated Office in Haiti established a new fund (28M\$USD) to support the Haitian National Police (HNP) in fighting crime and addressing the issue of proliferation and heightened activity of criminal groups. The fund will focus in 6 different priorities: 1) The performance, good governance and compliance of the PNH's administrative and logistical management procedures are improved, including internal mechanisms to ensure compliance: 2) Properly trained PNH personnel are part of the gradual increase in the police/population ratio, with better representation of women, based on strengthened recruitment and training capacities and the institutionalization of a "vetting" process (background checks on police personnel), to meet the needs of the various police departments: 3) The operational capacity of the police and the delivery of basic services by the PNH is strengthened, accompanied by the rehabilitation of police infrastructure and logistics. 4) Capacities to combat organized crime are more effective. 5) General and criminal intelligence services are strengthened, expanded and useful for all HNP operations. 6) PNH's gang-fighting and crowd-control capabilities are strengthened through the supply of certain priority equipment.

Through UN Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP), a police intelligence data center was established with branches in ten areas of the country.

Key Results:

UNDP supported the National Council on Legal Assistance in developing a national strategy for the legal aid provision to the most vulnerable individuals, focusing on persons in prolonged pre-trial detention. In addition, UNDP's support to the legal aid offices contributed the release of 87 people (including 14 women).

UNDP facilitated training for 71 judicial actors (including 19 women) on the new legal mechanisms and procedures provided in the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure regarding serious human rights violations and witness protection.

Under the GFP framework, UNDP and the UN Integrated Office in Haiti established a new robust fund to support the Haitian National Police (HNP) in fighting crime and addressing the issue of proliferation and heightened activity of criminal groups.

Mexico

In Mexico, UNDP developed a project to accelerate the achievement of gender equality and women's empowerment by transforming harmful practices of masculinity and eliminating them as drivers of discrimination and gender-based violence. The project implementation started in August 2022 led by UNDP in partnership with UN Women and UNFPA, fostering unprecedented inter-agency cooperation on the topic of positive masculinities at the national level.

In line with [UNDP's Gender Equality Strategy 2022-2025](#), the project contributes to sociocultural transformation and inclusive governance, in particular, in regard to gender justice and realization of rights. The project adopted a strong intersectional approach that focuses on changing power relations and systems, champions empowerment and promotes human agency and participation.

According to [Mexico's National Survey on the Dynamics of Household Relationships \(ENDIREH\)](#) conducted in 2021, the levels of violence against women aged 15 years and over who have Indigenous affiliation and speak



The men of the Maya-Tzotzil community of Chuchiltón, Chiapas participate in a workshop that seeks to promote their participation in unpaid care, domestic and community work in order to distribute those chores more fairly between women and men and promote responsible parenthood | UNDP Mexico

an Indigenous language increased from 66.1 percent in 2016 to 70.1 percent in 2021. During the COVID-19 pandemic, women suffered from psychological violence, sexual violence, economic and patrimonial pressure and/or discrimination, and physical violence. Based on this data, UNDP convened civil society, national institutions, and UN partners to address violence against women and girls by engaging Indigenous and afro-Mexican men and boys to challenge social norms that prevent women from living in dignity.

In December 2022, over 150 people attended an online event organized by UNDP, UN Women, UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and civil society partners. The event showcased the success story of the Indigenous Maya-Tzotzil community of Chuchiltón in Chiapas, and its historic commitment towards gender equality and co-responsible masculinities. The community members shared proven good practices for the eradication of gender-based violence, such as alcohol sale prohibition and men's participation in community care related activities.

The event also highlighted the struggles that afro-Mexican young men are facing in the midst of racial tensions and the over-sexualization of the community based on stereotypes that may hinder the full social inclusion of afro-Mexican men and women.

To mobilize men for gender equality by promoting positive, non-violent and co-responsible masculinities, UNDP, UN Women and UNFPA launched a social media campaign that reached over two million users via social media platforms.

The following data collection exercises were undertaken to achieve the results:

- UNDP, jointly with UN Women and UNFPA, collected 25 proposals from civil society organizations (CSOs), municipal and state-level government bodies and educational institutions working with Indigenous and afro-Mexican men in 12 states. Based on the proposals, best approaches, behavioural insights and lessons learned were systematized. The analysis will be widely shared with national partners with recommendations to follow good practices to shift towards positive, co-responsible and non-violent masculinities among Indigenous and afro-Mexican men.
- Seventeen in-depth interviews with national experts in masculinities were conducted to identify innovative practices and projects already implemented in Mexico and map the stakeholders. UNDP explored alternative methodologies to reach young people in Indigenous communities and to connect with a cosmivision and the emotional intelligence of Indigenous communities: through art and/or by adapting pre-Hispanic traditions and rituals.
- A set of capacity development modules is being planned for CSOs and national institutions with a focus on the defence and security sector. A survey was designed to identify the needs and masculinity perceptions of state officials. Through UNDP's strategic partnership with the Mexican National Institute for Women (INMUJERES), the civil servants from all the 17 ministries of the Mexican executive body will take part in the survey. A report on masculinities in the Federal Administration will be delivered with the results of the survey.

In addition, UNDP selected five project proposals from the CSOs that will receive technical and financial support to implement initiatives based on behavioural change to transform social norms by promoting non-violent and responsible masculinities among Indigenous and afro-Mexican men. The projects will be completed by November 2023.

Lessons learnt, recommendations and findings from all these activities will provide a blueprint for South-South cooperation to transform social norms, promote positive masculinity and prevent gender-based violence in Latin America and the Caribbean. The knowledge exchange between Mexico and other countries in the region such as Colombia, Cuba and Ecuador will help to select best and tailored approaches to engage with Indigenous and afro-descendant men in the region.

Key Results:

- The inter-agency agenda was established to promote positive masculinities at the national level in Mexico
- UNDP's partnership with the Mexican National Institute for Women allowed the engagement of all governmental institutions in the capacity building programme.
- The foundation for South-South cooperation was laid to transform social norms and prevent gender-based violence in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Venezuela

In Venezuela, UNDP completed a pilot phase of the project aimed at designing a unified system for reporting crimes, misdemeanors and police actions hosted by the Ministry of Interior, Justice and Peace. A systemic approach to collecting complaints about crimes and police response actions aims to strengthen the response capacity of police institutions, enabling them to adapt priorities and allocate resources based on the evidence. The involvement of strategic actors in the development of the system ensured its relevance for all of the key parties. The National Police, the Ministry for Women and other agencies participated in technical working groups, validating the system at each stage of its advancement, assuming responsibilities for and ownership of its operations.



A meeting to present a unified system for reporting crimes, registering complaints and police actions to the security bodies of the State of Aragua | UNDP Venezuela

The new system for reporting crimes and recording police actions was operationalized through a digital platform where the information on violence and crime will be consolidated.⁵¹ In 2022, the design of the unified complaint form was completed, and institutional agreements were made to further develop the digital architecture and pilot the tool in the state of Aragua, prioritized by the Government. The system is expected to be applied nationwide.

Along with the unified system for reporting crimes, other digital tools and supporting products were either launched or designed with the objective to strengthen justice and security institutions in Venezuela. For example, UNDP supported the internal information system (SIETPOL) to enable the Ministry of Interior to monitor and evaluate police work.

A training strategy on information management for the security forces was developed with UNDP's support and institutionalized at the National Security University affiliated to the Ministry of Interior, Justice and Peace. In addition, a working group was established at the university to develop a specialized postgraduate course. Due to the managerial changes in the university administration, the launch of the training sessions and postgraduate courses was postponed to the first quarter of 2023.

UNDP strengthened the capacity of the National Office for the Integral Attention to Victims (ONAIVV), a body mandated to design and implement policies that address causes of violence, and to facilitate coordination between the Prosecutor's Office, the Ombudsperson's Office and agencies assisting violence survivors registered within the police forces of Venezuela. UNDP provided expert and technical support to analyse the strengths and weaknesses of the current model for victim care and draft procedural manuals for its improvement at all stages. UNDP contributed to the development of the information management system of ONAIVV that would generate strategic indicators to assess the effectiveness of the victim care model. A roadmap for this comprehensive support was finalized and the implementation is scheduled for 2023.

Overall, UNDP's support for ONAIVV and other digital solutions for rights protection is a part of a broader vision to promote gender equality and prevent and address violence against women and girls through a human rights-based, gender-sensitive and intersectional approach to information management.

Key Results:

UNDP completed a pilot phase of the project to design a unified system for reporting crimes, misdemeanors and police actions hosted by the Ministry of Interior, Justice and Peace.

A training strategy on information management for the security forces was developed with UNDP's support, and institutionalized at the National Security University affiliated to the Ministry of Interior, Justice and Peace.

UNDP strengthened the capacity of the National Office for the Integral Attention to Victims to address the causes of violence and support the survivors.

⁵¹ UNDP, "UNDP and MPPIJP advance in the creation of a Single System for Reporting Crimes, Misdemeanors and Police Acts", (21 September 2022). Available at <https://www.undp.org/es/venezuela/noticias/pnud-y-mpijp-avanzan-en-la-creacion-de-un-sistema-unico-de-denuncias-de-delitos-faltas-y-hechos-policiales>.

THEMATIC SECTIONS

1. JUSTICE FUTURES COLAB

Overview

In the wake of the multiple crises that followed the pandemic which had threatened to side-track progress towards the 2030 Agenda, UNDP felt the need to revisit and strengthen its rule of law work and approaches to access to justice. In June 2022, the [Justice Future's CoLab](#) was launched to promote new ways of thinking and approaching complex justice and rule of law challenges. The CoLab has become a space for practitioners from UNDP, the wider UN family and other external partners to discuss, design and implement more impactful action in countries and to inform advocacy and policy at all levels, informed by learning and data. This illustrates UNDP's commitment and strategy to not only *do more* but also *do better* (and *differently*). A more strategic, people-centred and rights-based approach is taken to ensure meaningful access to justice for all, starting with those most at risk of being left behind.



The CoLab provides technical support to Country Offices, expands strategic partnerships, and facilitates learning exchange. It supports and enables integrated and interdisciplinary ways of thinking and working in such areas as digital justice, environmental justice and civil justice. A civil justice-focused CoLab Conversation, for example, engaged nine Country Office from five regions, and regional and headquarters specialists to exchange and validate good practices for advancing UNDP's work on civil justice.

Through the CoLab, the paper "[Beyond the Pandemic: The Justice Emergency](#)" was launched in 2022 reflecting on emerging trends, opportunities and challenges for responding to and overcoming today's pandemic of injustice, and which had informed the design of the new phase of UNDP's Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme).

The Justice Futures CoLab Office will be opened in The Hague, Netherlands in 2023.

Access to justice

In line with its decades-long work on access to justice and human rights-based approaches, UNDP actively supports the 'people-centred justice' (PCJ) movement and is engaged in the [Justice Action Coalition \(JAC\) which brought together more than 18 Member States and several international actors](#).⁵² As part of this coalition, UNDP is co-leading on developing the definition of what "people-centred justice" means. With other JAC partners, such as the Pathfinders, UNDP will be developing the key messages on PCJ to present them to policy and decision makers as well as justice actors and practitioners. To define how customary and informal justice mechanisms can be supported and engaged with to ensure better justice results for people, UNDP participates in the [Working Group on Customary and Informal Justice and SDG16+](#), with the International Development Law Organization (IDLO), Overseas Development Institute (ODI) and other partners.



UNDP's Justice Futures CoLab held global conversations with Country Offices and partners on UNDP's e-justice initiatives, civil justice and rule of law contributions to sustainable solutions in situations of forced displacement. At the World Justice Forum, the CoLab shared learning from the innovative and people-centred work [in Somalia where informal and formal justice sector actors benefit from UNDP's support through generative dialogues at the community level](#).

⁵² Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, France, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Niger, Portugal, São Tomé and Príncipe, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Sweden, and Switzerland. It also comprises the UN, OECD and other multilateral entities and NGOs committed to advancing the SDG16+ and rule of law agendas, and the principles of people-centred justice (PCJ).

Country highlights

Working in close partnership with the whole spectrum of national justice stakeholders, from ministries of justice to courts and law enforcement, from Bar Associations to legal aid civil society organizations (CSOs) and associations for alternative dispute resolutions, national human rights NGOs and community-based networks, individual lawyers or paralegals, UNDP continued its long-standing programmes in countries to advance access to people-centred justice.

Creating or recreating enabling environments is key, especially in crisis or post-crisis settings, where rule of law institutions face the most critical challenges. In Guinea (Conakry), in 2022, collaborative efforts resulted in the adoption of the law on legal aid, including the establishment of a legal aid fund, and the law offering judicial and non-judicial protection measures to victims and witnesses. These developments, in conjunction with overall capacity support to the judiciary, will facilitate the conduct of the trial of the [2009 stadium massacre resulting in more than 150 deaths](#).

Integrated and comprehensive interventions have proven impactful. In Liberia, to address sexual and gender-based violence, UNDP supported women-led civil society networks, capacitated criminal justice actors and introduced online case management and crime statistics information systems.

In Moldova, Pakistan, The Gambia, mobile legal aid services were deployed to enable those furthest behind or at risk to access their rights. In Burundi, targeted interventions in detention places with national stakeholders resulted in the release of over 1,400 individuals (including almost 200 women and 100 adolescents). In Guinea-Bissau, almost 9,000 people (47 percent women) received support at the Centers for Access to Justice, and 93 percent of the cases were successfully resolved by mediation, reconciliation, or other administrative processes.

Looking forward

In 2023, UNDP will continue co-leading efforts to define and implement the most impactful actions for people-centred justice, including through learning and data emerging from country programmes and in the context of the Justice Action Coalition.

The [independent evaluation of UNDP's global work on access to justice](#) work undertaken in 2022 will over the next years further guide the thinking and operational programming at the global, regional and country levels. UNDP, through the Global Programme in particular, will use its integrator role on rule of law programming in countries to make access to justice and people-centred justice an integral part of all rule of law and governance efforts, in developing, fragile and crisis-affected contexts.

Civil justice

Over five billion people lack access to justice and find themselves navigating legal disputes and conflicts alone, with no or little support from their governments.⁵³ The majority of these legal issues are civil in nature, affecting health, financial stability and wellbeing of families and communities. The absence of or insufficient access to civil justice may trigger or exacerbate violence and conflict, as well as deepen structural problems such as poverty, inequality, discrimination and exclusion. The COVID-19 pandemic made the civil justice challenges more acute as people lost jobs, faced housing instability and relied heavily on health services, as well as socioeconomic support. Women faced additional vulnerabilities as the [levels of gender-based violence increased during lockdowns](#). At the same time, between 2021 and 2022, the effectiveness of civil justice systems fell in 61 percent of countries (Rule of Law Index in 2022⁵⁴). To stem this



Gender desk in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, Pakistan | UNDP Pakistan

⁵³ Task Force on Justice. "Justice for All – Final Report". New York: Center on International Cooperation, 21; OECD (2019).

⁵⁴ <https://worldjusticeproject.org/rule-of-law-index/downloads/WJPIInsights2022.pdf>

backsliding and to support national stakeholders in delivering accessible and effective services to all, UNDP is expanding its focus on promoting access to civil justice.

At the global level, to inform policy and learning, UNDP undertook an analysis and a mapping exercise on country programmes, challenges, and opportunities on civil justice. A strategic consultation was organized under the Justice Futures CoLab involving nine UNDP Country Offices to exchange and validate good practices for advancing UNDP's work on civil justice. The consultation and the broader research demonstrated that civil justice was often promoted through programmes outside the traditional rule of law portfolios, or overshadowed within larger governance projects. As a result, important opportunities were missed to ensure these programmes were responsive to people's justice needs. Targeted support and a particular focus on civil justice and the new global SDG indicator 16.3.3.⁵⁵ in policy and programming development will be an important step to make sure that people's basic justice needs are addressed and no one is left behind.

Country highlights

In Pakistan, UNDP supported the establishment and institutionalization of Gender Desks that provide legal information, counselling and protection services on issues related to inheritance, property rights, divorce and gender-based violence. UNDP supported the development of an integrated framework to address people's multi-layered needs. In addition to covering legal issues, this framework includes social protection referral mechanisms.

In Argentina, to facilitate progress and measurement of the new SDG indicator 16.3.3 on access to civil justice, UNDP supported the design and application of a new access to justice module that was incorporated into a national poverty survey.

The initial findings suggest that people living in poverty tend to be unaware of the legal dimension of their everyday problems and are unable to seek access to justice via formal or informal mechanisms for dispute resolution.

Looking forward

In 2023, UNDP will present its above-mentioned analysis and mapping on country programmes, challenges and opportunities on civil justice, as part of a bigger access to justice piece. This analysis will inform UNDP's policy and advocacy on people-centred justice, especially in the framework of high-level forum on SDG16, and translate into the design and implementation of civil justice programming in countries.

Constitutional support

Constitutional reform is often a central aspect of conflict prevention, peacebuilding, promotion of human rights and the rule of law, and sustainable human development. As the foundational law of the land, constitutions should provide legal certainty, equal applicability and accountability (foundational components of the rule of law), and they mandate courts and national commissions to protect human rights.

UNDP supports constitutional design and reform within the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustaining Peace Resolutions of 2016, which emphasize the need for a comprehensive approach to sustaining peace that includes addressing the root causes of conflicts, strengthening the rule of law and good governance and building a common and inclusive vision of society.

⁵⁵ SDG Indicator 16.3.3: "Proportion of the population who have experienced a dispute in the past two years and who accessed a formal or informal dispute resolution mechanism, by type of mechanism." The new indicator complements the two indicators (16.3.1 and 16.3.2) under SDG 16.3 which are predominantly criminal justice focused. It was approved by the UN Statistical Commission in March 2020 and is now a part of the SDG Indicator Framework. UNDP, as a co-custodian of the new indicator with UNODC and OECD, is supporting development of additional guidance and capacity building of the States to measure the progress under the new indicator. <https://www.oecd.org/governance/global-roundtables-access-to-justice/people-centredmeasurementofaccesstociviljusticethenewglobalsdgindicator1633.htm>

Country highlights

In 2022, UNDP assisted the Armenian Constitutional Reform Commission and Belize People’s Constitutional Commission in designing and drafting constitutional roadmaps and strategic plans that empower these bodies to fulfill their mandates while emphasizing inclusion and public participation. In both countries, UNDP conducted orientation workshops for the newly formed commissions to guide the design and conduct of constitution-making processes based on global comparative good practice.

UNDP continued its support to the Chilean constitutional reform process through its promotion of the effective participation of women and Indigenous Peoples. Chile was the first constitutional process in history to have complete gender parity, which is an achievement that deserves praise and will hopefully inspire replication. Not only was gender parity a good unto itself, it also appears to have had a demonstrable impact on the rights-based reforms. UNDP provided data-driven evidence of the impact of gender parity on the deliberation of constitutional norms, suggesting that the equal presence of men and women was instrumental in strengthening gender equality, Indigenous rights, environmental rights and mechanisms for democratic participation.

Lessons learned

Even with its historic inclusion of traditionally marginalized groups, the rejection of Chile’s constitutional draft at the national referendum offers a powerful reminder of the importance of including key political constituencies in a manner that compels negotiation and compromise. This degree of inclusion, though intended when the constitutional reform process had been designed, was missing in Chile’s 155-member Constitutional Convention, a body mandated to draft a new constitution between 2021 and 2022. As a result, a draft that was put to the referendum did not have support from political constituencies representing a sizable portion of Chilean society. The draft text was rejected. To start the constitution making process anew, 24 experts appointed by the National Congress prepared a new draft that will be reviewed and finalized by a newly elected Constitutional Council.

Looking forward

UNDP will continue to support these and other countries to promote inclusion and broad-based participation, and to assist partners in designing and adopting constitutions that strengthen democratic governance, stability, human rights and the rule of law.

Digital justice

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, the global demand for technology to increase the efficiency of court systems, introduce service standardization, provide more accessible services and modernize the legal sector is increasing. UNDP has received and responded to requests from counties to support the achievement of these digital goals. When facilitating the development of essential digital infrastructure, UNDP promotes technology as a tool to improve efficiency and to advance accessible, people-centred justice and the rule of law. UNDP’s commitment to human rights promotion and protection and the principle of leaving no one behind as the foundation for sustainable development is critical for technological change: as justice digitalization processes must not only be compliant with international standards, but remain human rights-based and people-centred.

In 2022, the e-justice initiative was launched under the Justice Futures CoLab to respond to the challenge of justice digitalization, learn from country experiences and to further expand UNDP’s thought leadership in this area.

The interactive [Global Mapping of E-Justice](#) developed by UNDP’s Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme) presents over 200 projects by area of impact, type of technology, geography and the partners



involved, to allow people working on e-justice initiatives to connect globally and learn from each other. The report [“E-justice: digital transformation to close the justice gap”](#) and an accompanying toolkit were designed and launched to help practitioners understand e-justice initiatives and bring a human rights-based framework to the design, implementation and monitoring of e-justice as a part of UNDP’s digitalization efforts. These were shared through the delivery of five e-justice trainings engaging over 40 UNDP Country Offices. Technical support was also provided to the design of e-justice initiatives in Chad, Djibouti, Moldova, Tajikistan, Viet Nam.

The Justice CoLab also contributed to the strengthening of a strategic engagement between the rule of law, security and human rights (ROLSHR) team and UNDP’s [Chief Digital Office](#) to ensure a justice and human rights lens is brought to UNDP’s global efforts around digitalization, including the scaling of digital public goods.

Country highlights

The joint work included the scalability assessment of the Mizan II court management system developed by the Palestinian High Judicial Council with the support of UNDP. The assessment highlighted the importance of building leadership, governance and ecosystems to develop and sustain not just a digital case management software but a functional, integrated national court management system. The use of Mizan II has resulted in meaningful justice outcomes in the State of Palestine and its digital transformation process has been recognized as a model worth replicating in other contexts.

In Burkina Faso, Colombia and Tunisia, digital justice initiatives were developed and implemented with UNDP support.

Looking forward

In 2023, UNDP’s Rule of Law, Security and Human Rights team, in close coordination with the Chief Digital Office, will continue to promote a responsible approach to justice digitalization in line with UNDP’s [Digital Strategy](#). UNDP will provide technical and strategic support to new initiatives that expand access to justice, further improve internal and external capacities and invest in knowledge management and learning systems to increase access to expertise, models, technologies and tools that can be adapted to the specific needs of national and institutional contexts. In addition, UNDP will work to identify digital infrastructure components, such as registries, case management systems, online dispute handling portals and scheduling systems targeting the justice sector, that can be promoted as open-source and Digital Public Good (DPG)-based solutions, freely studied, amended and used by all without financial restrictions.

Environmental justice

All people depend on the environment in which we live. Globally, we are facing a triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity and ecosystem loss, and pollution. This impacts the full enjoyment of human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights as well as civil and political rights both directly and indirectly. These interlinked crises are threat multipliers. As environmental threats intensify, more human rights will be undermined and more people left behind in efforts to achieve sustainable peace and development.

In 2022, UNDP issued its [first global strategy for environmental justice](#) that seeks to increase accountability and protection of the newly recognized [right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment](#) and promote the environmental rule of law.

With its global policy network and country programming in over 160 countries, along with deep expertise in rule of law and access to justice, security and human rights, UNDP is clearly positioned to support progress toward environmental and climate justice as an urgent priority and support Member States to uphold the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

“UNDP has a terrifically important role in advancing environmental justice by assisting countries with constitutions, strengthening legislation, reaching out to judges, prosecutors, national human rights institutions, civil society to raise awareness, empower, protect people, human rights and the planet,”

Mr. David R. Boyd, UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment.

“UNDP is our strategic ally on the way to achieve Sustainable Development Goals. We share the vision that indigenous people, and especially women and youth, should contribute to climate action and be a part of decision-making process - with their knowledge and identity, respect to their tradition and cosmogonic ancestral vision,”

Ms. Sara Omi, President of the Coordinator of Territorial Women Leaders of Mesoamerica and Embera Lead Advisor to the Embera Women Craftswomen’s Association (Panama).



Sara Omi, Panama

UNDP is supporting the piloting of integrated approaches to environmental justice in Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kyrgyz Republic, Lebanon and Pakistan and facilitating regional and country level knowledge sharing to promote partnerships and integrated approaches on the ground. [UNDP’s Justice Futures CoLab](#) is a framework to support the development and testing of new environmental justice initiatives, and also emphasize the need for constant monitoring, learning and improvement.

Regional highlight: Promoting Youth and Environmental and Climate Justice in Asia and the Pacific

While the global climate emergency represents an existential threat to current and future generations, youth perspectives are often neglected despite the injustices they face. In the Asia and the Pacific region UNDP is working on environmental and climate justice with youth informed by the UNDP Environmental Justice strategy. The youth-centred approach empowers young people and positions them as leaders in the demands for accountability and justice to bring about institutional and social change.

UNDP’s Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme) supported the establishment of a Youth Advisory Group on Environmental and Climate Justice (YAG). The YAG consists of 29 members and, through its focus on procedural rights in the attainment of substantive rights, seeks to empower young environmental activists to be effective players in claiming, enforcing and defending their environmental rights.

The YAG was launched at a workshop held in conjunction with the Asia-Pacific Environmental Human Rights Defenders’ Forum in October 2022. Young climate activists were convened to build and expand their networks and capacities, and consolidate collective efforts for environmental justice within countries and in the region. The YAG has gender balance among its members and is committed to gender mainstreaming.

“Imagine working and saving all your life for a better future for your children. Then, a super-typhoon hits your town, leaving you with nothing... Clean water becomes scarce. To make it worse, you are not in the official list of the government’s social welfare department and are ineligible for assistance. This is the reality for many in the Philippines.



Asia Wy, YAG

To reverse climate change, deep cuts in global greenhouse gas emissions and a revolutionary transition to clean and humane renewable energy must be made. The primary responsibility falls upon the decision makers around the world. We, as youth and civil society, can help make that happen by continuing to put pressure on our own governments to do their part.”

Looking forward

In cooperation with partners, such as the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the UN Human Rights Office, UNDP continues to co-lead the work on supporting the rights of future generations including climate justice through the Secretary-General’s Call to Action for Human Rights. Joint advocacy and awareness raising including through publications such as [“What is the Right to a Healthy Environment?”](#) unpacks the elements and importance of the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment and outlines how diverse stakeholders can play an active role in making the right a reality for all.

Gender justice

UNDP supports strategic partnerships to deliver on gender justice and contribute to the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security and the 2030 Agendas. In 2022, UNDP partnership with UN Women evolved to [the Gender Justice Platform](#), as a structured coordination system for joint initiatives to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment. More than 20 partners have joined the platform, allowing it to provide integral, intersectional and inter-agency people-centred justice responses for women, with a focus on the most vulnerable and marginalized.



The Gender Justice Platform supported 18 contexts with a specific focus on crisis and fragile settings, such as Afghanistan, Burundi, Central African Republic, Colombia, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Lebanon, Mali, Nigeria, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Zimbabwe and Kosovo*.

In 2022, the Gender Justice Platform and the UN Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law launched the report [“Women, Peace and Security and the United Nations Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law: Promoting Gender Justice for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies”](#), with recommendations to better leverage joint UN rule of law assistance in crisis-affected settings to advance gender equality. The Gender Justice Platform also supported the creation and dissemination of strategic learning resources on gender-responsive transitional justice, including through [“Documenting Good Practice on Accountability for Conflict-Related Sexual Violence: the Sepur Zarco case”](#) (Guatemala).

UNDP continues to promote gender justice in crisis contexts on conflict-related sexual violence. As a lead entity of the [Team of Experts on Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict](#) and through the joint programming, UNDP supported investigations of complex cases of conflict-related sexual violence: for example, in the Central African Republic and Ukraine.

* All references to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

Regional highlight

Recognizing the importance of gender responsive frameworks for women to lead on justice responses, UNDP, the UN Human Rights Office and UN Women facilitated a regional bootcamp for women human rights defenders in Africa on human rights mechanisms and advocacy. The event brought together 18 young women human right activists from Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Senegal and Togo who increased their knowledge of African and international human rights protection mechanisms.

UNDP, OHCHR and UN Women provided training on international protection mechanisms, such as the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), Special Procedures and Treaty Bodies. The Institute for Human Rights and Democracy in Africa (IHRDA), a pan-African organization, presented the sessions on the African mechanisms as well as avenues for litigation.

Applying the acquired knowledge, the human rights defenders were given space and guidance to work on alternative reports to be submitted to UN protection mechanisms. The participants strengthened their advocacy skills by benefiting from the experiences of human and women rights organizations such as Amnesty International, Frontline Defenders, AfricTivistes and Dafa Doy (*It's Enough* – a Senegalese feminist movement).

During a so-called “speed dating” session, the human rights defenders had the opportunity to interact individually with potential donors and representatives of eight embassies.

The anonymous questionnaires that were filled out at the end of the workshop showed the highest levels of satisfaction and appreciation for this hybrid format, and praised the time and guidance given to draft reports, as well as the focus on advocacy.



Country highlights

Women’s leadership in the justice sector is UNDP’s priority with regards to gender justice. At the end of 2022, UNDP leveraged national initiatives to support women in the judiciary in Algeria, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal.

To ensure women’s access to justice services, UNDP supports national civil society to provide legal support on the ground with a special focus on women. In the Central African Republic, 225 survivors of gender-based violence received legal aid from legal clinics run by an NGO of women jurists. In Uganda, more than 1,100 women benefitted from legal advice, alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, court representation or referrals. Nearly one third of these women were violence survivors.

In Mexico, UNDP supported an innovative approach to transform harmful social norms and mobilize men for gender equality by promoting positive masculinities.

Looking forward

To support the implementation of UNDP’s [Gender Equality Strategy for 2022-2025](#), UNDP and UN Women will launch a report on women in justice in Africa. More broadly, efforts will be made to expand the Gender Justice Platform programming in new countries and to engage more partners to promote women’s leadership and meaningful participation in justice and security sectors.

Humanitarian – Development – Peace nexus

Over 100 million people are forcibly displaced due to conflict, violence, fear of persecution and human rights violations, or climate-related crisis. Rule of law is fundamental for the protection and inclusion of forcibly displaced populations, as well as to advance sustainable solutions, promote peace and enable development. Following the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus approach, UNDP supports the delivery of justice and security services in humanitarian situations while strengthening national capacities to protect human rights of both displaced and host communities.



The legal aid helpdesk in Saida and Baalbeck ensure that the most vulnerable have access to justice and rights | UNDP Lebanon

UNDP strengthened its partnership with UNHCR to support country engagement within the HDP nexus. A workshop was convened in Geneva gathering UNDP and UNHCR colleagues from eight Country Offices, six regions/sub-regions and HQ levels to advance access to justice for the forcibly displaced and ensure people-centred justice approaches in programming. Based on the workshop results, a report was developed on [“Advancing Access to Justice and Legal Aid in Forced Displacement Situations”](#), with joint recommendations to enhance scope and quality of current interventions. These efforts have led to a renewed commitment to the nexus, with at least five new initiatives to improve access to justice for refugees or internally displaced people (IDPs) in Burkina Faso, Lebanon, Mozambique, Myanmar and Somalia.

Country highlights

UNDP focused its efforts on the contexts that were most affected by the influx of refugees. Rule of law and access to justice initiatives were rolled out in Moldova – to support people fleeing the war in Ukraine, in Pakistan – to ensure Afghan refugees and host communities had access to legal aid and were not left behind during and in the aftermath of the floods, in Lebanon – to provide legal support to marginalized groups including Syrian refugees, and in Myanmar – to support people displaced after military takeover in 2021.

In Moldova, UNDP partnered with the National Paralegal Association to enhance the capacities of legal professionals to address the needs of refugees, asylum seekers and other people in vulnerable situations. In addition, mobile teams were operationalized in two regions to support gender-based violence survivors.

In Myanmar, where political turmoil triggered forced evictions and displacement, UNDP cooperated with civil society to focus on resolving housing, land and property issues. In Rakhine, UNDP’s partner organization provided mobile legal consultations to 571 people (including 227 women), almost half of whom were Rohingyas and minority Chin ethnics living in remote areas. In addition, over 550 individuals (including 203 women) were sensitized about HLP rights, land laws and procedures. Most of them were Rohingyas. It was the first intervention when UNDP’s partner could access the Rohingyas (Muslim communities) and naturalized citizens increasing their awareness on land entitlements and supporting them in further actions to retrieve their land rights.

In Pakistan, more than 2,000 people (including 1,700 women) from Afghan and host communities received legal aid and/or benefitted from psychosocial support.

In Lebanon, more than 6,000 people (over 50 percent were women and 40 percent refugees, mostly from Syria) received legal support in the three pilot legal aid centres established to ensure access to justice for marginalized groups.

Looking forward

The Justice Futures CoLab will continue its efforts to advance UNDP’s rule of law contributions to sustainable solutions for the forcibly displaced, with a dedicated focus on advancing access to justice for refugees



and asylum seekers, IDPs and returnees, and stateless people. The partnership with UNHCR will be further guided by a joint roadmap aiming at increasing joint policy and guidance, advocacy, capacity and programming, in line with the [“Global Collaboration Framework for Inclusion and Solutions 2023-2025”](#).

Transitional justice

In 2022, a major milestone was achieved for people-centred transitional justice. The Special Criminal Court in the Central African Republic issued its first verdict. Three combatants were found guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity, including sexual violence, for their role in the massacre of at least 46 civilians in 2019.

This landmark decision had a strong significance for victims and has been an emblematic case for the fight against impunity: an outcome of the long-term joint efforts of UNDP, the Peacekeeping Mission and international partners. It serves as a reminder and evidence that for transitional justice to be delivered – and in complex contexts in particular – longstanding political, technical and financial investments and commitments need to be made.

At a policy level and through partnerships, UNDP enhanced its focus on women’s leadership in transitional justice. In 2022, the joint UNDP and UN Women [global report on women’s meaningful participation in transitional justice](#) was launched with a primary objective to encourage a new vision for women’s participation in transitional justice, within the UN and beyond, by providing specific recommendations at policy and programme levels. The report and its dissemination, along with broader advocacy efforts, contributed to the inclusion of a point on the importance of women’s equal and meaningful participation into the [Human Rights Council resolution on “Human rights and transitional justice”](#) and in the forthcoming UN Secretary-General’s Guidance Note on Transitional justice. These documents will inform the UN approach to transitional justice for years to come.



Country highlights

In Colombia, the integrated Transitional Justice Infrastructure for Peace marked its fifth anniversary. In June 2022, [the Truth Commission presented its final report](#) with nearly 28,000 testimonies from individuals and groups, including Indigenous communities, afro-Colombian, Raizal and Palenquero communities, organizations of victims, ex-combatants, rural people, and business representatives. Over 14,000 individual and collective interviews were conducted in 32 departments (administrative regions) of Colombia and 24 other countries (to collect voices from exile) between November 2018 and June 2022.



Intergenerational meeting with the participation of youth from Alta Verapaz, Guatemala | UNDP Guatemala

In South Sudan, UNDP provided psychosocial support to almost 800 armed violence survivors who then organized themselves into 47 victim support groups to willingly participate in the truth, reconciliation and healing processes, and to seek compensation and reparations.

Through the Gender Justice Platform, UNDP and UN Women supported transitional justice processes in Colombia, Guatemala, Mali, South Sudan, Tunisia and Kosovo* to better address the rights, needs and priorities of women, girls and LGBTIQ+ people, including by creating an enabling environment for their meaningful participation in transitional justice processes as leaders, survivors and activists. In Kosovo, for example, more than 1,800 people have accessed justice through the support provided to a reparations programme for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence.

* All references to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

Looking forward

In 2023, recommendations from the global report on women's meaningful participation in transitional justice will be implemented through the strategic support provided at country-level. Following the launch of the updated UN Secretary-General's Guidance Note on transitional justice in 2023, UNDP will support its strategic implementation through a development approach.

2. HUMAN RIGHTS SYSTEMS

Overview

Human rights are under enormous pressure in this era of polycrisis. In many parts of the world civic space is shrinking and human rights are backsliding while development progress has slowed or been reversed. There are also rapidly emerging risks to human rights in the digital sphere and increasing violations being committed against national human rights institutions and other human rights defenders.

Meanwhile, a landmark achievement was reached when a clean, healthy and sustainable environment was newly recognized as a [universal human right](#). This is expected to be a catalyst for urgent rights-based climate action.

UNDP is committed to supporting Member States to meet their human rights obligations and leverage human rights as a problem-solving tool for development. UNDP upholds human rights standards and principles in its programming and works to increase the effectiveness of human rights and sustainable development efforts by strengthening national human rights systems and institutions, supporting human rights and SDG system integration including follow-up and integration of human rights recommendations into national development policy and planning, and reinforcing human rights for sustainable development in action.

Support to National Human Rights Systems

UNDP continues to support strengthening national human rights systems. Independent, effective and pluralistic national human rights institutions (NHRIs) are cornerstones of national systems to promote and protect human rights. Supporting the establishment of these institutions and building their capacities to work with governments and civil society to address challenges, fosters just and inclusive societies by upholding human rights principles and standards.

In 2022, UNDP continued to support NHRIs and the Global Programme supported national human rights institutions, systems and stakeholders in 38 contexts.



Second Edition of the National Forum of Human Rights Defenders organized in Ouagadougou with the support of UNDP COSED programme, Burkina Faso | UNDP Burkina Faso

Country highlights

Burkina Faso – supporting human rights defenders. In September 2022, UNDP supported the National Human Rights Commission in establishing an alert mechanism for the protection of human rights defenders (HRDs) with a specific focus on women. In addition, UNDP worked with the Commission to organize a National Forum of Human Rights Defenders which brought together more than 200 HRDs from all over the country, enabling them to reflect on the use of early warning mechanisms and to formulate relevant project proposals. The Forum culminated in recommendations for the processing of cases related to violations of rights of human rights defenders.

Partnership highlight

To amplify the potential of NHRIs, the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI), UNDP and the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) continued collaborating within the [TriPartite Partnership](#).

[to Support National Human Rights Institutions](#) (TPP). The TPP provides coordinated, high-quality and timely assistance to NHRIs that is jointly planned and delivered through a rights-based approach to ensure maximum impact.

In 2022, the TPP supported NHRIs in their efforts to address climate change as one of the biggest threats to human rights of our time through the organization of a [Global Symposium](#) in advance of the annual conference of the parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP27). The event brought together nearly 100 representatives of NHRIs, international partners, Member States, and civil society working on climate action to discuss the participation of NHRIs in climate talks and the protection of environmental human rights defenders. A clear message from the symposium was that a rights-based approach is needed to urgently advance inclusive climate action and ensure a green recovery in which no one is left behind in the realization of the 2030 Agenda and that NHRIs can play a key role in countries to support these efforts.

Lessons learned

Supporting a UN platform for coordinated support to NHRIs through the TPP has yielded important results for coherence, efficiency and sustainability of results. Leveraging the complementary mandates of UNDP and OHCHR with NHRIs through a partnership approach, the TPP increases efficiency and effectiveness of international support for NHRIs.

Looking forward

As we reach the midpoint toward achieving the SDGs, 45 percent of Member States have Paris Principles compliant NHRIs. Driving transformative change to achieve the SDGs requires more states to establish NHRIs and more coordinated UN support to build their capacities.

In 2022, TPP partners developed a framework for providing continued support to NHRIs globally in 2023-2024 with continued support from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This includes:

- Scaling up delivery of comprehensive support to NHRIs across all regions
- Investing in capacities to safeguard human rights in the context of rapid digitalization and the [triple planetary crisis](#).
- Increasing the participation and recognition of NHRIs in strategic global and regional policy forums.

UNDP's Human Rights for Sustainable Development Strategy

UNDP's commitment to human rights for sustainable development is integral to all efforts to expand people's choices and achieve sustainable human development. Human rights are fundamental to resilient, accountable countries and to help prevent, respond to and recover from crisis and conflicts.

Based on a deep listening exercise across the organization, UNDP is establishing a *Human Rights for Sustainable Development strategy*. Following three solutions pathways for institutional transformation, UNDP will build on its work, over the years, in over 100 countries supporting the strengthening of national human rights systems and the investment in work that safeguards human rights including through a human rights-based approach. Working to reinforce the signature solutions in the [UNDP Strategic Plan](#), UNDP will identify priority areas of engagement across its policy and programming to advance both human rights and sustainable development, working with stakeholders and aiming to support Member States to fulfil their human rights obligations to leave no one behind. UNDP will also build capacities and support leaders to deliver on the Secretary-General's [Call to Action on Human Rights](#).

Partnership highlights

UNDP will build on increasing cooperation with the UN Human Rights Office by establishing a dynamic and field-focused Partnership Framework. With the purpose of drawing on comparative strengths and capabilities

to deliver results in pursuit of human rights and sustainable development and aiming to work in partnership at all levels, the Partnership Framework will increase the growing collaboration and engagement between the two agencies, reduce duplication of effort and improve results for the UN system, partners and the people we serve.

Human Rights and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Systems Integration

Promoting and protecting human rights is essential for ensuring sustainable development outcomes. At the same time, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development sets out a vision for sustainable development grounded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international human rights standards, putting equality and non-discrimination at the centre of its efforts.



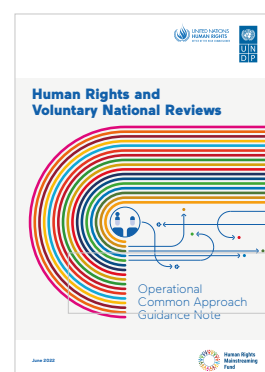
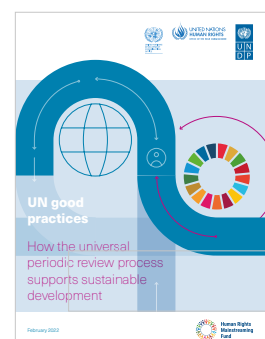
“Prosper under the sun” | UNDP Peru, Anette Andresen

To harness synergies across these agendas and improve effectiveness, UNDP and the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR), in close cooperation with the UN Development Coordination Office (DCO), launched a partnership to support UN systemwide strategic engagement with human rights mechanisms to achieve the SDGs in 2021.

With support of the UNSDG Human Rights Mainstreaming Fund and UNDP’s Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (the Global Programme), the partnership provided integrated support at global, regional and national levels driving transformative systems level change in countries and providing thought leadership and guidance for the UN system and Member States.

Thought leadership in human rights and development policy:

- How the UN engages with the UPR process to support sustainable development outcomes through building a repository of [“UN Good Practices: How The Universal Periodic Review Process Supports Sustainable Development”](#)
 - UNDP, OHCHR and the Development Cooperation Office gathered over 60 experiences from across the UN system on how the UPR process and recommendations, which advance the promotion and protection of human rights, have had an impact on sustainable development at country level. This process demonstrated that UPR recommendations are increasingly integrated and aligned with UN efforts towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including in national plans on sustainable development and in UN programming and planning. **This publication demonstrates how the UPR can be utilized as an essential and practical problem-solving tool to address priority human rights and development challenges.**
- Creating [guidance aiming to support Member States to integrate human rights into the development of Voluntary National Review \(VNR\) processes:](#)
 - This guidance provides an overview of the complementarity and entry points that exist between the human rights and in VNR processes. The guidance includes practical checklists on how to integrate human rights into VNR processes and elaborates on the importance of human rights-based approaches to leaving no one behind, collection and analysis of data, meaningful participation of stakeholders and how to engage human rights actors in VNR preparation and follow-up.
 - This guidance has been developed under the auspices of the [UN Secretary-General’s Call to Action for Human Rights](#) to support placing human rights at the centre of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.



Lessons learned

Harnessing UNDP's experience in supporting Member States to uphold their human rights obligations and strengthen national human rights systems whilst working in partnership with the UN Human Rights Office, allowed the UN system to leverage complementary mandates to implement an effective partnership approach on human rights for sustainable development in a wide range of countries.

As we reach the midpoint towards implementing the [2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals](#), a coordinated approach to human rights and SDG system integration will help accelerate progress towards achieving the SDGs.

Sustained investment is necessary to foster systems level change, and additional resources are required to continue to provide integrated support to Member States to leverage the catalytic impact of human rights in implementing the 2030 Agenda.

Looking forward

UNDP aims to build on the results achieved and lessons learned to support the full potential of strengthening human rights and SDG systems integration. This is key to delivering on the UN Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights and Our Common Agenda.

3. ANTI-RACISM

Making UNDP's programmatic offer truly anti-racist

After the [murder of George Floyd](#), racial justice protests and movements emerged in the United States and spread to all corners of the world. In the same period, the United Nations and its various funds, programmes and other entities also took up a renewed commitment to fight against racism and racial discrimination both within the organization and also through their approaches. In March 2021, based on the report and recommendations of UNDP's Advisory Group on Anti-Racism and Anti-Discrimination, the Administrator committed to make UNDP an actively anti-racist organization and to review how UNDP's programmatic offer in areas like governance, the rule of law and human rights directly contributes to this agenda.

The Director of the Bureau for Policy and Programme Support and the Director of the Crisis Bureau decided to recruit a Senior Advisor on Anti-Racism to be tasked to assess UNDP's programming and policy offer through an anti-racism lens. Rita Izsák-Ndiaye was appointed in October 2022 for this role. Housed in the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security team, Rita Izsák-Ndiaye is working under the guidance of the senior management of Bureau for Programme and Policy Support and Crisis Bureau and closely with the Executive Office, the Regional Bureaux and UNDP Bureau for External Relations and Advocacy.

The Senior Advisor has been analysing and assessing how UNDP's programmatic offer directly contributes to anti-racism and discrimination and if the current anti-racist, anti-discriminatory and other relevant tools available are adequate to ensure anti-racist and anti-discriminatory programming. Ms. Izsák-Ndiaye organized a mission to New York in November 2022 to carry out consultations with team leaders and various colleagues around the Global Policy Network and other relevant bureaux. Based on her initial findings and recommendations, she will work towards the creation of an organization-wide Anti-Racism Programming Action Plan to further facilitate anti-racism programming and accountability, which is expected to be tabled in the fall of 2023.

4. BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Overview

UNDP has been supporting the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) since 2016. This support has involved programming across the three pillars of the *protect, respect and remedy framework*, engaging with states, business actors and civil society. In 2022, with support from the Governments of Sweden, Japan and from the European Union, the volume of UNDP’s engagement in the field of promoting responsible business practices almost doubled. Twenty-eight countries in five regions received technical assistance and capacity building support. Twenty-one governments benefited from UNDP’s support in drafting or implementing National Action Plans on Business and Human rights, and over 2,000 companies attended [UNDP’s B+HR Academy](#), gaining new knowledge and guidance on human rights due diligence. In more than half of the country contexts in which it operates, UNDP worked with national human rights institutions and other grievance mechanisms to support victims of abuses in accessing justice and remedies.



Thematically, strong emphasis was given to supporting companies operating in crisis contexts, such as Ukraine and Myanmar. [A guidance note](#) was published on how to conduct integrated due diligence processes that take in consideration business impacts on human rights as well as on peace or conflict.

Business and Human Rights: global coverage

In 2022, UNDP scaled up its work on Business and Human Rights in Africa, Latin America and the Arab States while sustaining its already large footprint in Asia and Eastern Europe. Central to this approach was the organization of four regional forums on business and human rights (B+HR): in Asia and the Pacific, South Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Through these forums, UNDP facilitated peer learning, connected actors and agendas under the B+HR umbrella, and galvanized collaborative action for responsible business among UN agencies and other partners. Notably, UNDP brought together nine UN agencies to co-organize the Asia-Pacific forum attended by more than 500 people in Bangkok and 800 online participants.

The inaugural African Business and Human Rights Forum brought together over 300 participants in Accra and a further 500 online from 96 countries, including over 40 African countries. This forum boosted the efforts of the African Union to get on board with the B+HR agenda. It created momentum for UNDP to make concrete arrangements for an Africa-wide B+HR project for 2023-2024 onwards. The forum produced a strengthened commitment from African governments and civil society to develop and adopt National Action Plans (NAPs).

UNDP's continued support to governments in developing and implementing NAPs had a global impact. This included efforts in Kenya, Pakistan and Peru to monitor and decentralize existing NAPs, and significant advances toward the adoption of action plans in 18 other countries.

UNDP continues to produce guidance for businesses, practitioners and governments on the implementation of the UNGPs. A [Guide on Heightened Human Rights Due Diligence in Conflict-Affected Contexts](#) is a tool for businesses on how to meet their enhanced responsibility to conduct human rights due diligence in areas affected by conflicts. UNDP promoted human rights due diligence through the [B+HR Academy](#) implemented in 17 countries to support companies in understanding and addressing human rights impacts.

To support the realization of the newly recognized human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, UNDP placed additional focus on the role of business in tackling the triple planetary crisis.

More than 7,000 business and finance professionals in Asia were trained on human rights and environmental due diligence. UNDP developed flagship reports on how industries in Asia can help address the challenging issues of air pollution and climate change and convened discussions through [a webcast series](#) "Asia in Focus".

Through the B+HR Access to Justice Lab that aims to help civil society actors leverage pressure points and influence corporate actors to improve access to remedy, UNDP will support human rights defenders who seek remedies for business-related abuses. In 2022, to support human rights defenders in accessing grievance mechanisms, UNDP produced the [Routes to Remedy toolkit](#), a digital portal connecting users with information on available options for redress in seven Asian countries.

UNDP will continue to promote peer-learning opportunities as a vital resource for raising awareness and building capacity on business and human rights among governments, businesses, civil society and other actors. It will also continue building on its work on B+HR and conflict by supporting global, regional and country-level initiatives to introduce heightened human rights due diligence and invest in developing a



Regional forums on business and human rights are critical platforms for peer-learning, exchange, and collaboration. The 2022, Asia-Pacific UN Responsible Business and Human Rights Forum brought together more than 1,300 people in Bangkok, Thailand and online to identify levers of change to accelerate action on business and human rights in the region.



Working closely with the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of Peru, UNDP's B+HR project held a series of consultations across Peru to decentralize the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, raising awareness and ensuring that the protection and respect of human rights is guaranteed in business activities of all kinds.

new manual to guide companies in conducting their human rights and environmental due diligence in an integrated manner.

Supporting responsible supply chains with support from the Government of Japan

In March 2022, UNDP and the Government of Japan launched a global partnership to promote responsible business practices by strengthening human rights standards working together with governments and business in Japan and 17 other countries: Ghana, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine and Viet Nam. With the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) as a guiding framework, the partnership has equipped governments and companies with skills and knowledge to better understand and act upon their duties and responsibilities to prevent, mitigate and remedy human rights abuses such as forced labor, land grabbing and discrimination.



The partnership provides strategic support to private enterprises in establishing more responsible supply chains through the [B+HR Academy](#), a three-part advisory facility on human rights impacts and due diligence for businesses. In 2022, UNDP, with support from Japan, delivered 31 training sessions and more than 20 individual guidance sessions on human rights due diligence, benefiting more than 700 representatives from 560 businesses in 12 countries. Trainings under the B+HR Academy were informed by country context assessments, which identified the most salient human rights risks facing Japanese actors in these developing contexts.

The B+HR Academy trainings and guidance sessions, which will continue in 2023, targeted actors in supply chains of Japanese companies, with trainings for representatives of leading companies in Japan, as well as their affiliates and business partners in 11 countries. The positive response to the B+HR Academy signals the growing interest and understanding among businesses of the important role they need to play in ensuring their operations do not cause, contribute or link to adverse human rights impacts.

Through the project, UNDP also worked closely with governments and other key actors, including national human rights institutions, to develop and improve policies to target business-related human rights abuses. These are critical to creating a level playing field that will motivate more companies to embrace responsible business practices.

In 2022, the project was instrumental in securing policy commitments, developing key policy documents and improving the implementation of existing National Action Plans on business and human rights (NAPs).



As a part of UNDP’s B+HR Academy, companies – like this solar farm in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia – received training and individual, tailored guidance from experts on business and human rights to support their efforts to address human rights risks across their operations and supply chains

With technical support from UNDP, Tunisia and Kyrgyzstan announced formal commitments to develop and implement NAPs. UNDP's programming in Lao People's Democratic Republic, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mozambique, Mexico, Tunisia, Türkiye and Ukraine provided technical guidance to develop or update national baseline assessments that will inform policy commitments in these countries. In Ghana and Nepal, which have already drafted NAPs, UNDP supported consultations to ensure their finalization through inclusive and transparent processes that take into account the needs and perspectives of relevant stakeholders. UNDP also supported countries with existing NAPs to put them into practice, for example in Pakistan and Peru, where the project helped decentralize NAP implementation at provincial and regional levels.



The B+HR project supported training for Ghana's Steering Committee to Develop a National Action Plan. Led by the Ministry of Justice, Attorney General's Office and the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice, it represented the group's first meeting and set out a strong foundation and principles for the group of representatives from ministries, civil society, trade unions and companies leading the development of the plan.

Lessons learned

The adoption of NAPs and due diligence legislation proved that a top-down approach can make a difference in raising the attention of companies to the importance of responsible business practices. At the same time, studies and consultations organized in the context of UNDP B+HR programming pointed to new opportunities to complement these initiatives with bottom-up approaches. The momentum is right, especially in Southeast Asia and Latin America, to scale up the impact of B+HR work by ensuring larger involvement of consumers, media and the youth.

It is critical to continue the work started with the adoption of the UNGPs. Though it is safe to say that all regions now count on a group of countries awoken to the B+HR agenda, it might not be surprising if there was backsliding on business-related human rights commitments where policymakers perceive they may suffer from a 'first-mover disadvantage'. Indeed, if current attention on the subject is not maintained and if laggards are not taken on board, there might be risks of finding ourselves at a pause or even standstill in progress in the next two to five years.

Looking ahead to 2023, the project funded by the Government of Japan will continue to support progress on business and human rights and the global push for more responsible supply chains through a second phase of the joint initiative. This will include the continuation of the B+HR Academy and the provision of technical support to developing countries and implementing policies that promote business and human rights. Regarding the latter, UNDP will support the finalization of national baseline assessments in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mozambique, Mexico, Tunisia and Türkiye. It will also continue to support the Governments of Ghana, Mexico, Mozambique and Nepal in consulting stakeholders and, depending on the local context, finalizing and adopting their NAPs in 2023.

5. COMMUNITY SECURITY

Overview

After several years of declining violence levels, in 2022, political violence increased by nearly 30 percent.⁵⁶ The global context became ever more challenging with the war in Ukraine, *coups d'état* and attempted *coups d'état* in Burkina Faso, Guinea-Bissau and Peru, the presence of private military and security contractors in the Central African Republic and Mali, and turmoil and instability in Afghanistan, Myanmar, Guinea (Conakry) and Sudan.

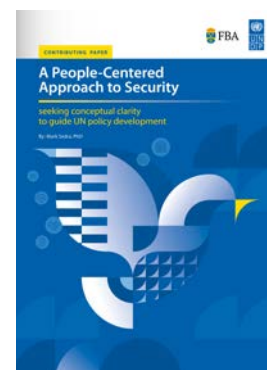
While the widespread political tension and fragility impacted UNDP's strategic and programmatic engagement on security, the organization stayed the course towards people-centred security promoting solutions that strengthen state institutions in line with people's needs.

⁵⁶ [The Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project, "ACLED Year in Review: Global Disorder in 2022", \(January 2023\).](#)

Country and programme support provided in 2022 by UNDP's Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development included a wide range of thematic areas, such as community policing, combatting sexual and gender-based violence, security sector reform and governance, citizen security, and control of small arms and light weapons.

Policy development: promoting people-centred security

To enhance its support to the security sector, UNDP continued policy development around people-centred security as a guiding principle and a cross-cutting approach. A paper on "[A People-Centered Approach to Security: Seeking conceptual clarity to guide UN policy development](#)" was published jointly with the Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA), the Swedish government agency for peace, security and development. With FBA, UNDP moderated a technical high-level discussion on the implementation of the people-centred security from the perspective of non-UN actors: the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF) and Saferworld, an international non-governmental organization.



In addition, UNDP conducted a mapping exercise to identify and understand the impact of its programmes with the people-centred security components. This exercise highlighted the need for an integrated and rights-based approach to people-centred security programmes within the broader governance and rule of law portfolios, and to accomplish its SDG16+ integrator role.

UNDP also contributed to events and discussions around policy development on security, particularly for security sector reform and governance (SSR/G). A major workstream in 2022 was the HDPP⁵⁷ funded project "Advancing Policy Tools for Sustainable SSR," implemented by the Security Sector Reform unit of the Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions (OROLSI/DPO) in collaboration with UNDP and the World Bank Group (WBG). The project aims to enhance the collective outcomes of the UN-WBG partnership on the security-development nexus through fostering a shared understanding of security related risks and conflict drivers. Also on the project agenda is the development of policy and guidance for the UN to mitigate those risks more effectively in fragile, conflict-affected and vulnerable settings, prevent conflicts and collaborate with the WBG to build more sustainable and affordable security sectors. Ten policy papers were finalized and will be published in 2023, in addition to a Briefing Paper to UN leadership on strengthening UN collaboration with the World Bank on SSR/G.

Lessons learned

Inclusivity and field-oriented methodology and processes are crucial for successful policy development. However, there is a need for more resources to accelerate the process and ensure agility in responding to the emerging issues relevant to the people-centred security policy development.

Looking forward

A broader UNDP policy on people-centred justice and security will be developed in 2023 followed by guidance materials to support the implementation of the approach at country level.

In addition to the continued efforts on policy development on SSR/G, UNDP will focus on gaining more traction from UN leadership in this area, according to the recommendations of the latest [Secretary-General's report on Strengthening Security Sector Reform](#).

⁵⁷ Humanitarian-Development-Peacebuilding and Partnership (HDPP) Facility for which the UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) serves as the Secretariat.

Support to the policing services and the security sector reform/governance (SSR/G)

The focus of UNDP's support to SSR/G and policing has been on strengthening the security actors (state and non-state), enabling them to provide effective, accountable and inclusive services with respect to human rights and the rule of law.

In 2022, UNDP supported community policing initiatives in Lebanon where 225 municipal police stations adhered to at least one of the five core components of the community policing as defined by the national policy developed with the support of UNDP. In Tunisia, the national model of community policing was rolled out in a new location (Zarzis municipality) in the south-east of the country.

To ensure that security institutions provide more effective services tailored to the needs of the communities they serve, UNDP supported the rollout of the sixth model police station in Iraq and the third one in Guinea-Bissau, in the Gabu region, improving the service delivery of the law enforcement agencies.

Gender sensitive approaches have been streamlined in UNDP's support to the security forces in Iraq where women's equal participation in security services remains an important goal of the SSR, and in the Central African Republic where a specialized police unit on sexual violence (UMIRR) was established with gender equality and non-discriminative access to justice for women at its core. In 2022, the UMIRR central unit of Bangui received over 3,000 complaints, 80 percent of which were from women. Based on these complaints, the unit started 328 investigations and transmitted 501 cases of sexual and gender-based violence to the prosecutor, leading to 48 cases tried in criminal sessions.

Strengthening trust between the population and the security services is one of UNDP's main objectives. For example, in Burkina Faso, UNDP operationalized a committee composed of the authorities, security services, civil society organizations (CSOs), traditional and religious leaders. With its divisions at the national, sub-national and local levels, the committee managed to prevent ten intra- and inter-community conflicts on land matters and agriculture damage and resolve 25 disputes in six regions.

Finally, oversight and accountability mechanisms and human rights approaches have been reinforced with UNDP's support in Lebanon and Sudan.

Lessons learned

Despite the positive impact of people-centred security programmes, in certain contexts their implementation faces numerous challenges. For example, in the remote areas of some countries where the legitimacy of the national authorities is contested, it is yet to be seen how to achieve national ownership while ensuring inclusivity and the use of local knowledge in programme design and implementation.

Looking forward

UNDP will further strengthen its programmatic response to insecurity and violence through more integrated, multidimensional and people-centred programmes, with more contextualized, conflict-sensitive and politically smart solutions.



Youth participating in an open day at the Model Police Station, Ramadi, Iraq | UNDP Iraq



Model Police Station in Gabu Region, Guinea-Bissau | UNDP Guinea-Bissau

Supporting citizen security in Latin America and the Caribbean

[Citizen Security](#) is UNDP's programmatic framework for its rule of law, access to justice, security and human rights work in the Latin America and Caribbean region implemented through the "INFOSEGURA" and "[CariSECURE](#)" regional projects. Their objective is to improve democratic citizenship, address persistent insecurity, promote evidence-based policymaking and programme development in national institutions, offer innovative solutions and knowledge.

In the Caribbean, CariSECURE's flagship initiative in 2022 was the rollout of the Police Records Information Management System ([PRMIS](#)) in five countries. PRIMIS is an open-source, web-based, integrated crime and justice information management system capable of capturing, storing, querying and retrieving crime incident reports. In Grenada, for example, the police started using PRIMIS to improve criminal trend analysis. The system allows information on offences from the police stations to be pulled, organized in a dashboard, mapped geographically and compared with previous periods.

In Central America, INFOSEGURA supported the development of a digital assistant (bot) called [SARA](#) that provides information and guidance on the risk of violence against women, girls and adolescents. The project also supported the organization of 39 events and exchange of best practices, including a high-level discussion on citizen security and six campaigns on sexual and gender-based violence prevention. Over 800 government officials and civil society representatives (40 percent women) participated in a training on information gathering, analysis, use and dissemination. Additionally, over 60 knowledge products on citizen security, justice and social cohesion were developed. INFOSEGURA also coordinated knowledge sharing on citizen security, through 15 [DatAction](#) sessions, 12 inter-country bilateral exchanges, involving 31 countries and 15 public institutions, hosted by its [TrainAction](#) online platform, developed in partnership with the USAID.

In terms of impact, Latin America exhibits heterogeneous trends in homicide rates: while some countries register reduction, others report increase. The downward trend in homicides was registered in the subregion of Central America and the Dominican Republic. The overall regional rate fell by 1.6 points and went from 20.0 to 18.4 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants, the lowest in the last nine years.⁵⁸

Lessons learned

The strong commitment of the project managers, who have driven the projects at the national level and provided important information on what was happening locally, was key to the success of CariSECURE. The design of CariSECURE 2.0 has sought to build on this success by expanding this approach to identify strong national focal points involved in youth crime prevention and response. Moreover, adapting programme targets to changing realities on the ground is paramount to project success and should be embedded in the stakeholder engagement strategy.

Looking forward

INFOSEGURA launched a joint initiative with [SIGOB](#) supporting the implementation of a regional tool, the SALVE Module (Education Violence Alert System) in El Salvador. This tool will allow the reporting acts of violence affecting the educational community in more than 6,000 public and private schools. The tool will also enable coordination between the Ministry of Education and the National Civil Police to ensure an efficient and effective response to cases reported through this system.

The second phase of CariSECURE (CariSECURE 2.0) will address crime and violence among youth and human trafficking by employing a multi-pronged human rights-based approach designed to improve national capacities for crime reduction, building upon the data gathering and analytical capacities provided to national police forces under CariSECURE 1.0.

⁵⁸ See [OP_RG_2022_ENG.pdf \(infosegura.org\)](#).

SALIENT: Saving Lives Entity

The Saving-Lives Entity (SALIENT) is a United Nations funding facility implemented through partnership between UNDP and the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), and it is financially housed in the Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund (PBF). The key purpose of this global project is to support countries in tackling armed violence, illicit small arms and light weapons (SALW). Established in 2020 as a commitment to [the Secretary-General's Disarmament Agenda](#), SALIENT promotes a comprehensive approach to sustainable security and development with a gender lens. Thirty percent of the total project budget is allocated to activities that directly enhance gender equality and women's empowerment. At country level, SALIENT activities are jointly implemented by at least two UN entities and are embedded in the development policies and processes of the beneficiary countries to foster a programmatic approach and generate transformative and sustainable outcomes.

In 2022, SALIENT operations focused primarily on the three pilot countries: Cameroon, Jamaica and South Sudan.

- In **Cameroon**, UNDP and UN Women carried out trainings to civil society organizations (CSOs) and media on small arms and light weapons to raise awareness of the armed violence impact on vulnerable groups. The project team has ensured the representation of women and youth in training and sensitizations to ensure gender equality, women's empowerment, youth inclusion and responsiveness.
- The Government of Cameroon has endorsed the establishment of a National Committee on Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR), a strong institutional level change fostered by SALIENT.
- In **Jamaica**, SALIENT is implemented by UNDP, the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the UN Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) and the UN Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC). The Caribbean Firearms Roadmap was finalized enabling the Government to initiate the process for the formal adoption of the National Action Plan to combat the illicit trafficking, and prevent and mitigate the proliferation of small arms and light weapons in Jamaica.
- The national legal framework on firearms was reviewed with SALIENT support, and the capacity of 19 representatives of criminal justice institutions to counter illicit firearms trafficking was improved, contributing to the progress towards better arms control in the country. In addition, 45 at-risk youth (44 percent were women) were trained to facilitate peaceful conflict resolution and reduce armed gang violence. More than 80 government officials (80 percent were women) participated in national discussions to ban arms from schools.
- In **South Sudan**, UNDP and the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), in collaboration with the National Police Service, completed a small arms baseline and perception survey on the operationalization of disarmament. The survey identified target communities, provided recommendations and outlined national priorities. Technical level meetings were held to agree on the next steps, and key focal points were identified in target states. Escalating security and political challenges in the country have caused initial delays in the project implementation.



Children from the Denham Town Community attending the launch of the SALIENT Joint Programme | Jamaica Information Service (JIS)



Interviewing security personnel in Rumbek town of Lakes State for a baseline survey | UNDP South Sudan



Training for journalists and civil society in the northern regions of Cameroon | UNDP Cameroon

The activities in these pilot countries were extended beyond the initial implementation period due to the factors external to the project, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, escalating insecurities and operational difficulties on the ground.

Additionally, in 2022, SALIENT oversaw an in-person exploratory scoping mission for Honduras, where UNDP and UNLIREC identified country priorities on armed violence and SALW reduction, and started the design of a project proposal.

Looking forward

In 2023, SALIENT will be implemented in Honduras and two countries from Central Asia and Asia Pacific regions. Ongoing activities in pilot countries will be completed with a follow-up exercise to identify best practices and lessons learnt to share further and foster South-South cooperation.

SALIENT activities have been made possible through the contributions of the Governments of Finland, France, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Sweden and Switzerland.

SEESAC: small arms control for a safer South-East and East Europe

In spite of significant progress made in the last two decades and in light of the war in Ukraine, the South-Eastern and Eastern Europe (SEE) region continues to face challenges related to illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and ammunition. Between 2019 and 2022, a total of 536 people died as a result of firearm misuse in the Western Balkans; there were 121 firearm related deaths resulting from domestic violence; 95 suicide deaths by firearms; and 56 people lost their lives in accidental shootings in the Western Balkans.⁵⁹ At the same time, over 52,000 firearms were destroyed between 2018 and mid-2022; over 22,000 pieces of SALW were seized and over 136,000 voluntarily surrendered.⁶⁰



Authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina destroyed 2,493 pieces of small arms and light weapons, their parts and components | UNDP SEESAC

In 2022, SEESAC continued [monitoring](#) and [coordinating](#) the implementation of the [Roadmap for a sustainable solution to the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of SALW and their ammunition in the Western Balkans](#). SEESAC also conducted the mid-term review of the implementation of the roadmap that confirmed its effectiveness and relevance, increased coordination and noted that the progress towards the roadmap's objective was on track.

Coordination of resources provided for the Roadmap implementation was ensured through the [Western Balkans SALW Control Multi-Partner Trust Fund](#), for which SEESAC serves as a Secretariat responsible for its programmatic coordination and monitoring. The fund is closing the year with the portfolio of US\$24,162,531 and 14 ongoing projects implemented by UNDP and the UN Office for Drugs and Crimes (UNODC).

[SEESAC continued supporting the authorities across South-East and East Europe](#) though the implementation of a comprehensive approach to SALW control contributing to the standardization of approaches across the region and closer cooperation between the Western Balkans and the European Union.



In cooperation with the National Ballistic Intelligence Service (NABIS) from the United Kingdom, SEESAC organized workshops in Belgrade and Tirana on weapon serial number restoration for representatives of Firearms Focal Points and Ballistic Lab | UNDP SEESAC

⁵⁹ See the SEESAC Website. Available at <https://www.seesac.org/AVMP/>.

⁶⁰ See the SEESAC Roadmap Monitoring Website. Available at <https://www.seesac.org/Roadmap-Monitoring/>.

SEESAC:

- Facilitated regional cooperation
- Supported the advancement of legislative and policy frameworks
- Supported combatting illicit arms trafficking through provision of technical advice, development of standard operating procedures, training and provision of equipment
- Supported physical security and stockpile management of SALW and their ammunition through security upgrades and disposal of SALW and ammunition
- Launched awareness-raising initiatives
- Contributed to building the knowledge base through data collection, research and evidence-based policymaking
- Contributed to advancing gender equality.

Lessons learned

Effective coordination among all the stakeholders supporting the efforts of jurisdictions in SALW control and rigorous monitoring of progress are key precondition of success.

Looking forward

SEESAC successfully concluded the implementation of the initial [Roadmap project](#), and was subsequently entrusted to [continue coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the Roadmap](#) and execute a package of comprehensive arms control activities across South-East and East Europe.

Addressing gender-based violence in partnership with UNDP Seoul Policy Centre (USPC)

The UNDP Seoul Policy Centre (USPC), in coordination with UNDP's Rule of Law, Security and Human Rights (ROLSHR) team, supported partner countries in their combat against gender-based violence to ensure the effective protection of women and children. The rights-based support mechanism for gender-based violence survivors and the relevant police capacity building programme of the Republic of Korea was shared with seven countries in partnership with the Korean National Police Agency (KNPA) and [Sunflower Center](#), Korea's one-stop service mechanism which provides counselling, psychological, medical, investigation and legal support to gender-based violence survivors. USPC's technical support and catalytic seed funding facilitated the development and improvement of an integrated support mechanism for survivors and the establishment of protocols and training programmes for national police.



Field workshop for capacity building for GBV Legal Evidence Collection and Police within GBV multi-sectoral support setting, South Kivu Province, the Democratic Republic of the Congo | USPC

Country highlights

The UNDP Country Office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and USPC collaborated to mitigate gender-based violence and discrimination towards gender-based violence survivors and female ex-combatants. A series of knowledge-sharing events were organized as a part of ongoing efforts to ensure an effective response from the Congolese National Police and facilitate awareness-raising and internalization of the survivor-centred approach.

A knowledge exchange workshop organized in March invited a wide audience from the police, legal and judicial sectors, as well as civil society organizations (CSOs), to exchange experience and knowledge on gender-based violence investigation and know-how in preventing secondary victimization. The good practices and lessons

learned from Korea’s Sunflower Center were shared with 55 participants (including 22 women), and the workshop provided a venue for multiple stakeholders to exchange ideas and explore the potential for collaboration.

A series of field workshops were organized to train police officers from the Child Protection and Sexual Violence Prevention Squadron and the Technical and Scientific Police between October and November 2022. Ninety police officers from three provinces (Central Kasai, Kinshasa and South Kivu) deepened their knowledge of investigation/forensic evidence collection techniques and the principles of police responsibilities in multi-sectoral support to gender-based violence survivors. The trained officers are expected to cascade what they have learned in their respective units and further disseminate the knowledge gained through this workshop.

USPC’s collaboration with UNDP DRC synergized with the multi-year Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)-funded programme, “Prevention and Holistic Response to Gender-Based Violence for Peace Consolidation in the conflict-affected regions in the DRC (2021-2026)”. Furthermore, the Congolese National Police established a new partnership with KNPA on enhancing criminal information analysis and management with KNPA’s funding for 2022 and beyond, based on the collaboration forged among USPC, KNPA, UNDP DRC, UN Police, as well as Congolese National Police.

Lessons learned

Coordination mechanisms between the capital and the provincial levels, as well as between different stakeholders, have gained importance. Despite strong national ownership and commitment visible at the headquarters level or in the main counterpart institution, the lack of coordination may lead to challenges in establishing a multi-stakeholder collaborative mechanism that can maximize the joint effort to eradicate gender-based violence. To mitigate this challenge, organizing a high-level nationwide advocacy event, for instance, may be considered as a means of stimulating multi-sectoral engagement.

Looking forward

In May 2022, USPC launched a new programme to support countries combatting gender-based violence in the digital sphere. Three partner countries (Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina and North Macedonia) were selected to receive seed funds and technical/advisory support in 2023-2024. USPC and KNPA, in coordination with the ROLSHR team, will share the Republic of Korea’s good practices and lessons learned in legislation and system reform, investigation techniques, victim-centred reporting and police response systems, victim protection mechanisms, police capacity building and training programmes, as well as public awareness raising and education programme development.

6. GLOBAL FOCAL POINT FOR THE RULE OF LAW

Overview

2022 marked ten years since the establishment of the UN Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP), a joint arrangement⁶¹ for delivery of the rule of law in fragile settings. Co-chaired by UNDP and the UN Department of Peace Operations (DPO), GFP reinforces One-UN approach at the global and national levels to address violent conflicts, protect human rights and restore justice and security for people affected by crisis and conflict. Since 2012, GFP has coordinated joint work and delivery in over 30 countries worldwide. Over 160 missions and experts were deployed to provide expertise and conduct joint assessments. Since 2016, more than US\$50 million was mobilized for joint rule of law assistance through the GFP framework.



⁶¹ The GFP network of partners includes UN Women, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF, the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and the UN Team of Experts on Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict.

GFP: country and policy highlights

In 2022, the GFP delivered catalytic funding and technical expertise to joint rule of law programming in the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Haiti, Libya, Mali, Niger, Somalia and Sudan.

In CAR, fighting impunity remained the priority of the Joint Rule of Law Programme. The Special Criminal Court⁶² delivered its first verdict in 2022. Three combatants were found guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity, including sexual violence, for their role in the massacre of at least 46 civilians in 2019.

In Haiti, UNDP and the UN Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) established a new basket fund to support the Haitian National Police (HNP) in fighting crime and addressing the issue of proliferation and heightened activity of criminal groups. A police intelligence data centre was established with branches in ten areas of the country where the police officers received necessary equipment.

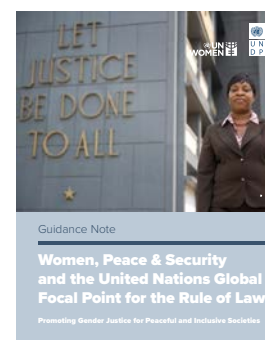
In Niger, under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office and due to the joint support provided by UNDP and the Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions (OROLSI), UNDP and OHCHR launched a new Joint Flagship Programme on Access to Justice and Human Rights. The programme will be implemented in 2023-2027 by nine UN agencies to promote and protect fundamental rights and freedoms, ensure equal access to justice for all and strengthen the rule of law in Niger.

In DRC, the Joint Police Reform Support Programme benefitted from the GFP framework and support while working with the Congolese National Police and implementing initiatives to improve its institutional knowledge and investigative capacity.

In 2022, 12 expert deployments and assessment missions took place under the GFP framework. These included multi-agency missions to conduct a strategic assessment of the justice and security sectors in São Tomé-et-Príncipe, providing elections security in Sierra Leone and reviewing policy manuals of Lesotho corrections service.

To mainstream the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda in the rule of law programming across the UN rule of law system, GFP published the report [“Women, Peace & Security and GFP: Promoting Gender Justice for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies”](#). Developed through the Gender Justice Platform, the report provides recommendations on leveraging joint UN rule of law assistance and advancing gender equality in crisis-affected settings.

GFP continued to convene its partners for rule of law consultations to discuss latest developments and ensure a more efficient joint response to arising challenges.



⁶² The Special Criminal Court mandated to investigate, prosecute and judge serious human rights violations, along with grave breaches of international criminal and humanitarian law is supported through a joint rule of law programme implemented by MINUSCA and UNDP CAR under the framework of the Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP).

Lessons learned

Over the course of the past ten years, the GFP has served as a successful flexible coordination arrangement that brings together UNDP Country Offices, UN missions and other actors within the UN rule of law system. By leveraging comparative advantages of different parts of the organization, GFP has allowed the UN to provide tailored joint assistance in line with the One-UN approach. Through joint engagements, the UN becomes better positioned to apply a holistic and sector-wide approach to the rule of law and provide workable people-centred solutions to individuals and communities.

Looking forward

In line with the Secretary-General's New Vision for the Rule of Law, GFP will continue to serve as the main coordination mechanism for the UN rule of law system. Furthermore, based on the lessons learned from the past, at the country level GFP will strengthen its links with senior UN leadership in both mission and non-mission settings to ensure political support and coordinated rule of law interventions, and promote joint rule of law programming.

GFP beneficiaries, partners and chairs spoke about its achievements and perspectives at the high-level event marking the GFP's 10th anniversary:

“GFP’s achievements clearly highlighted that rule of law support was more impactful through collaboration among UN agencies, governments, and civil society”

– Achim Steiner, UNDP Administrator

“DPO has embraced the GFP as an effective mechanism to achieve greater collaboration with UNDP counterparts – as well as with all other GFP Partners – and to amplify the impact of the United Nations engagement in the area of the rule of law in peace operations, including in CAR, DRC, Haiti, Mali, Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan”

– Jean-Pierre Lacroix, Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, UN Department of Peace Operations

“GFP in Somalia is one of the best examples of UN’s joint efforts in support of the rule of law”

– Anita Kiki Gbeho, Deputy Joint Special Representative of the UN Mission in Somalia

The New Vision for the Rule of Law

In May 2022, the United Nations adopted the New Vision for the Rule of Law, as mandated by [Our Common Agenda](#). The New Vision for the Rule of Law recognizes the fundamental importance of the rule of law as the basis for multilateral cooperation and political dialogue, underlines the importance of people-centred rule of law in achieving the SDGs and calls on all stakeholders to take an active role in the rule of law promotion.

The Secretariat of the UN Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law was delegated to coordinating the development of the New Vision for the Rule of Law together with Rule of Law Unit of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and Office of Legal Affairs (OLA).

The New Vision has called for revitalizing the Rule of Law Resource and Coordination Group (ROLCRG) as a platform for high-level discussions on the rule of law. GFP will continue to fulfill its function as the operational and programmatic coordinator of the New Vision realization while ensuring the connection between senior-level strategic dialogue and the UN rule of law engagement at the country-level.

RESULTS FRAMEWORK

This Results Framework tracks the progress and achievements of the Global Programme’s objectives, aggregating results across the contexts receiving the Global Programme support. The tables below reflect the results the Global Programme has achieved in the thematic areas of rule of law, human rights, justice, and security (Outcome 1 and associated Outputs 1 - 4), in strengthening monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) and contributing to policy discourse (Outcome 2 and associated Outputs 5 and 6). Operational effectiveness indicators reflect the Global Programme’s results in promoting an enabling operational environment.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS ¹	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		RESULTS	NOTE
			Value	Year	Year 1 (2022)	
Output 1 Legal frameworks and underlying norms and practice are more inclusive and non-discriminatory and people have greater agency and opportunities to know and claim their rights, solve disputes and seek redress for rights violations.	1.1 Number of contexts where GP support strengthened legal and/or policy strategies or frameworks to expand civic space.	GP reporting	4	2022	4	Comoros, Eswatini, Honduras and Kazakhstan.
	1.2 Proportion of contexts where GP-supported human rights institutions, systems or stakeholders strengthened capacities to support the fulfilment of nationally and internationally ratified human rights obligations.	Corporate data & GP reporting	Green: 40% Amber: 60%	2022	Green: 40% Amber: 60%	Out of 38 contexts, 15 have IRRF data: Green: Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ghana, Maldives, Mozambique and Uzbekistan. Amber: Burkina Faso, Eswatini, Jordan, Lebanon, Nepal, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uruguay. IRRF data not available: Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Burundi, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Haiti, India, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Yemen and Zimbabwe.
	1.3 Proportion of contexts in which GP support provided to constitution making processes by introducing or supporting at least one mechanism for civic engagement.	Corporate data & GP reporting	Green: 25% Amber: 75%	2022	Green: 25% Amber: 75%	Out of 6 contexts, 4 have IRRF data: Green: Armenia. Amber: Chile, Somalia and South Sudan. IRRF data not available: Belarus and Belize.
	1.4 Number of contexts with GP-funded access to justice programmes or projects introduced or supported.	GP reporting	24	2020	17	Argentina, Belize, Burundi, Chad, Central African Republic, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Guinea, Liberia, Libya, Myanmar, Niger, Somalia and Tunisia. <i>The target for 2022 was 28; the target was partially achieved.</i>
	1.5 Number of contexts where GP support has contributed to the establishment and/or strengthening of justice & security mechanisms, processes and frameworks to prevent, respond to, and address sexual and gender based violence/conflict-related sexual violence.	GP reporting	17	2022	17	Central African Republic, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Guinea, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Liberia, Libya, Mexico, Moldova, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Sudan.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS ¹	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		RESULTS	NOTE
			Value	Year	Year 1 (2022)	
Output 2 Mechanisms to hold duty bearers and power holders to account in order to ensure the rule of law and promotion and protection of human rights are in place and actively used.	2.1 Number of contexts in which GP support has contributed to: (a) implementation of UPR recommendations. (b) closer integration between human rights and SDG systems.	GP reporting	(a) 5 (b) 7	(a) 2022 (b) 2020	(a) 5 (b) 13	(a) Botswana, Eswatini, Pakistan, Sierra Leone and Uruguay. (b) Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Tunisia, Uruguay and Uzbekistan. The target for (a) was achieved and the target for (b) was exceeded.
	2.2 Proportion of contexts where GP-supported private sector institutions, systems, or stakeholders (including publicly owned companies) have strengthened capacities to support fulfilment of nationally and internationally ratified human rights obligations.	Corporate data & GP reporting	Green: 14% Amber: 86%	2022	Green: 14% Amber: 86%	Out of 25 contexts, 7 have IRRF data: Green: Ghana. Amber: Maldives, Mozambique, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. IRRF data not available: Azerbaijan, Djibouti, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Peru, Tunisia, Türkiye and Ukraine.
	2.3 Number of contexts where GP support has improved capacities of justice and security institutions for oversight and accountability.	GP reporting	11	2022	11	Belarus, Burundi, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Guinea, Libya, Nigeria, Sudan and also Kosovo*.
	2.4 Number of contexts with GP-introduced or strengthened people-centred and gender-sensitive, transitional justice solutions.	GP reporting	9	2022	9	Central African Republic, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, The Gambia, Guatemala, Mali, South Sudan, Tunisia and also Kosovo.

* All references to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS ¹	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		RESULTS	NOTE
			Value	Year	Year 1 (2022)	
Output 3 Justice and security systems are service-oriented and better able to protect human rights and respond to people's justice and security needs through high-quality performance.	3.1 Proportion of contexts where GP-support to rule of law and justice institutions, systems, or stakeholders has strengthened capacities to support fulfilment of nationally and internationally ratified human rights obligations.	<i>Corporate data & GP reporting</i>	Green: 33% Amber: 67%	2022	Green: 33% Amber: 67%	Out of 22 contexts, 6 have IRRF data: Green: Ethiopia and Moldova. Amber: Eswatini, Guyana, Kazakhstan and Türkiye. IRRF data not available: Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Belize, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominica, Georgia, Guinea, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkmenistan and Ukraine.
	3.2 Number of new or strengthened people-centred justice policies, services or innovative digital solutions developed with GP support.	<i>GP reporting</i>	45	2022	45	Results include policies, services and innovative digital solutions developed at global and regional levels (Arab States, Europe and Central Asia) and for national contexts (Albania, Azerbaijan, Belize, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Liberia, Mexico, Moldova, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Uganda, Yemen and also Kosovo).
	3.3 Number of new or strengthened people-centred security policies, services or innovative digital solutions developed with GP support.	<i>GP reporting</i>	13	2022	13	Results include policies, services and innovative digital solutions developed at global and regional (Africa, Europe and Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean) levels, and for national contexts (Cameroon, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Nigeria and Venezuela).
	3.4 Number of justice and security institutions with enhanced capacity to provide people-centred services, in line with human rights/gender/LNOB principles, through GP-supported interventions.	<i>GP reporting</i>	94	2022	94	Contexts supported include Azerbaijan, Burundi, Central African Republic, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Guinea, Kazakhstan, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, and also Kosovo. Including 42 institutions at national level and 52 at subnational level.
	3.5 Number of justice and security personnel with enhanced capacity to provide people-centred services, in line with human rights/gender/LNOB principles, through GP-supported interventions.	<i>GP reporting</i>	3025	2022	3025	Contexts supported include Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Liberia and Mali.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS ¹	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		RESULTS	NOTE
			Value	Year	Year 1 (2022)	
Output 4 Community security, safety and resilience strengthened through people-centred strategies, processes and mechanisms.	4.1 Number of contexts in which GP-supported local government, justice and security providers respond in a more holistic & people-centred way to community safety and security needs and grievances.	<i>GP reporting</i>	4	2022	4	Côte d'Ivoire, Eswatini, Lesotho and Niger.
	4.2 Number of contexts where GP support introduced or strengthened gender-sensitive and people-centred evidence-based security strategies for reducing armed violence and/or controlling small arms at the community level.	<i>GP reporting</i>	3	2022	3	Cameroon, Jamaica and South Sudan.
	4.3 Number of GP-funded integrated programmes/projects in stabilization and/or triple nexus contexts that support people centred community security and social cohesion and: a) financial volume of support; b) number of joint programmes/projects.	<i>GP reporting</i>	12 (GP3-funded:6; GP4-funded:6) a) US\$ 3,353,534 (GP3: 1,603,534; GP4: 1,750,000) b) 5	2022	12 (GP3-funded:6; GP4-funded:6) a) US\$ 3,353,534 (GP3: 1,603,534; GP4: 1,750,000) b) 5	Results reflect projects that were operational in 2022, including those funded by GP3 and GP4. GP3 funded: Haiti (200,000), Niger (199,800), Myanmar (300,000), Pakistan (300,000), Somalia (103,734) and South Sudan (SALIENT, 500,000). GP4 funded: Cameroon (SALIENT, 500,000), Democratic Republic of the Congo (200,000), Lebanon (300,000), Moldova (250,000), Mozambique (200,000) and Myanmar (300,000). Joint programmes/projects: Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Somalia and South Sudan.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS ¹	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		RESULTS	NOTE
			Value	Year	Year 1 (2022)	
Output 5 Strengthened Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) systems support project/ programme design and implementation.	5.1 Number of new methods (including tools, frameworks and processes) for GP-related monitoring, evaluation and learning adopted at: i. global; ii. Regional; iii. Country level.	GP reporting	0	2021	i. 0 ii. 2 iii. 15	i. N.A. ii. Results include methods developed in Africa and in Europe and Central Asia. iii. Results include methods developed in Argentina, Botswana, Ecuador, Guatemala, Jordan, Mexico, Moldova, Pakistan, Somalia, South Sudan, Uruguay and Zimbabwe.
	5.2 Number of key UNDP global knowledge and learning products produced and disseminated by GP; in (a) English; and/or (b) other languages.	GP reporting	(a) 5 (b) 0	2020	(a) 14 (b) 1	Results include 5 joint publications with other UN agencies. Global knowledge products: Women's Meaningful Participation in Transitional Justice: Advancing Gender Equality and Building Sustainable Peace ; Embracing the Transformative Potential of Justice for Peace and Development ; E-Justice: Digital Transformation to Close the Justice Gap ; E-justice toolkit ; Global Mapping of E-Justice Projects in the Development Context ; Environmental Justice: Securing our right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment ; Promoting Environmental Justice through UNDP Programming: Guidance note ; Heightened Human Rights Due Diligence for Business in Conflict-Affected Contexts: A Guide ; Beyond the pandemic – The Justice Emergency . Joint: UN Good Practices: How The Universal Periodic Review Process Supports Sustainable Development ; Human Rights and Voluntary National Reviews: Operational Common Approach Guidance Note ; A People-Centred Approach to Security—Seeking conceptual clarity to guide UN policy development ; Advancing Access to Justice and Legal Aid in Situations of Forced Displacement ; Information Note: What is the Right to a Healthy Environment . Other languages: Heightened Human Rights Due Diligence for Business in Conflict-Affected Contexts: A Guide ; Beyond the pandemic: The Justice Emergency , available in English, French, Japanese, Spanish, Russian and Ukrainian. The targets for 2022 were (a) 3 and (b) 1. The target for (a) was exceeded, and the target for (b) was achieved.
	5.3 Number of GP-led or GP-supported knowledge and learning-focused mechanisms (e.g. workshops, trainings, COPs, theory of change reflection sessions etc.) at i. global; ii. regional; iii. country level.	GP reporting	i. 33 ii. 15 iii. 5	2022	i. 33 ii. 15 iii. 5	Results reflect knowledge and learning-focused mechanisms at global and regional level (all regions have supported knowledge and learning-focused mechanisms) and at country level (Azerbaijan, Botswana, Liberia, Rwanda and Somalia).

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS ¹	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		RESULTS	NOTE
			Value	Year	Year 1 (2022)	
Output 6 Sustained high-quality, evidence-informed analytics and learning contribute to shaping global and regional level policy discourse on rule of law, justice, security and human rights.	6.1 Number of key UN global learning and/or policy documents published referencing GP-specific evidence-based findings/knowledge/results.	GP reporting	11	2022	11	Contributions to key UN global learning/policy documents in the areas of rule of law, gender justice, transitional justice and human rights.
	6.2 Stakeholders' general perception of GP analytics and policy work in terms of (a) quantity /frequency; (b) quality of outputs; (c) level of impact on global rule of law, justice, security and human rights policy landscape.	GP reporting	(a) Appropriate: 71% (b) Excellent: 29%; Good: 71% (c) High level: 57%; Average level: 43%	2022	(a) Appropriate: 71%; (b) Excellent: 29%; Good: 71% (c) High level: 57%; Average level: 43%	According to the stakeholder survey results: (a) 71% of respondents agree that the quantity/frequency is at an appropriate level. (b) 29% of the respondents agree that the quality of the outputs is excellent, while the remaining 71% agree that the quality is good. (c) 57% of the respondents found the GP knowledge and policy work having a high impact on global policy landscape (the rest – 43% - rated the level of impact as average).
	6.3 Number of rule of law, justice, security and human rights related policy discussions/events (UN and non-UN): (a) that are convened by GP; (b) to which GP is invited to contribute (e.g. staff representation or expertise, data); (c) to which the GP contributes; at the i. global; ii. regional; iii. country level.	GP reporting	(a) 28 (b) 41 (c) i: 27; ii: 10; iii: 4	2022	(a) 28 (b) 41 (c) i: 27; ii: 10; iii: 4	Results reflect rule of law, justice, security and human rights related policy discussions/events at global and regional level and at country level, which are convened by GP (a) or with GP contribution (b, c). (b) = total of (c) i, ii, iii.
	6.4 Number of downloads of key GP-produced policy documents and knowledge products.	GP reporting; Google Analytics	2174	2022	2174	Total downloads: 2,174; Total page views: 13,457 NB: Google Analytics does not provide an exact number of downloads, as it applies some thresholds and does not count the number of downloads from the servers where the assets are cached (CDN - Content Delivery Network).

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS ⁱ	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		RESULTS	NOTE
			Value	Year	Year 1 (2022)	
OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS INDICATORSⁱⁱ						
Operational Effectiveness	OE1 Number of country-level GP-funded projects/programmes that integrate a human rights-based approach.	GP reporting	34	2020	64 funded by GP4, plus 37 funded by GP3 but operational in 2022	GP4 = 27: Algeria, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Central African Republic x2, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Mexico, Moldova, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Timor Leste, and Ukraine. BHR = 17: Ghana, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine and Viet Nam. SALIENT = 3: Cameroon, Jamaica and South Sudan (South Sudan is 2021 funding only, but the project is operational in 2022). Gender Justice Platform = 18: Afghanistan, Burundi, Central African Republic, Colombia, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Lebanon, Mali, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, the State of Palestine, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, Zimbabwe and also Kosovo. (GJP funded/via UN Women). GP3 (funds disbursed in 2021, project operational in 2022) = 27: Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belize, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eswatini, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Jordan, Liberia, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Paraguay, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Tajikistan, Venezuela and Yemen. HRM (funds disbursed in 2021, project operational in 2022) = 9: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Jordan, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, Uruguay and the Central Asia region. <i>The target for 2022 was 34; the target was exceeded.</i>
	OE2 Number of contexts where the respective GP portfolio of projects/programmes meets the set 15% budget quota for gender investments.	GP reporting	18	2022	18 (Gender Justice Platform)	All GP-funded projects are GEN2, making a significant contribution to gender equality and/or the empowerment of women and girls. Gender Justice Platform is a GEN 3 project.
	OE3 Total number and proportion of full-time female staff among ROLSHR team contract holders (i. international professional staff; ii. general service staff; iii. other contract categories (incl. interns, seconded staff, UNVs, consultants etc.).	GP reporting	i.: 32, female 69% ii. 3, female 67% iii.: 48, female 54%	2022	i.: 32, female 69% ii. 3, female 67% iii.: 48, female 54%	i. International professional staff: 32/22 female: P – 21/14 female; IPSA – 11/8 female; plus 8 position vacant (as of December 2022). ii. G-staff: 3/2 female (as of December 2022). iii. Other (interns, UNVs, secondees): 48/26 female: interns- 2/2 female; seconded staff – 1/1 female; UNV – 1/0 female; consultants – 44/23 female.
	OE4 Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP) partnerships: (a) Total number of GFP-funded joint programmes/projects. (b) Total budget amount of GFP-funded joint programmes. (c) Number of contexts where GFP-supported joint rule of law assessments, strategies, programmes and/or frameworks developed (complementing a UN political strategy or reinforcing implementation of a UNSC mission mandate).	GP reporting	a) 3 b) US\$ 800,000 c) 5	2022	a) 3 (GP4 2022), plus 3 (funded by GP3) b) US\$ 800,000 (GP4), plus 795,534 (GP3) c) 5	a) and b) Democratic Republic of the Congo, Central African Republic and Libya. Plus GP3 funds disbursed in 2021 and projects/programmes operational in 2022: Haiti, Niger, Somalia and Yemen. c) Haiti, Libya, Niger, Somalia and Sudan.

OUTCOME INDICATORS

Programme Outcome 1: Inclusive, people-centred systems that provide quality justice and security services and uphold and protect human rights are trusted and accessible, especially in contexts affected by crisis, conflict or fragility.

	Indicators ⁱⁱⁱ	Baseline	Results 2022
1.1	Global Programme (GP) supported contexts' average World Justice Project, Rule of Law Index score; and 1.1.1. Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG) (for African countries, only). Source: World Justice Project Rule of Law Index 2022 ; Ibrahim Index on African Governance, 2021 results and GP reporting 75 out of 104 GP supported context have Rule of Law Index 2022 score; 31 contexts of GP supported are in IIAG 2021. GP definitions: <i>GP support</i> and <i>GP supported</i> refer to the provision of tailored, context specific assistance provided through the Global Programme and may include, but is not limited to, pipeline or non-pipeline funding, technical and strategic expertise and advice provided by ROLSHR staff or consultants, or the mobilization of agile capacities. For further details see the Phase IV project document at Section 2.5, "Theory of Action: How the Global Programme Enables Change".	0.49 (2022) 46.99 (2021)	0.49 46.99 (2021, latest data)
1.2	Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age. Source: Corporate data, IRRF Development Outcome 3, Outcome Indicator 5. Note from IRRF: SDG 16.11 Data source: Based on "The Secretary-General's Report on Sustainable Development Goals, Statistical Annex". Baseline data is for year 2019 . The latest data is for year 2020 .	5.7 (2019)	5.6 (2020)
1.3	Number of strategic partnerships for advancing programming and policy objectives with: i. UN entities; ii. International Financial Institutions; iii. Private sector; iv. Civil society organizations; v. Multi-stakeholders or intergovernmental organizations; vi. Government agencies or public institutions; vii. Academia and think tanks. Source: GP reporting GP definitions: <i>Strategic partnerships</i> refers to any formal agreement for cooperation entered into by the Global Programme with another entity. This could include, for example, an MOU, a partnership agreement, or email exchange detailing the arrangements for partnering on a specific project or thematic area of work. <i>Multi-stakeholder partnership</i> refers to a partnership that brings together a range of different actors such as civil society, governments, international bodies, media, and academic or research institutions. <i>Civil society organizations</i> may include, but are not limited to, faith-based organizations, regional and international non-government organizations, academia, think tanks and research institutions, professional associations.	52 (2021) i. 19 ii. 1 iii. 1 iv. 11 v. 19	73 ^{iv} i. 29 ii. 1 iii. 3 iv. 8 v. 23 vi. 5 vii. 4
1.4	GP-supported contexts' average NHRI accreditation status. Source: GANHRI, Chart of the Status of National Institutions Accredited by the Global Alliance of NHRIs, as of November 29, 2022 GP-supported contexts in 2022: as per Output Indicator 1.2 A: Burundi, Colombia, Ghana, Haiti, India, Jordan, Kenya, Liberia, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, Rwanda, Ukraine, Uruguay and Zimbabwe. B: Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Côte d'Ivoire, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Türkiye, and Uzbekistan. Lapsed: Burkina Faso. N.A.: Comoros, Dominican Republic, Eswatini, Djibouti, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Mozambique, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Turkmenistan and Yemen.	Out of 38 contexts (2022): A: 16; B: 10; Lapsed: 1; N.A: 11	GP-supported contexts (as per output indicator 1.2): out of 38 contexts: A: 16; B: 10; Lapsed: 1; N.A: 11 Globally: A: 84; B: 33
1.5	Number people supported, who have access to justice. Source: Corporate data, UNDP overall reporting; Baseline: UNDP IRRF 2018-2021, Indicator 2.2.3.2.A.2; 2022 Results: UNDP IRRF 2022-2025, 2.2.3a,b,c.	78,059,933 (2021)	84,986,917

Programme Outcome 2: Regional and global level policy on rule of law, justice, security & human rights is evidence-based, affirms a development perspective and informs high-quality programming.

	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Results 2022</i>
2.1	2.1 Average score of Programme Quality Index for GP-funded contexts.	GP3 (2019): highly satisfactory SALIENT (2020): highly satisfactory	GP4 (2022): Exemplary
	<p>Source: UNDP Quality Assurance Portal. Note: changed from “Average score of Programme Quality Index for GP-funded contexts”, UNDP Strategic Plan IRRF Organizational Enablers, Indicator 1.1.1.</p>		
2.2	2.2 GP-supported GPN/Express One Roster deployments: (a) Number of: i. UNDP staff; ii. Consultants, iii. UNVs; iv. Stand by Partner experts (all by gender); (b) Volume of deployments (in USD). (c) Expert deployments conducted under the GFP framework, including deployments by DPO Standing Justice and Corrections and Standing Police Capacity (expenses are covered by DPO, thus amount not available in UNDP).	(a) i. 1 (IPSA, female) ii. 22 (12 female, 10 male) iii. 0 iv. 2 (1 female, 1 male) (b) US\$ 746,000 (c) 24 (including remote deployment during COVID-19)	(a) i. 3 (IPSA, 3 female) ii. 23 (15 female, 8 male) iii. 0 iv. 1 (b) US\$ 864,509 (c) 12
	<p>Source: GP reporting, GFP reporting. Disaggregation: Disaggregate by sex where applicable. Additional explanation: This is a proxy indicator for the Global Programme’s agile capacities and responsiveness to requests for the rapid provision of high-quality technical and strategic expertise, particularly in contexts experiencing conflict, crisis and/or fragility. Deployments may be cross-cutting, supporting several outputs within the results framework. Deployments may include UNDP staff missions (both virtual and in-person) and detailed assignments, including to HQ for the purposes of supporting Phase IV delivery.</p>		
2.3	2.3 Number of GP-supported impact, country programme, thematic and outcome reviews, assessments and evaluations.	2 (2022)	2
	<p>Source: GP reporting.</p>		
2.4	2.4 Number of people using digital technologies and services in ways that improves their lives, in GP-supported contexts.	2,575,766 in 19 contexts (2022)	19 contexts of 104 have IRRF data, totalling 2,575,766, including: Female: 827,524 Male: 1,608,763 Sex-disaggregated data unavailable: 139,479
	<p>Source: Corporate data, see IRRF Enabler E.1, Indicator E1.3. and GP reporting See UNDP IRRF methodological note for further details. Disaggregation: Disaggregate by sex.</p>		

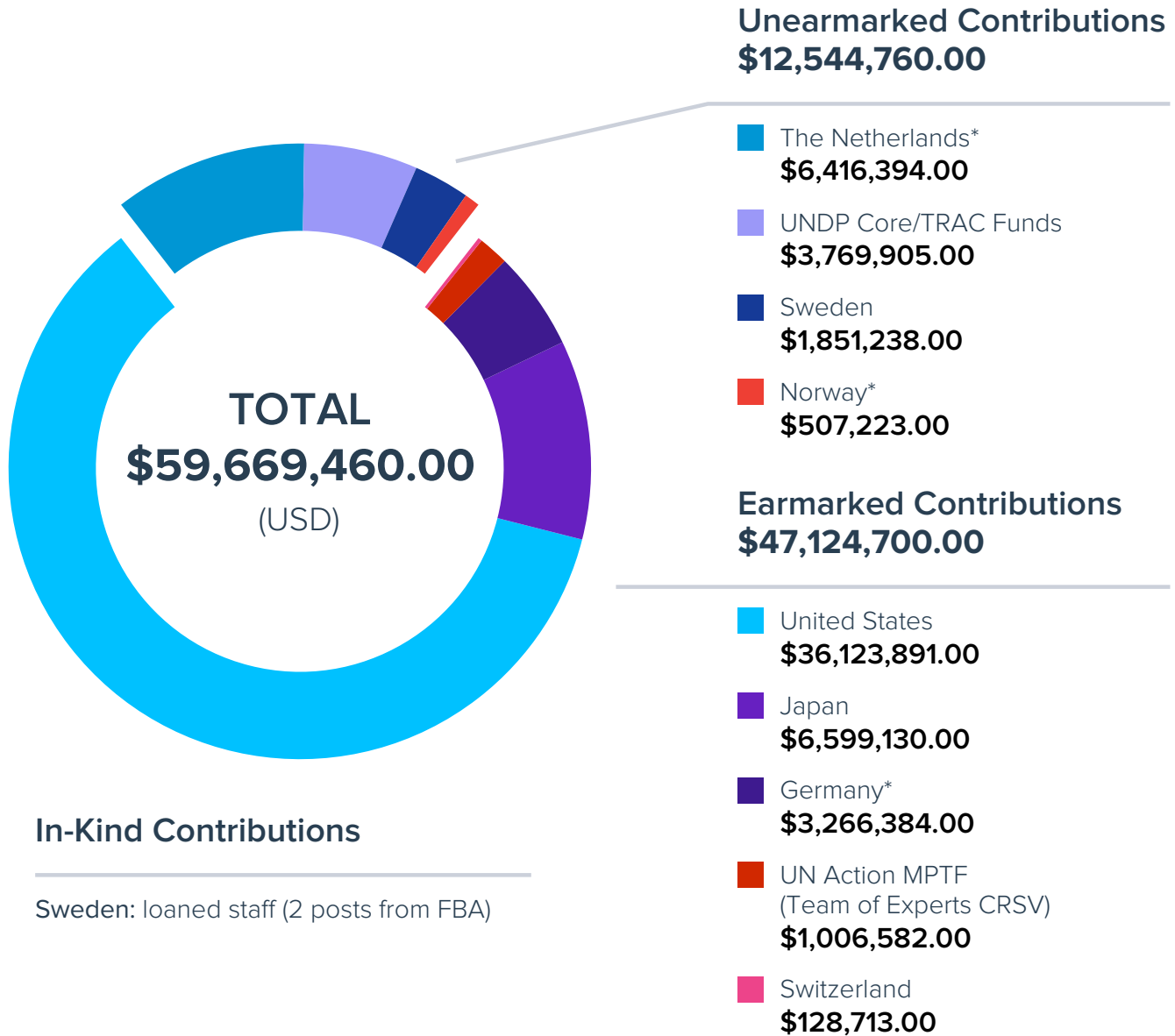
Notes for the Results Framework

- ⁱ The following indicators were modified to monitor the number of contexts based on GP reporting, instead of proportion of contexts: Indicator 1.1, 1.5, 2.3, 2.4, 4.1, 4.2; should the tracking of proportion become feasible in the coming years of GP4 implementation, the indicators may be modified again where appropriate. OE4 (c) is modified to track the number of contexts. Indicator 1.2, 1.3, 2.2 and 3.1 track the proportion of contexts based on the rating as reported in the UNDP Integrated Results and Resources Framework (IRRF). For these indicators, a traffic light system (green, amber, red) is applied. Green indicates that the rating of the context for the respective indicator in IRRF has improved; Amber indicates that the rating in IRRF has remained the same; Red indicates that the rating in IRRF has decreased. The following indicators were removed: Indicator 3.6 and 4.3; Indicator numbering adjusted upon removal of the indicators. The following indicators were moved from output level to outcome level: Indicator 1.4 and 6.5 (to merge with outcome indicator 1.3). The numbering of output indicators was adjusted. The following indicators were reported based on GP reporting, instead of corporate data: Indicator 5.1. For the following indicators, the baseline was changed to 2022 value comparing to the original result framework: Indicator 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.2, 3.1, 5.3, 6.1, 6.3, 6.4; baseline changed to 2020: Indicator 5.2. Targets for 2022 were not included, as most of the targets were either to be determined or baseline (in most cases 2022 results). For the few indicators (4) that had specific 2022 target, the targets are included in the 'Note' column. Targets for the following years will be set based on 2022 results.
- ⁱⁱ Indicator OE 2 and 4 were revised.
- ⁱⁱⁱ The following indicators were modified to be based on GP reporting: Indicator 1.3, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3. The following indicators were modified with additional subcategories to reflect the GP work scope: Indicator 1.3, 2.2. Indicator 1.5 is added to 'Outcome Indicators' and removed from 'Output Indicators'. Baseline data was added for Outcome Indicators.
- ^{iv} **i. UN entities:**
 Cross Pillar Analysis for Prevention - UN Working Group at Latin America and Caribbean regional level on PBA and RC work (OHCHR, OCHA, UNDP) led by regional PBA.
 Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG)
 Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP)
 Inter-agency Task Force on Policing
 Inter-Agency Working Group on Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration, and the Inter-agency Security Sector Reform Task Force (IAWG - DDR & IASSRTF)
 Issue-Based Coalition at Regional Level (LAC region)
 The Task Team on Law and Policy on Internal Displacement (TTLP), Global Protection Cluster
 United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
 United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)
 United Nations Coordinating Action on Small Arms (CASA)
 United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPO) via Global Focal Point
 United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA)
 United Nations Development Coordination Office (DCO)
 United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
 United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)
 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
 Regional Collaboration Centre for Asia-Pacific
 United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
 United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)
 United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
 United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict
 United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children
 United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
 United Nations Police (UNPOL)
 United Nations Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict (ToE)
 United Nations University (UN University's Centre for Policy Research)
 UNDP - OHCHR - Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI): Tri-Partite Partnership to Support National Human Rights Institutions
 UNDP - UN Women: Gender Justice Partnership
 UNDP - UNHCR: Global Partnership on Rule of Law and Governance
 UNDP - UNODA partnership SALIENT, Saving Lives Entity, including UNODA Regional Centres
- ii. International Financial Institutions:**
 World Bank
- iii. Private sector:**
 Behavioural Insights Team (BIT)
 Private Sector Partnership for the Rule of Law
 United Nations Global Compact
- iv. Civil society organizations:**
 Asia Pacific Network of Environment Defenders (APNED)
 Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT)
 Civil Association for Equality and Justice (ACIJ)
 Due Process of Law Foundation (DPLF)
 Hague Institute for Innovation of Law (HiIL)
 Institute of African Women in Law (IAWL)
 International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ)
 Namati: Innovations in Legal Empowerment
- v. Multi-stakeholders or intergovernmental organizations:**
 African Union (African Commission on Human and People's Rights, African Court on Human And People's Rights, African Union Commission)
 Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions in Africa (CCJA)
 Conference of Ministers of Justice of Ibero-American Countries (COMJIB)
 Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF)
 Global Alliance for Reporting on Peaceful, Just, and Inclusive Societies
 Ibero-American Association of Public Prosecutors (AIAMP)
 Ibero-American Network of Judicial Schools
 Instituto Interamericano de Derechos Humanos. Interamerican institute on human rights. (IIDH)
 Inter-American Association of Public Defenders (AIDEP)
 Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IHR)
 International Development Law Organization (IDLO)
 International Foundation for Ibero-American Public Administration and Public Policy (FIAPP)
 International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA)
 International Labour Organization (ILO)
 International Network for Open Justice (RIJA)
 International Security Sector Advisory Team (ISSAT)
 Latin American and the Caribbean Network for Democracy (REDLAD)
 Latin American and the Caribbean Women's Security and Defense Network (AMASSURU)
 Open Society Justice Initiative and the World Justice Project on measuring access to civil justice
 Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
 Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)
 Pathfinders
 Working Group on Customary and Informal Justice
- vi. Government agencies or public institutions:**
 Danish Institute for Human Rights
 Folke Bernadotte Academy
 The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
 Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
 Norwegian Resource Bank for Democracy and Human Rights (NORDEM)
- vii. Academia and think tanks:**
 Institute for Security Studies (ISS)
 Justice Studies Center of the Americas (CEJA)
 New York University's Center for International Cooperation
 Overseas Development Institute

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

In January 2022, Phase IV (2022-2025) of UNDP’s Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development commenced. This section provides an overview of our financial support mobilized and delivered in 2022, as well as over the lifetime of the Global Programme (since 2008). Further, this section provides an overview of the country/context project allocations made, as well as the 2022 budget for programme and policy work undertaken by UNDP’s Rule of Law, Security and Human Rights team with detailed activities that were delivered (both globally and at the country/context level).

We are thankful to our partners for their sustained investments in the Global Programme.



In-Kind Contributions

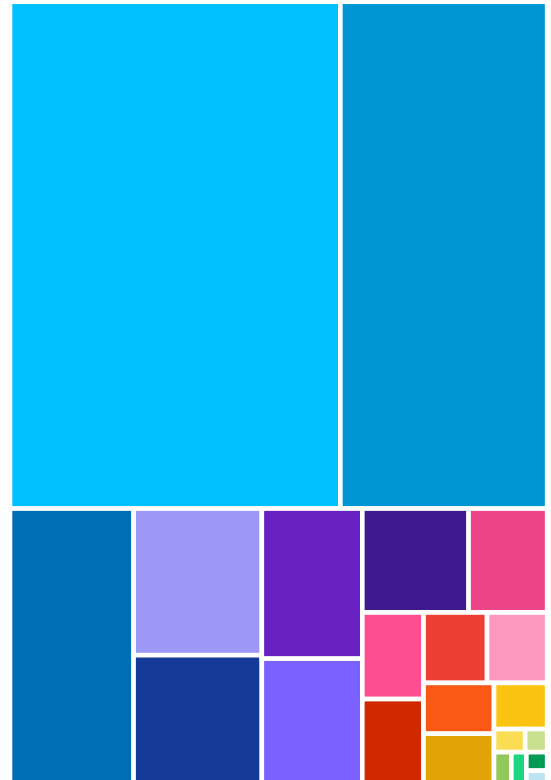
Sweden: loaned staff (2 posts from FBA)

*Received contribution in late 2022 for programming in 2023.

LIFETIME CONTRIBUTIONS 2008-2022

**Total Mobilized Resources:
\$444,077,781**

■ United States*: \$176,938,952	■ Australia: \$4,443,307
■ Netherlands: \$111,075,641	■ SALIENT: \$3,795,599
■ CPR-TTF: \$36,004,440	■ Denmark: \$3,739,940
■ UNDP CORE/ TRAC Funds: \$19,873,137	■ Belgium: \$2,529,780
■ Sweden: \$17,394,731	■ MDTF - Human Rights Mainstreaming/DCO: \$749,000
■ Japan: \$15,864,223	■ France: \$554,800
■ Canada: \$13,145,391	■ Luxembourg: \$538,206
■ Germany: \$11,787,081	■ Qatar: \$508,680
■ Switzerland: \$8,549,560	■ Ireland: \$393,288
■ United Kingdom: \$5,671,089	■ UNHCR: \$246,407
■ UN Action MPTF (Team of Experts CRSV): \$5,431,846	■ EOSG: \$18,496
■ Norway: \$4,817,448	■ Austria: \$5,738
	■ Private contribution: \$1,000



*Does not include 2016-2020 United States/INL contribution for the various CBARD: Community Based Agricultural Rural Development projects in Afghanistan (total = \$85,397,290.00 USD).

2022 GLOBAL PROGRAMME MOBILIZED EARMARKED FUNDS

Country	Project	Donor	Mobilized Total (USD)
Africa Regional Hub	Business and Human Rights in Africa	Switzerland	128,713.00
ASEAN (Judicial Network)	Judicial Integrity Network Phase 4 in the ASEAN region	United States/INL	475,000.00
Colombia	Support the implementation of the Reform of the National Police in Colombia	United States/INL	2,350,000.00
Colombia	UNITAR/Anti-Laundering Project	United States/INL	3,413,840.60
Haiti	Joint Support Programme for the Haitian National Police (HNP)	United States/INL	3,000,000.00
Iraq	Expanding the Impact of Iraq's Financial Intelligence Unit	United States/INL	5,365,000.00
Laos	Thanaikoum (Lawyer) Project	United States/INL	1,220,011.00
Malawi	Strengthening the Independent Complaints Commission	United States/INL	700,000.00
Moldova	Strengthening the Police Training Capacities in the Rep. of Moldova	United States/INL	1,681,000.00
Pakistan	Strengthening Capacity of Excise, Taxation and Anti-Narcotics Department Balochistan (ETAN-B)	United States/INL	474,701.47
Pakistan	Countering Production and Trade in Illegal Drugs through Improved Training Facilities for the ANF Phase 2	United States/INL	284,649.00
PAPP	Palestinian Central Training Institute (CTI) Construction Projects	United States/INL	15,465,289.00
Papua New Guinea	Strongpla Meri, Strongpla Nesen (SMSN) Program Phase 1 (Strong Women, Strong Nation)	United States/INL	1,000,000.00
Viet Nam	Strengthening Vietnam's Implementation of UNCAC Recommendations	United States/INL	694,400.00
TOTAL			36,252,604

2022 GLOBAL PROGRAMME PIPELINE ALLOCATIONS

Context	Project	Allocated Budget (USD)	Donor Funding Allocated
Africa Regional Hub	Engagement and Initiations for the African Region	150,000.00	The Netherlands
Algeria	Supporting career development of women judges	101,520.00	The Netherlands
Algeria	Supporting career development of women judges	88,393.00	The Netherlands
Algeria	Supporting career development of women judges	10,967.40	The Netherlands
Arab States Regional Hub	Conflict Prevention and Social Cohesion in the Arab States Region	150,000.00	The Netherlands
Asia Pacific Regional Hub	Access to Justice and Human Rights	150,000.00	The Netherlands
Bolivia	Energetic transition based on new environmental good governance agreements/ model	150,000.00	Sweden
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Strengthening Environmental Rule of Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina (SERL)	100,000.00	The Netherlands
Cameroon	SALIENT	500,000.00	SALIENT
CAR	Integrated support to people-centred transitional justice in the CAR	200,000.00	The Netherlands
CAR	Integrated support to people-centred transitional justice	100,000.00	The Netherlands
Chile	Promoting gender equality and public engagement in the new constitution-making process in Chile	150,000.00	The Netherlands
Colombia	Transforming and Digitalization of Justice	150,000.00	The Netherlands
Cuba	Masculinities complicit in gender equality and non-violence against women in Cuba: Accelerating transformations of sexist social norms to promote territorial development	75,000.00	The Netherlands
Djibouti	Advancing human rights through their inclusion in Djibouti's economic growth model	129,600.00	The Netherlands
DRC	Strengthening the Police Reform in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) through Enhanced Criminal Investigation Capacities and oversight mechanisms of Selected Units of the DRC National Police to fight against impunity in the North Kivu and Tanganyika	200,000.00	The Netherlands
Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Hub	Access to Justice and Human Rights	150,000.00	The Netherlands
Ethiopia	Support to the Justice Bureaus in Oromia and Somali Regions	150,000.00	The Netherlands
Ghana	Business and Human Rights	300,000.00	Japan
Guinea-Bissau	Supporting female lawyers for an increase of their participation in the justice system and improve access to justice to women survivors of sexual and gender-based violence	150,000.00	The Netherlands
Honduras	SALIENT	52,430.00	SALIENT
Indonesia	Business and Human Rights	150,000.00	Japan
Jamaica*	SALIENT	498,225.00	SALIENT
Kazakhstan	Support to the national human rights and the rule of law reforms in Kazakhstan	20,760.00	The Netherlands
Kazakhstan	Support to the national human rights and the rule of law reforms in Kazakhstan	129,240.00	Switzerland
Kazakhstan	Business and Human Rights	300,000.00	Japan
Kenya	Leveraging on implementation of the Digital Technology to enhance Administration of Justice in the Small Claims Court in Kenya	250,000.00	The Netherlands
Kenya	Business and Human Rights	300,000.00	Japan

Context	Project	Allocated Budget (USD)	Donor Funding Allocated
Kyrgyz Republic	Initiation Plan on “Promoting Environmental Rule of Law, Rights and Justice (including Climate)”	100,000.00	The Netherlands
Kyrgyz Republic	Business and Human Rights	300,000.00	Japan
Lao PDR	Business and Human Rights	300,000.00	Japan
Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Hub	Rule of Law in Latin America and the Caribbean	150,000.00	The Netherlands
Lebanon	Enhancing access to justice in the context of multi-faceted crises	300,000.00	The Netherlands
Libya	Promoting Access to Justice in Libya	300,000.00	The Netherlands
Mexico	Transforming social norms to promote positive masculinities in Mexico - Latin America and the Caribbean	150,000.00	Sweden
Mexico	Business and Human Rights	325,000.00	Japan
Moldova	Strengthening access to justice through legal empowerment of refugees in Moldova	250,000.00	Sweden
Mongolia	Business and Human Rights	150,000.00	Japan
Mozambique	Strengthen the rule of law and the protection of human rights in areas affected by conflict and displacement...	200,000.00	The Netherlands
Mozambique	Business and Human Rights	300,000.00	Japan
Myanmar	Access to Justice through Strengthening Housing, Land and Property Rights in the Conflict Affected Ethnic States of Myanmar (contribution to Rakhine Triple Nexus Project and Civil Society Unit) Project)	300,000.00	Sweden
Nepal	Business and Human Rights	300,000.00	Japan
Nigeria	Supporting Police Reform Processes in Nigeria	150,000.00	The Netherlands
Pakistan	Access to Environmental Justice in Balochistan	200,000.00	Sweden
Pakistan	Business and Human Rights	300,000.00	Japan
Peru	Business and Human Rights	325,000.00	Japan
Senegal	Fostering Women’s Representation in the Legal and Judicial Sector	244,629.00	The Netherlands
Sri Lanka	Upholding rule of law and human rights in the Sri Lankan Crisis Response	250,000.00	Switzerland
Thailand	Business and Human Rights	150,000.00	Japan
Timor Leste	Strengthening Alternative Dispute Resolution to increase access to justice for Excluded Groups and Women	200,000.00	The Netherlands
Tunisia	Business and Human Rights	300,000.00	Japan
Turkey	Business and Human Rights	300,000.00	Japan
Ukraine	Access to Justice for Victims of War Crimes in Ukraine	150,000.00	The Netherlands
Ukraine	Business and Human Rights	300,000.00	Japan
Vietnam	Business and Human Rights	200,000.00	Japan
TOTAL		11,350,764.40	

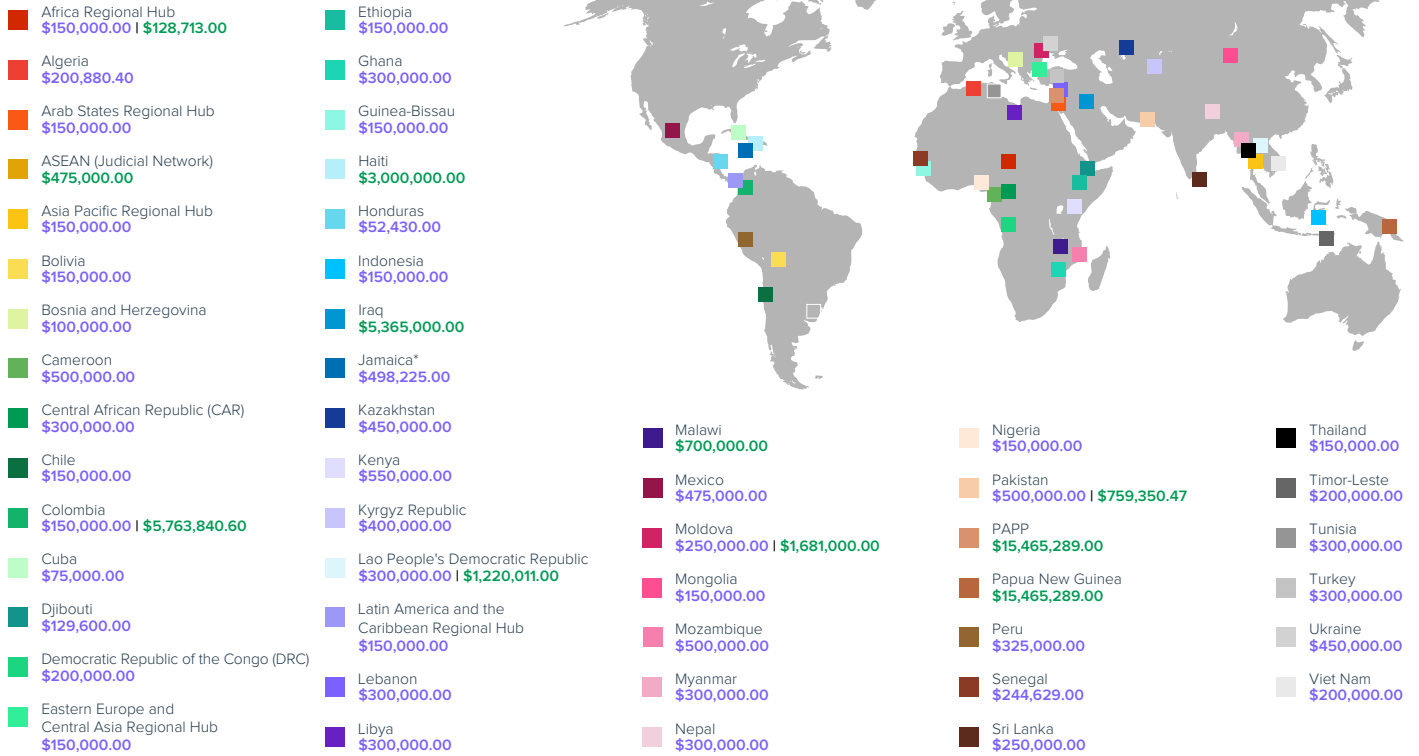
* Received in Q4 2021 for programming in 2022

2022 PIPELINE & EARMARKED CONSOLIDATED AMOUNTS

TOTAL COMBINED RESOURCES: \$47,603,368.47 (USD)

TOTAL PIPELINE ALLOCATION: \$11,350,764.40 (USD)

TOTAL EARMARKED MOBILIZED: \$36,252,604.07 (USD)



ROL/HR GLOBAL PROGRAMME FUNDING TO CO (NON-PIPELINE) EXPENDITURES 2022

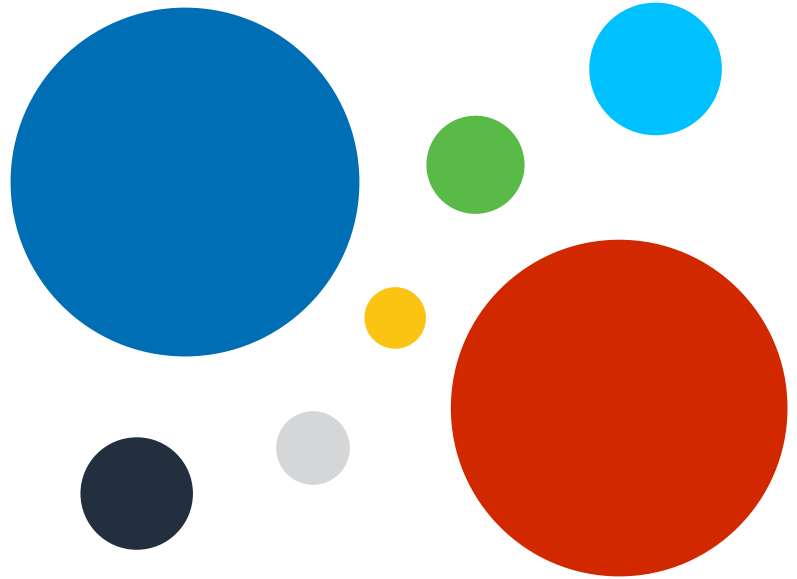
Context	Project Name/Activity	Expenditure (USD)
Afghanistan	Technical Capacity	21,740
Angola	Policy Development (Business and Human Rights)	8,298
Armenia	Field Support from HQ (Constitutions)	5,207
Botswana	Policy Development (Business and Human Rights)	6,448
Chad	Capacity Building Grants	19,069
Colombia	Policy Development (Justice)	3,930
Comoros	Technical Capacity	12,140
Ethiopia	Policy Development (Business and Human Rights)	10,000
Gambia	Policy Development	5,763
Gambia	Field Support from HQ	20,550
Ghana	Policy Development (Business and Human Rights)	1,789
Guinea	Policy Development (TOE)	14,504
Haiti	Field Support from HQ (GFP)	1,388
Honduras	Field Support from HQ (SALIENT)	2,365
Iraq	Field Support from HQ (TOE)	6,800
Kenya	Field Support from HQ (ROLSHR)	2,438
Kyrgyz Republic	Programme Support	1,515
Kyrgyz Republic	MEL	2,663
Lebanon	Policy Development	3,912
Morocco	Policy Development (Human Rights)	5,041
Myanmar	Policy Development	4,928
Myanmar	Knowledge Management	2,234
Namibia	Policy Development (Business and Human Rights)	4,905
Niger	Field Support from HQ	5,000
Pakistan	Policy Development (Justice)	2,855
Pakistan	Programme Support	3,806
Somalia	Policy Development (Justice)	1,545
Somalia	Capacity Building Grants	18,250
South Africa	Policy Development (Business and Human Rights)	2,525
South Sudan	Field Support from HQ (TOE)	12,135
Sri Lanka	Knowledge Management	3,093
Sudan	Field Support from HQ (TOE)	6,921

Context	Project Name/Activity	Expenditure (USD)
Syria	Policy Development (Justice)	1,941
Tunisia	Knowledge Management	61
Tunisia	Policy Development (TOE)	13,958
Uruguay	Knowledge Management	1,173
Uruguay	Capacity Building Grants	3,000
Uruguay	Policy Development	1,526
Yemen	Programme Support	1,185
Zambia	Policy Development (Business and Human Rights)	9,330
Zimbabwe	Policy Development (Business and Human Rights)	19,435
	Support Costs (GMS 8%)	22,029
	TOTAL	297,395

2022 OVERALL SUPPORT

Total **\$11,896,190 (USD)**

- Technical Capacity: **\$5,096,812**
- Policy Development: **\$736,024**
- Monitoring and Evaluation and Learning: **\$402,947**
- Knowledge Management and Communications: **\$158,760**
- Global Capacity Building Grants and Responsible Party Agreements (Health Through Walls, UN DPO, UNITAR, UNOPS, UN Women): **\$4,744,755**
- Programme Support: **\$227,156**
- Support Costs (GMS 8%): **\$529,736**



DELIVERY RATE 2022

<p><i>Overall Expenditure and Delivery Rate for All 2022 RoL/HR GP funds</i></p> <p>Opening 2022 Budget: \$24,364,225</p>	<p>HQ/RH total: \$11,896,190</p> <p>Policy and Programming Support to Country Offices/Contexts total: \$297,395</p>	<p>Pipeline/Allocations to Country/Regional Offices total: \$11,350,764</p> <p>Combined TOTAL for RoL/HR GP: \$23,544,349</p>	<p>Delivery Rate for 2022</p> <p>97%</p>
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------

